

URA Weekly Update for the Week Ending March 6, 2009

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URA General Information

URA Town Hall Meeting, March 10, 2009 – 2:00-3:30pm, Biological Sciences Learning Center – room 109. Please let us know if you have any topics for the Town Hall Meeting.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: (“Recovery Act” aka Stimulus Funding)

The passing of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (“Recovery Act”) of 2009 has raised a number of questions about supplemental funding for key government agencies and potential opportunities for University research efforts. A new internal [Research Funding website](http://researchfunding.uchicago.edu) [http://researchfunding.uchicago.edu] for faculty and staff designed as a resource and central repository for news and information concerning Recovery Act funding for basic research. As agencies begin to release further information, instructions and requirements, we will update the site accordingly. Access to the Research Funding site is restricted to the University of Chicago network. To view this site when off-campus, you will need to connect to the network using a VPN Client. Instructions on installing and using a VPN client are available at:

http://findit.uchicago.edu/findit.home/action_briefs&mode=single&recordID=388.

If you have any questions, suggestions, or information for the [Research Funding website](http://researchfunding.uchicago.edu), please contact Lisa La Vallee from my office at lavallee@uchicago.edu.

The [URA Website](#) has the posted the NIH Challenge Grant RFA-OD-09-003 guidelines and Adobe Forms (with the UC basic information already completed).

This week, there are several process & policy reminders:

PI Effort on research grants, OMB clarified via a [memorandum](#), the interpretation of A21 regarding cost sharing and tuition remission. URA managers have seen an increase in the number of applications without PI effort. PI effort is required for federally funded research grants. In addition, the requirement for tracking cost sharing (mandatory, voluntary committed and voluntary uncommitted) were detailed including the requirement for the University to account for mandatory and voluntary cost sharing. As such, it is required that PIs have effort on research grants. For additional information, please review the Effort Reporting policies on [Adminet](#).

Concurrence Memos: Please provide a [concurrence memo](#) when forwarding non-application materials to URA for institutional endorsements. It is essential to include the TRACS number,

PI, Agency contact information – especially if URA is forwarding the materials to the agency. It may seem like a small thing, but it takes a lot of time to hunt down this information. It is also very helpful in general to include the TRACs number in the subject line of your emails to URA. If you have questions, please contact your URA Manager.

Post Award Reminders:

PHS Relinquishment Statement forms (PHS 3734): Please be sure that your Restricted Funds Administrator reviews the unobligated balance reported as of the date indicated and if information is correct, they should complete the Financial Officer section. The signed PHS 3734, along with the concurrence memo, Final Invention Statement, and any other materials can then be forwarded to URA. Please also note that if any application has associated protocols, include the dispensation of the protocols when submitting the materials to URA.

Carryover Request: Requests for carryover of unobligated funds should include a budget for the funds. The amount of the carryover should be confirmed in writing or email by Restricted Funds. Please include Restricted Funds approval when forwarding the request to URA.

NIH Final Technical Reports: When an NIH funded activity ends, there are 3 required reports: Final Technical, Final Invention Statement, and Financial Status Reports. Please make sure to forward to URA evidence of the submission to the agency or notification the document has been submitted via Commons.

No-cost extensions: For awards under FDP, please make sure all requests for no-cost extension are made prior to the last 10 days of the award. After that period, we cannot extend the award without going to the agency. For other awards, please provide sufficient time when requesting a no-cost extension request to allow for campus and agency review and consideration.

Agency Updates & News

Grants.gov/Adobe Forms Update: Adobe will be releasing patches to Acrobat in a few days (taking 8.1 to version 8.1.4, and 9.0 to 9.1). **Until grants.gov confirms that it's OK to use the new versions with grants.gov we need to stay with 8.1.3.** Typically, grants.gov completes its testing pretty quickly. We will broadcast an announcement once the new version has passed grants.gov testing.

NIH Policy Reminders

Requirements for PubMed Compliance: URA has received communications from NIH regarding investigator's compliance with the public access requirement. Upon acceptance for publication, an electronic version of their final, peer-reviewed manuscripts, must be submitted to the NLM PubMed Central. All manuscripts accepted for publication **after April 7, 2008** fall under this policy. Please make sure to review the publication sections of your new, competing and noncompeting applications for compliance with this policy. If a grantee has failed to materially comply with the terms and conditions of awards, NIH may suspend the grant, pending corrective action, or may terminate the grant for cause. Additional information is available at:

- Revised Policy statement: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-08-033.html>.
- Reminder Concerning Grantee Compliance with Public Access Policy and Related NIH Monitoring Activities <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-08-119.html> for a handy description of where the citations would/should be found.
- NIH has some helpful FAQs at <<http://publicaccess.nih.gov/FAQ.htm>> ; see number 6 for example of how the citation should appear:
 - *Examples:*
Cerrato A, Parisi M, Santa Anna S, Missirlis F, Guru S, Agarwal S, Sturgill D, Talbot T, Spiegel A, Collins F, Chandrasekharappa S, Marx S, Oliver B. Genetic interactions between *Drosophila melanogaster* menin and Jun/Fos. *Dev Biol.* 2006 Oct 1; 298(1): 59-70. **PMCID: PMC2291284**
- The University of Chicago Crerar Library website is also helpful <<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/crerar/using/reference/nih.html>>.

Resubmissions/revised applications: Beginning with applications intended for the January 25, 2009 due date, all original new applications (i.e., never submitted) and competing renewal applications will be permitted only a single amendment (A1). For this and subsequent cohorts of original new and competing renewal applications, any second amendment (A2) will be administratively withdrawn and not accepted for review. The notices related to the announcement are attached. For the NIH Guide announcements, please see:

- <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-09-003.html>
- <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-09-016.html>