



University of Colorado Boulder

Office of Contracts and Grants

3100 Marine Street, Room 479

Boulder, CO 80303-1058

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

June 30, 2014

Dr. Stein Sture, Vice Chancellor of Research
Dr. Patricia Rankin, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research
Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research
University of Colorado Boulder

RE: Research Administration's Strategic Approach to Office of Management and Budget *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards; Final Rule*

Dear Vice Chancellor Sture and Associate Vice Chancellor Rankin:

As you know, the Federal government has recently enacted perhaps the most sweeping reform in sponsored project administration in the last fifty years which is titled informally, the Uniform Guidance (UG). The UG takes effect for all new and supplemental awards made after December 26, 2014.

Due to the potential broad impacts of these changes; CU Research Administration is working to address these changes in a collaborative and pro-active manner to ensure that CU Boulder research is compliant with both the letter and intent of the UG and each funding agency's regulatory directives and interpretation.

We are writing to provide an overview of our current plan, subject to change as developments arise, to address these changes as well as to request your input and counsel.

Stage 1. Information Dissemination (June through December). OCG has developed and deployed an informative website which includes a variety of informational links related to UG as well as information about the way we are organizing to meet this new opportunity. <http://www.colorado.edu/vcr/ocg-sponsored-research/omb-uniform-guidance> Training and discussion sessions will also be scheduled throughout the process.

Stage 2. Collaborative work. (July through August). Representatives from the Office of Contracts and Grants, Sponsored Projects Accounting, Export Controls, Research Institutes and Academic Departments are working together on a variety of specific subjects to delve deeply into the new UG with the following purpose:

- * Determine the impact of the new regulations to existing policy and processes
- * Identify potential policy revisions, if needed
- * Recommend and draft training materials.

Eight Working Groups have been established to address the UG on a topical basis; the topics are:

Conflict of Interest
Procurement
Property
Cost Principles
Close Out
Sub Recipients
Cost Share
Effort Reporting

A Steering Committee has convened to provide oversight to this process and to ensure the process moves forward. The Steering Committee includes the following individuals:

Co-Chairs: James Lei and Denitta Ward
Subject Matter Working Group Liaisons: Nasrin Khoshand, Beth Kingsley, Beth Kroger

Stage 3. Information Processing and Development of Recommendations (August through October). The collaborative work from stage two will provide much needed information from which to proceed. This stage will involve appropriate administrative and System involvement as possible changes to policies and procedures are investigated and decided upon.

Stage 4. Broad Dissemination (October through November). At this stage, information will be provided to a broader group of stakeholders, including faculty PIs, with a goal of receiving input on likely or possible changes to policies and procedures.

Stage 5. Implementation (December). More detailed plans and timelines related to implementation of changes will be developed as this process progresses.

As you can see, we are intending to have an open but accelerated process to both engage and inform stakeholders drawn from central offices as well as the Departments and Institutes, and to position CU Boulder to ensure compliance and appropriate support for our research enterprise.

We appreciate any insights or suggestions you may have to help ensure a successful process and we are available to meet at your convenience to discuss this undertaking and its structure, or provide updates as the work progresses.

Sincerely,

Denitta D. Ward & James Lei

UG Steering Committee Co-Chairs