



## OSP Memorandum 13-02

FROM: Gloria Greene, Director, Sponsored Programs

SUBJECT: **Sponsored Programs Proposals, Awards, and Expenditures Summaries**

DATE: March 5, 2013

### PURPOSE

UAH routinely produces internal and external reports on sponsored projects in the form of proposal submissions, awards, expenditures, and other relevant data. Historically, reporting has been based on either the PI's home labor unit or the fiscally responsible unit managing the project.

The importance of interdisciplinary research for growing the research enterprise at UAH was articulated in a report submitted by Strategic Planning Task Force #9 whose charge is was to recommend Tactics to meet the Objectives associated with the Strategic Priority: *Broaden and Expand the Research Portfolio*. Task Force #9, consisting of faculty, staff, and Huntsville Research Park community members proposed several recommendations on ways to broaden and expand the UAH research portfolio, one of which is a focus on advancing interdisciplinary research at UAH.

Interdisciplinary and/or interdepartmental collaborations provide exciting opportunities for research, but it must be attractive for the investigators to engage in it. For example, researchers from different departments and centers are more likely to collaborate on a proposal and sponsored project if their contributions are recognized and rewarded. The university, and its colleges, departments and centers should have information regarding faculty, staff and student participation on sponsored projects for a variety of purposes, such as deliberations on personnel issues (e.g., promotion, tenure, or merit salary raises), recruitment of faculty, staff and students, and inclusion in professional organization surveys.

### UNIT/INVESTIGATOR

In order to provide the information to allow for appropriate recognition and reward for involvement in sponsored projects, OSP will begin providing quarterly reports, both available on the OSP Website under Sponsored Project Reports and via an electronic Dashboard that will report sponsored project activities (proposals, awards, and expenditures) not only by unit fiscally responsible for the project, as has been the case in the past, but also by participation of the

individuals responsible for carrying out the project. Sum totals of proposals, awards, and expenditures are the same for either presentation, but one shows how the funds are managed, by fiscally responsible unit, and the other who is participating in conducting the work. For Example:

1. Dr. X, Research Scientist, Principal Investigator in the Center for Applied Optics (CAO) submits a proposal for \$50,000. There are no other collaborators. The proposal is funded. The CAO, the fiscally responsible unit, is credited for the proposal, award, and all expenditures. Provided no new party is added to the project, Dr. X will show as being the one individual responsible for carrying out the entire project.
2. Dr. Y (MAE faculty) submits a proposal through the Propulsion Research Center (PRC) with 40% effort proposed (40% of salary of \$100,000). The Co-I on the project is Dr. Z in ECE with 20% effort proposed (20% of salary of \$100,000). The proposal is funded for a one year project with a total value of \$200,000. The project is administered through the PRC. With respect to the fiscally responsible unit, the PRC is credited with \$200,000 for the proposal and award. With respect to the project participants, the PRC, MAE and ECE are credited with proposal and award values as below:

Proposal/Award Value: \$200,000		
Credit Split Unit	% Allocation of Project	Value of Allocation
PI, PRC Fiscally Responsible Unit	70%	\$140,000
MAE, PI Home Labor Unit	20%	\$40,000
ECE, Co-I Home Labor Unit	10%	\$20,000

In the above example, expenditures will be allocated based on actual percentages charged to the sponsored award as they accrue.

It is important to note that allocations to one or more individuals do not alter the PI's obligation to provide prudent and effective administrative and financial management of the sponsored project. The PI has the responsibility and authority to monitor the performance of all components of the sponsored project in accordance with the terms and conditions of the award, consistent with all university policies, and with the highest ethical standards

This new reporting structure will not change how proposals and awards are currently established and tracked in the Office of Sponsored Programs and Banner; therefore, it will not change how the University currently allocates Indirect Cost Recovered (ICR).