

## **FDP Federal Agency Updates, May 9, 2022**

### **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)**

Christiane Diallo with the Grants Policy and Compliance Branch, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, began NASA's presentation with updates to the Grant and Cooperative Agreement Manual (GCAM). A [revised version of the GCAM](#) was issued effective January 10, 2022, including a new section on award closeout and guidance on awards. The [NASA Proposer's Guidebook](#) has also been revised with an effective date of February 18, 2022, with updated information on renewal proposals and a requirement that all individuals named on the cover page of a proposal be registered in NSPIRES. Updates on NASA's implementation of Executive Order 13985 and National Security Presidential Memorandum 33 (NSPM-33) followed, including detail on [NASA's equity action plan](#) and soon to be released table of pre- and post-award disclosures currently under review by the Office of Science and Technology Policy. Christiane's portion of the presentation concluded with information on NASA property requirements, FY2022 NASA earmarks, and select upcoming funding opportunities from the Office of STEM Engagement and Space Technology Mission Directorate. NASA's FDP program representative, Mary Sladek, a member of the Senior Advisors for Research and Analysis ([SARA](#)) team, took over with updates from the Science Mission Directorate (SMD), including a Request for Information about the Lunar Planetary Institute, a solicitation for the Earth Venture Instrument-6 (EVI-6) and **R**esearch **O**pportunities in **S**pace and **E**arth **S**ciences (ROSES-22) news, i.e., [a ROSES resource on YouTube](#) and a forthcoming NASA I-Corps™ Pilot to support participation in NSF's Innovation Corps (I-Corps™). Additional detail on the NASA equity action plan was provided about SMD's bridge program to foster NASA Center collaboration with Carnegie R1 institutions and Historically Black Colleges and Universities, minority serving institutions, and primarily undergraduate institutions. The presentation closed with a note that SMD's virtual proposal review process will continue, and a call for volunteers to serve as [proposal reviewers](#) and on the SMD Bridge Workshop Organizing Committee.

### **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**

Alexandra Raver presented the EPA update, highlighting two upcoming funding opportunities, one exploring Perchlorate as it relates to firework displays and drinking water, and another on Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts (DPBs) and safe drinking water. All current Recipient/Applicant Information Notices (RAINs) are posted on [EPA's Grant Policy Resources website](#). Two recent installments from EPA's [new webinar series](#), Developing a Budget and Financial Management, as well as all past webinars, (Competition Process and Grants Award Process) are available for on demand viewing on EPA's Grants website. For ongoing guidance, training, and updates to EPA grants policies and requirements, grantees should subscribe to the [EPA Grants Listserv](#).

### **National Institutes of Health (NIH)**

Avery Tucker began the NIH update with some fiscal news, including NIH's funding under the Consolidated Appropriations Act through September 30, 2022, and new salary cap and NRSA stipend levels. The most recent [NIH Grants Policy Statement](#) was issued in December 2021, as usual featuring a [table of significant changes](#). NRSA childcare supplements are now automatically being included in new and continuing institutional T-series awards, while NRSA fellows seeking childcare supplements must apply for this funding. The new requirements for [Biographical Sketches](#) and [Other Support](#) became effective January 25, 2022, and there are FAQs as well as a central mailbox available for guidance and questions. FORMS-G application packages went live in January 2022 and have been posted to all FOAs. As of April 1, 2022, PMS will now pre-populate the cash transaction section of the FFR using recipient real-time cash expenses information from PMS, and then adjust recipient-reported disbursements to equal cash advance drawdowns. Recipients will be required to certify whether the cash drawdown request is for reimbursement of actual expenditures or is an advance for immediate disbursement, and to

assert that award funds are used in compliance with all award conditions and federal statutory requirements. NIH is aware of some ongoing issues with FFR submission in PMS, and leniency will be applied in appropriate cases. The presentation included a very helpful slide with info on whom to contact for PMS issues. Two-factor authentication became mandatory for scientific account holders in September 2021, and will become mandatory for administrative account holders in mid-2022. Management of iEdison will transition from NIH to NIST during summer 2022, with system enhancements and new capabilities; all existing data in the system will be transferred as part of this process. And, last but not least, the use of UElS became mandatory in January 2022, and as of April 2022, DUNS numbers are no longer displayed in integrated systems.

### **Department of Homeland Security (DHS)**

Heidi Custer presented the DHS update, beginning with an overview the Division of Financial Assistance Policy and Oversight (FAPO) mission, goals, and branches. Updates on current DHS initiatives followed, including DATA Act reporting, implementing DHS grants measures, issuing funding opportunities, and oversight of DHS assistance programs. DHS is also participating in several government-wide initiatives, notably OMB M-22-11 (Buy America), Priority Area 3/Strategy 2 of the President's Management Agenda, the DHS Civil Rights Evaluation Tool, and implementation of NSPM-33.

### **National Science Foundation (NSF)**

Jeremy Leffler provided the update for NS, starting with the newest NSF Directorate, Technology, Innovation, and Partnerships (TIP). This was followed by updates on the 2023 *Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide* (PAPPG), which is currently [available for public comment](#) until June 13, 2022. A reminder on the timely submission of reports: all project reports must be submitted within one year of the award end date to avoid reporting to FAPIIS. The transition from Fastlane to Research.gov for all proposal submissions is scheduled for January 2023, though grants.gov will remain an option. The presentation concluded with a reminder about the [NSF Spring Grants Conference](#) June 6-10, 2022, and the next installment in NSF's webinar series on June 30, 2022, focusing on subaward assessment, approval, and monitoring. All previous NSF webinars are available on demand on the [Policy Office outreach website](#).

### **USDA/NIFA**

Tara Warner with NIFA presented the USDA update, beginning with current NIFA priorities. Key priorities, consistent with the USDA strategic plan for FYs 2022-2026, include addressing the needs of NIFA's partners and realizing NIFA's potential by reaching full staffing levels, adding new tools, standardizing application deadlines, and enhancing the customer experience. There was also a brief overview of NIFA's Schedule of Program Implementation from RFA to Award (SPIRA), to monitor award timelines, as well as NIFA's Non-Discrimination Statement.

### **Office of Naval Research (ONR)**

ONR's update announced the retirement of Debbie Rafi after almost 30 years of service at ONR. On behalf of the FDP community, Interim FDP Executive Director Dick Seligman expressed his gratitude for Debbie's invaluable contributions to the field of research administration, and Debbie in turn thanked all those with whom she worked during her time participating in the FDP.