



FEDERAL DEMONSTRATION PARTNERSHIP

Redefining the Government & University Research Partnership



Open Government: Research Administration Data (OG:RAD)

FDP Meeting – Sept 2019

Co-Chairs

Stephanie Endy – Case Western - Admin

Avinash Tembulkar, NSF - Fed

Richard Fenger – University of Washington - Tech, Efficiency Advocate

LoC Workgroup

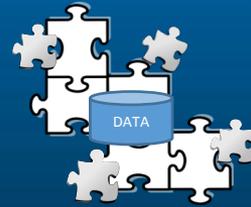
Nate Martinez-Wayman - Duke University, LoC Workload Survey - Co-lead

Chris Berner - NSF, LoC Workload Survey - Co-lead



OG:RAD: Agenda

- Monday, 1 pm



- **Blockchain:DLT**

- *Mike Wetlow, NSF*

- Deputy CFO and Division Director
 - The Division of Financial Management (DFM) is located within the Office of Budget, Finance and Award Management (BFA)

- **Quick OG:RAD Update**

- **Main Event: LoC Survey Update**

- *Presented by Nate Martinez-Wayman, Duke and Chris Berner, NSF*
 - Background and Introduction
 - Update and Preliminary Findings - Stephanie Endy, Case Western Reserve University



OG:RAD: Agenda

- Quick OG:RAD Update



- What's on our radar?
 - Standard Notice of Award (NoA)
 - Federal Integrated Business Framework (FIBF) Data Standards
 - System Matrix Analysis (based on eRA)
 - GSA's DUNS replacement with Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)
- Performance.gov
 - President's Management Agenda (PMA)
 - Cross-Agency Priority Goals (CAP): #s 2,5,8
 - Quality Service Management Organization (QSMO)
- And More!



OG:RAD: Fed Details

– *Performance.gov*



 **Performance.gov**

Management Priorities ▾

Agencies ▾

About ▾

News

Overview

The President's Management Agenda

Cross Agency Priority Goal Overview

Key Performance Indicators

Key Drivers of Transformation

IT Modernization

Data, Accountability and Transparency

People - Workforce for the 21st Century

Cross-Cutting Priority Areas

Improving Customer Experience

Sharing Quality Services

Shifting From Low-Value to High-Value Work

Functional Priority Areas

Category Management

Results-Oriented Accountability for Grants

Getting Payments Right

Federal IT Spending Transparency

Improve Management of Major Acquisitions

Mission Priority Areas

Modernize Infrastructure Permitting

Security Clearance, Suitability, and Credentialing Reform

Lab-to-Market

Other Initiatives

Reform Plan and Reorganization Recommendations

GEAR Center

Elimination of Unnecessary Agency Reports

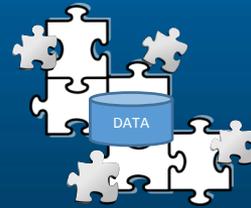
Reduce the Footprint Policy

Gears of Government Awards



OG:RAD: Fed Details

– Other Data Initiatives



The Opportunity Project

Sprints to solve problems with data.

Bringing together government, technologists, and communities to create digital tools that help strengthen American economic opportunity.



Federal Data Strategy
Leveraging Data as a Strategic Asset

About Principles Practices Action Plan Use Cases



The Federal Data Strategy
Join the Federal Data Strategy Team

The Federal Data Strategy will create a coordinated approach to federal data use and management that serves the public. Subscribe to our [news updates](#).

Why create a Federal Data Strategy?

In March of 2018, the [President's Management Agenda](#) laid out a new [Cross-Agency Priority \(CAP\) Goal: Leveraging Data as a Strategic Asset](#) to develop and implement a comprehensive Federal Data Strategy. Based on this initiative, with input from the full spectrum of government and non-government stakeholders, the first government-wide data strategy is being developed, along with plans for implementation.

Who is developing the Federal Data Strategy?

In short, we all are. While the [CAP goal co-leads](#) and development team are managing the project, the Federal Data Strategy will be built on the expertise and input of those who contribute ideas, examples, comments, and suggestions. If you have any, this is the place to share them.

CDO Council

On July 10, 2019, OMB issued [M-19-23](#)

All agencies are to have designated individuals in the positions of **Chief Data Officer** by July 13, 2019.

“and the emergence of a requirement for a designated Data Governance Body at each federal agency consisting of senior-level staff, reflects the growing maturity of the discipline of information governance generally.”



OG:RAD: Agenda

- *Other Sessions*



- 2:20 pm - eRA, Federal Agency Panel
- 2:20 pm - OMB, Results-Oriented Accountability for Grants
- A call to Action for the Grants Community
- 3:50 pm - MITRE - Understanding Blockchain (Distributed Ledger Technology) and it's possible use in the grants area
- 9 am - eRA/GSA - Unique Entity Identifier



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– *Background and introduction*



- Origin of survey
 - Community interest
 - Attempt to quantify the workload burden of using multiple systems for letter of credit drawdowns through five most common electronic portals
 - Discrete process that can lend itself to quantification
 - Starting point for electronic streamlining for post-award activities
- Survey working group included feedback from Federal and Institutional partners
 - Thanks for the hard work!



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– *Background and introduction*



- Shared through FDP Research Admin and Costing list serve
- Open to all FDP members
- Excel workbook
- Testers told us it takes about an hour to complete
(Thank you testers!)



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– *Components*



SURVEY COMPONENTS

Four data sections of the survey:

- Introduction and Instructions
- **Section I** - 20 questions [*Institutional Processes & Perspectives*]
- **Section II** - LOC System Chart [*Data Field Analysis*]
- **Section III** - Additional Comments
- **Section IV** - Contact Information (for survey administrators only)



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– Components



FREQUENCY/AWARENESS/USEABILITY

- 1) Approximately how often do you draw funds from each system?
 - a) Approximately how many awards or projects do you draw for in each system?
- 2) How familiar are you with each system?
- 3) Overall, how easy is each system to use?
- 4) How difficult is it to **view** award and financial data in each system?
- 5) How difficult is it to **understand** the award and financial data with each system?



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– *Components*



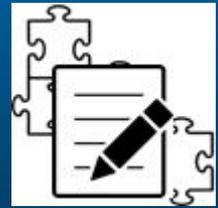
AVAILABILITY/IMPACT

- 6) How available is each system?
- 7) How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with customer support for each system?
- 8) How many of your staff are involved in each of the following aspects of the drawdown:
 - a) How many people are involved in the **preparation** of data file/points to submit to each system?
 - b) How many people are involved in the **submission** of data file/points into each system?
 - c) How many people are involved in the **reconciliation** for each system, or other post-draw actions?



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– *Components*



IMPACT

- 9) How much time (in hours across all people) is devoted to each of the following aspects of each cash draw:
 - a) Hours for the **preparation** of data file/points to submit to each LOC system?
 - b) Hours for the **submission** of data file/points into each LOC system?
 - c) Hours for the **reconciliation** to each LOC system, or other post-draw actions?



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– *Components*



IMPACT/TOOLS

- 10) In total across people and hours, please estimate the annual # of FTEs involved in all aspects of the drawdowns for each system.
- 11) For each system, do you have additional software or tools to assist in managing each drawdown that you have purchased, developed, or received from another institution?
 - a) If yes, please describe how you got it (purchased, developed, given) and what it does (manipulate data, connect to the LOC system, reconcile the draw, etc.).



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– *Components*



TOOLS/PROCESS

- 12) For each system, do you upload a data file to request cash for each draw (as opposed to manually keying each data point)?
- 13) What features of a drawdown SYSTEM do you wish every agency would **adopt**?
- 14) What features of a drawdown SYSTEM do you wish every agency would **improve**?
- 15) For each system, what types of supporting documentation are required to be provided with the drawdown requests?



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– Components



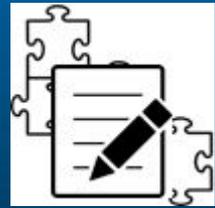
TOOLS/PROCESS

- 16) For each system, how long does it take for agency review/approval of drawdown request?
- 17) For agencies that send confirmation of review/approval of the drawdown request, how do they send it?
- 18) For each system, what is the average time to receive funds after the submission of the drawdown request?
- 19) Are there aspects of the drawdown PROCESS that you wish agencies would improve? If so, what and how?
- 20) If you have additional information or any additional comments related to this section, please add them below.



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– Components



Section II provides a chart of the data fields in each of the 5 LOC systems, asking whether or not a field needs to be manipulated when drawing funds, and whether it's manipulated manually by the user or by a tool or system/software at the user's institution before it can be submitted in the LOC system.

		Not manipulated at all	Manipulated Manually	Manipulated 'Automatically'
1. ACM\$	Federal Award ID			X
	Recipient Account #	X		
	Payment Amount Requested		X	
	Add additional field names as needed			



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– *Update and Prelim findings*



- Survey is open!
- 18 responses so far
- Only 10 were returned in time to be analyzed for presentation



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– *Update and Prelim findings*



- Once we have enough responses to make it a reasonable sample size:
 - Analyze results
 - Reconvene working group to share results
 - Draft recommendations
- See where the data leads us: the following preliminary analysis is in the same order as the survey questions.



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– *Update and Prelim findings*



- What are the ten completed surveys telling us?
 - Two questions have unusual answers: contacting respondents for clarification
 - 3 institutions use 3 of the 5 systems; 2 institutions use 4 of the 5 systems; 5 institutions use all 5 systems
 - Most institutions draw down funds between 1-3 times per week
 - All 10 institutions draw down for over 100 projects from PMS; All 5 institutions that use GPRS draw down for 1-10 projects; ACM\$, ASAP, and G5 have variations from 1-10 to over 100. The majority of responses for ACM\$ and ASAP were also draws for more than 100 projects.



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– *Update and Prelim findings*



- What are the ten completed surveys telling us?
 - The majority of respondents were familiar or very familiar with the systems. No one was not familiar at all, two respondents described themselves as occasional users - one of GPRS and one of ASAP, and three respondents described themselves as somewhat familiar with the systems - two for G5 and one for ACM\$.
 - The majority of respondents found the navigation and layout in all systems fairly easy or extremely easy to use; Navigation and layout occasionally tripped up 2 users of PMS, 1 user of GPRS, 2 users of G5, 4 users of ASAP and no users of ACM\$.



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– *Update and Prelim findings*



- What are the ten completed surveys telling us?
 - Respondents were all over the map for all five systems on how difficult it is to view award and financial data in each system. Detailed analysis will need more respondents.
 - This likely corresponds to how difficult it is to understand award and financial data in each system, which also needs more respondents for a detailed analysis.
 - All ten respondents believe that all five systems are available more than 81% of the time.



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– *Update and Prelim findings*



- What are the ten completed surveys telling us?
 - Customer support satisfaction ranges from very dissatisfied to never needing to contact customer support. Detailed analysis will need more respondents.
 - The questions about how many hours, people and FTE will need more respondents, and some responses need clarification.



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– *Update and Prelim findings*



- What are the ten completed surveys telling us?
 - All ten respondents have created additional tools in-house to help with the process for every system that they interact with.
 - Not every respondent uses data file uploads even though they have additional electronic tools that they use for the process. Some of this may be driven by the volume of projects that are drawn for or the way that institutions have designed and created their own tools, but survey does not tell us why. More data may show trends.



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– *Update and Prelim findings*



- What are the ten completed surveys telling us?
 - Most respondents have features that they wish every agency would adopt and features that they wish agencies would improve. Again, we need more respondents!
 - Some respondents are required to provide different supporting documentation across systems, though the vast majority of respondents are not required provide any.



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– *Update and Prelim findings*



- What are the ten completed surveys telling us?
 - Approval time also varies widely by institution and system.
 - Confirmation delivery method also varies both within system and within respondents.
 - Average time to receive funds varies from 1 federal business day to 20 days, with the majority of responses being less than 1 or between 1-5 federal business days.



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– *Update and Prelim findings*



- What are the ten completed surveys telling us?
 - Most respondents have suggestions for improving the process.
 - Only a few respondents had additional comments on section 1.
 - Section 2 field-by-field analysis will wait for the survey to close.
 - Only two respondents had additional comments on the survey overall (section 3).



OG:RAD: LoC Workload Survey

– Update and Prelim findings



- Questions?



OG:RAD: Resources



OG:RAD [weblink](#)

Generally:

- Partnering with the government (in the FDP tradition)
- Advocate for the use of administrative data between collaborators and funders
- Viewing data as a strategic asset and cornerstone for reducing workload