

Summary of September GPAC Meeting

September 13, 2017; NCRC Building 520, Room 1122

Questions may be directed to the person listed with each topic!

1. NIH Next Generation Researchers Initiative (Heather Offhaus)

- a. Announcement of the policy [NOT-OD-17-101](#)
- b. Definitions of Early Stage Investigator (ESI) and Early Established Investigator (EEI) – see the announcement. Also, visit NIH website dedicated to the program: <https://grants.nih.gov/policy/early-investigators/index.htm>
- c. Highlights: NIH will identify candidates (no need to disclose) and a flag will (soon) show in the Commons account.
- d. Each IC will develop individual strategies to implement the policy. Please read each IC website for implementation plan.
- e. An ESI is someone within 10 years of terminal degree OR end of post-graduate clinical training (whichever is later) without being PD/PI of an NIH independent research award.
- f. An EEI is someone who is within 10 years of receiving their first independent R01, or equivalent, as an ESI.

2. NIH Data Update (Jane Sierra)

It is time for Departments to review awards for alignment with their department in Commons. Particular attention should be paid to

- a. Contracts
- b. Multi-PD/PI
- c. Fellowships
- d. Non-Med tab of data

The Excel file was sent by Jane to the CDA and department research admins contact for GPAC. Responses are due back 9/20.

3. Upcoming eRPM Upgrade (Heather Offhaus)

~~Implementation September 23 (Saturday). New features available Monday, September 25.~~

NOTE: Since GPAC Meeting, the release has been delayed one week to October 2.

- a. Award Acceptance Request (AAR) is being retooled so that it is easier to use and interpret/more user friendly. Approval status is shown in a table; Subway map visible to help, language cleaned up to be more understandable.
- b. PAF Accessibility – All the PAFs across the campus will be visible to those in a Reviewer or Reviewer Who Can Sign role.
- Please review your Manage Department Tab for current folks to be sure it is up to date.

- School requirement: This functionality should NOT replace contacting a team for permission to use their project as a template. Many faculty are nervous about the access. You should access for a business purpose only. Do not pull down models without permission and do not look up other teams' projects (even at the request of faculty) to see what they are up to. If you have an issue, please contact Heather.

- c. As part of PAF Accessibility, there will be a new tab – called My PAFs which will be those specifically in your Unit. All PAFs will be the tab where all projects on campus are listed.
- d. As part of PAF Accessibility, RAs will also be able to search PAFs by having access to a new Query tab with other search fields.
- e. On the PAF, there will now be a CTSU question where you can identify if you are working with a CTSU, similar to the questions on the CTRF.
- f. New fields on the PAF related to Cost sharing – Other UM Commitments will now be split into 2 distinct areas:
 - *UM Other Commitments* for sponsor-facing commitments that are not quantified (Providing an item not covered by the grant, without specifying the value)
 - *Internal UM Commitments* for “deals” between units that are not part of the sponsor review (Rackham provision of tuition shortfall on training grants)
 - Both will require Department ID and approval.

4. NIH Updates – New Definition of Clinical Trial (Heather Offhaus)

- a. Clinical Trial definition is redefined to include research that is social and behavioral. https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/faq_clinical_trial_definition.htm
- b. Grants.gov FORM E effective for grants due on and after 01/25/2018 will include specific requirements for clinical trials
- c. Important to note, beginning 1/25/2018 you must respond to a specific announcement for a clinical trial. NIH will not accept as part of the unsolicited deadline proposal Parent Announcements. Watch for the new announcements to come out this fall.

5. Streamlined Review Status (Melissa Li)

- a. Updated statistics on departments' performance – generally, the data is consistent with the first data 2 months ago. Of projects needing contact, about half are projects that would get the same review with or without the streamlined implementation.
- b. Two more departments volunteered to go to the Streamline review – Psychiatry and Radiology.
- c. We will be approaching additional departments based on track record and signs of readiness.

6. Service Provision Statement (Heather Offhaus)

- a. Reviewed a proposed Service plan for units under Streamlined Review.
 - New services: budget review under special cases, change of personnel in a small unit, etc.
- b. Discussion on the proposed items
- c. GR&A will figure out how to implement/post.
- d. It was suggested that soliciting rare budget shortfalls/questions from MS departments, especially related to ORSP and sponsors, would be helpful. GR&A will send out emails.

7. ORSP Deadline Policy Update (Heather Offhaus)

Currently, ORSP is *targeting* these dates for a deadline policy, but nothing has been confirmed or approved by campus. (This is not final!!! Just what campus is currently thinking)

- a. Soft launch – September, 2018 – Notification that a project would not be submitted if it had been under a full deadline policy
- b. Hard policy – July, 2019 – Actual non-submission of projects

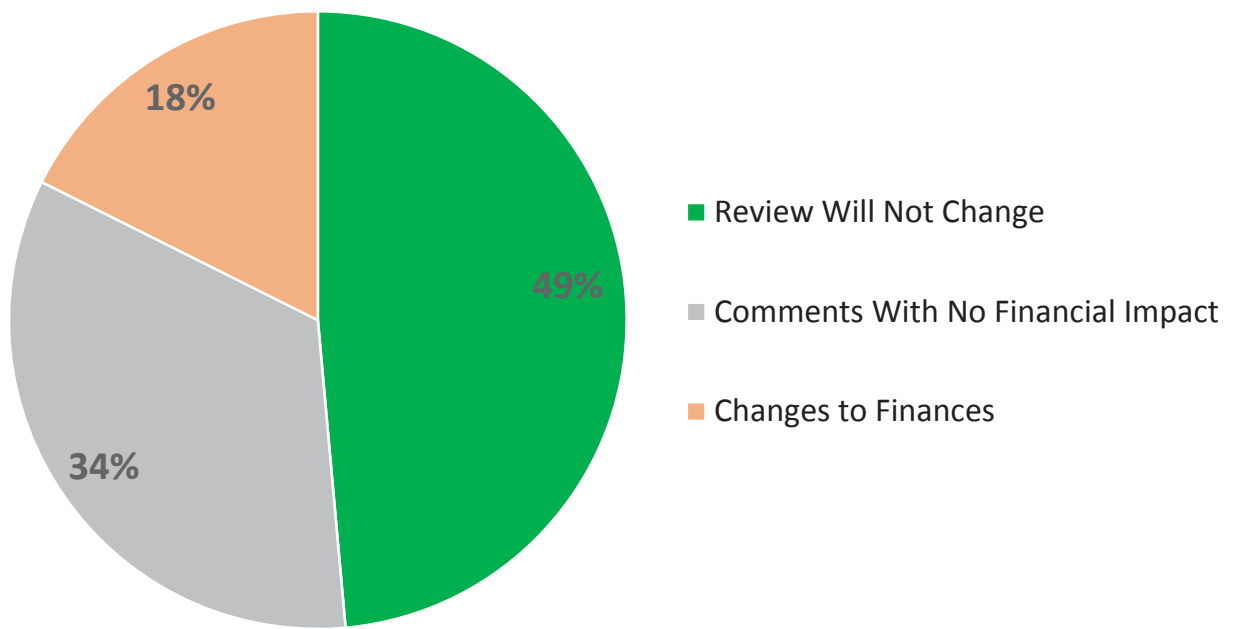
A group is supposed to meet this fall to work out details across campus, so more information will roll out in future.

Next Meeting: October 11th



- Anesthesiology
- Cell & Developmental Biology
- Internal Medicine
- Learning Health Sciences
- Molecular & Behavioral Neuroscience Institute
- Microbiology & Immunology
- Molecular & Integrative Physiology
- Neurology
- Obstetrics & Gynecology
- Pediatrics
- Urology

11 out 33 Department/Units have been flying solo -> 33%



Sample size = 210

Service Provision Statement

in Conjunction with Streamlined Grant Review

As Medical School departments and units participate in the Streamlined Grant Review initiative, the Grant Review & Analysis office will focus on ensuring the compliance (sponsor, institution, and school) with timely turnaround in the review process.

Please note although the office has stopped the “tick and tie” of the budget, it will continue reviewing effort levels, F&A calculations, and justification language. Additionally, in order to continue support of the school’s units, we have developed new resources for the departments. We will add to this list below as new opportunities present that will accompany the Streamlined Review process.

Checklists and Tools

We have created checklists and tools to assist departments/units in preparing and reviewing proposals.

NIH Research Proposal Review Checklist

This [annotated and color-coded checklist](#) was specifically developed to aid reviews for NIH grants, which account for the majority of the Medical School grant applications. It helps Research Administrators double check grants and PAFs item by item to ensure a comprehensive review.

Grant Review Checklist

This [general checklist](#) serves as a master list covering key components of most proposals submitted through the Medical School. Each check point is colored to indicate the party responsible for the accuracy.

Budget Templates

Multiple [budget templates](#) are available for use in different budget scenarios.

Additional Budget Support under Special Circumstances

Unusual Budget Situations

If a unit requires support for particular cases (e.g., large-scale grants, rare sponsors, second set of eyes on budget, etc.), the GR&A office will provide budget review support if:

- Requested by the Primary Pre-Award Research Administrator; and
- Provided with a “solid draft” of the budget section no less than one week before the published [School Deadline](#) for the proposal.
- *Any requests made after this time are not guaranteed dedicated help.*

In these cases, the GR&A office will make time to review the budget, as requested, and return feedback to the unit within three working days.

During Unit Staff Changes

If a department, especially small units, anticipates less stable periods due to change of staff (e.g., a RA is leaving or a new RA needs training) and they wish to seek temporary budget support from the GR&A office during the transition, the unit may request a more robust budget review *during* the routing of the administrative shell. The GR&A office will:

- Review the request and work with the unit to define the need / service;
- Provide full budget review, in addition to the standard Streamlined compliance review, for grants from the unit for up to three months, to ensure a smooth transition; and
- Provide support for training new hires as appropriate.

Ad hoc Budget Development Questions

Should a unit Research Administrator need feedback on budgetary strategies, such as budget structure and general perception, they should contact the GR&A office with specific questions.

In order to receive budget feedback in a timely manner and present grant proposals with high standards of grantsmanship, Research Administrators are encouraged to communicate with their PIs on key target dates mentioned above and follow up with them regularly. For questions, comments, or other suggestions of service, please send emails to msgrants@umich.edu.