U.S. Universities Reassess Collaborations with Foreign Scientists in Wake of NIH letters

In August 2018, NIH Director Francis Collins asked thousands of institutions to be more vigilant in defending the U.S. Research enterprise from attempts of foreign governments to steal ideas and technology. Faculty and institutions with dual connections to foreign institutions and governments have become a growing concern for those that warn that some foreign entities look to steal U.S. technologies developed in part by federally funded grants. Universities themselves have become more diligent in auditing connections their scientists and researchers have with foreign institutions, reevaluating agreements of affiliation and discouraging interactions that might pose a threat.
Changes Coming to Human Research Protection Program

HRPP is working on streamlining and improving the functions of the IRB. As a result, please expect changes in our communication and processes. So far, changes include:

- Updated IRB determination letters.
- HRPP will no longer be accepting initial submissions if any study personnel has not completed the minimum required CITI trainings.
- IRB approval documents will no longer be held by HRPP for ancillary processes such as FRC review, Fully Executed DUAs, Conflicts of Interest, etc. Investigators will be reminded to reach out to these respective offices in order to comply with such institutional requirements.

We will continue to provide updates as they happen. Our office is looking forward to the improvements that will be made, and we appreciate your consideration during this transitional period!

Journal Entry Workflow 2.0 Live Training

The Office of the Comptroller will be hosting six live training sessions on the Journal Entry Workflow 2.0 in the months of June and July, just in time for fiscal year-end close. Participants will learn in a hands-on environment how to submit and approve journal entries (funding transfers, transaction corrections, accruals and reversals) using the Journal Entry Workflow 2.0 in a test environment. The training will also demonstrate how to attach supporting documentation to the journal entry and how to upload journals into the tool. The session will also explain how the tool interacts with the expenditure authorization tables. Seating is limited and registration is required. For dates, locations, and to register, visit Career Pathway via the employee tab of the DrexelOne portal. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Patty Russo at 215.571.4478 or by email at russop@drexel.edu.

News & Announcements

URCF and High-Performance Computing

David Chin, PhD, Sr. Systems Administrator, University Research Computing Facility (URCF) will give a talk about the URCF and High-Performance Computing at Drexel on Tuesday, Jun 11 from 1:30pm - 2:30pm in Curtis 340. The URCF Proteus high performance computing cluster provides 2,400 CPU cores, 16 GPGPU devices, and 9 TiB RAM, open to all researchers at Drexel. The presentation will give more technical detail about the system, how you can utilize this resource for your work, and future plans for high-performance computing at Drexel. Dr. Gail Rosen, Chair of the URCF Governing Board, will present plans for the sustainability of URCF and HPC at Drexel. Refreshments provided.
Agency in Community: Research Forum on Civic Engagement

The Social Science Research Committee (SSRC) is pleased to announce that it will host a CIVIC ENGAGEMENT RESEARCH FORUM from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on June 10 in Gerri C. LeBow Hall, Room 722. While there is a broad consensus that civic engagement involves participation in social, intellectual and political life to enhance community well-being, there are still multiple definitions about what exactly constitutes civic engagement. We recognize that civic engagement is key to building healthy communities, robust democracies, and resilient economic institutions. The inquiries into the antecedents, processes, and consequences of civic engagement also have a profound impact on social science scholarship and public policy. This forum is an initial step towards bringing together a group of social scientists to (1) discuss promising directions of civic engagement research and (2) build connections for scholarly collaboration. If you would like to attend the forum, please register. Zoom attendance is also available.

IACUC Leadership Meet and Greet

The IACUC Leadership team would like to invite the Animal Research Community to a series of Meet and Greet’s at Drexel's Campuses. This is an excellent chance to meet with the current IACUC Chair, Dr. Mike O'Connor, Director of Environmental Health and Safety, Jonathan Chase, Director of Regulatory Compliance, Kent Lambert and Animal Welfare Analyst, Dr. Shateenah Barnes. The events will take place from 11 am-1pm on the following dates and locations:

- Tuesday, June 18, 2019- Queens Lane Campus
- Wednesday, June 19, 2019- New College Building
- Thursday, June 20, 2019- University City Campus- PISB 103

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Carolyn Reneski at iacuc@drexel.edu

New Hires in Research Operations and Compliance

The Office of Research, Research Operations and Compliance section, is pleased to announce two recent hires to our team. Crystal Gatling, Finance Coordinator, and Christy Hullings, QA/QI Analyst. Crystal joined the Drexel research community on March 25, 2019, and has over 8 years’ experience working in the accounting and finance industry. Crystal has a Bachelor’s in Business Finance from West Chester University and will have her MBA in accounting from Wilmington University conferred on May 19th. Christy joined the Drexel research community on March 18, 2019, and joins us after serving as an IRB Administrator at the University of Pennsylvania. Christy boasts experience in human research protection, regulatory compliance, and quality improvement and assurance. Christy holds a Bachelor’s in Biology from Penn and an M.S. in Nutritional Science from Rutgers. Please join us in welcoming them to Drexel and to our teams.

Micro-Data Access through the Philadelphia Federal Statistical Research Data Center

Since July 2016, Drexel has been part of the Philadelphia Federal Statistical Research Data Center (FSRDC), which provides unparalleled access to non-public micro-data from federal agencies, including the U.S. Census Bureau, the National Center for Health Statistics, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The available datasets are among the largest
and most important sources of statistical information in the U.S. for researchers in economics, business, demography, sociology, medicine, statistics, criminology, and many other disciplines. For more information, please visit Drexel’s FSRDC website and contact André Kurmann, Associate Professor of Economics, Drexel’s representative for the Philadelphia FSRDC.

ExCITE Center's Seed Fund

Since 2012, the ExCITE Center's Annual Seed Fund has supported transdisciplinary research and innovation across the University. Each year, the program awards grants to 3 novel, transdisciplinary, and collaborative projects, with awardees receiving up to $5,000 for their projects. At least one member of the applying team should be Drexel faculty or professional staff, and proposals should be no longer than three pages (plus a budget). The deadline for applications is June 1, 2019. Submit questions and/or applications to Ashley Kole at akole@drexel.edu.

New Fund Numbers for Contributory Sponsored Agreements

The Office of the Comptroller recently announced a substantial change in how grants are classified and reported in the financial statements due to the requirement of new accounting standards. The intent in implementing the changes is to minimize any impact on Principal Investigators and their business managers. What does this mean to Principal Investigators and Department Administrators? New funds that begin with a “9” will be issued starting on May 1, 2019. Research Accounting Services will be evaluating all existing fund numbers using the new guidance and assigning them to new predecessor funds. You will not have to make any changes at an operational level for the new accounting standard. Research Accounting Services will be adding content surrounding this topic on their website in the coming weeks. Questions concerning the transition may be directed to Evelyn Balabis, Executive Director, Research Accounting Services, by email at eb545@drexel.edu or by phone at 215.895.2946.

Funding Opportunity Resources

Spotlighted External Funding Opportunities

NIH 2019 Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Omnibus Solicitation (R43/44)
NIH 2019 Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Omnibus Solicitation (R41/42)
Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)
Lucidity in Dementia (R21 Clinical Trial Optional)
Howard Hughes Medical Institute - Limited Submission Competition
Next Generation Networks for Neuroscience (NeuroNex)
Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU)
Research Training Groups in the Mathematical Sciences (RTG)
EHR Core Research (ECR): Building Capacity in STEM Education Research (ECR: BCSER)
DoD CDMRP FY19 Breast Cancer Research Program (BCRP)
DoD CDMRP FY19 Prostate Cancer Research Program (PCRP)
Implementation of Effective Shared Decision Making Approaches in Practice Settings

Extramural Funding

University Libraries

Internal Funding and Limited Submissions

Drexel University Funding Portal

Events & Education

In collaboration with other Drexel administrative units, the Office of Research offers a full series of in-person workshops every spring and fall, covering a wide range of research administration topics including eRA, pre-award, post-award, compliance, human research protection and sponsor-specific topics (NIH, NSF, etc.). Dates for our Fall 2019 Workshop Series will be published later this year. We will also create personalized presentations for faculty, support staff, students and anyone involved in the administration or conduct of research at Drexel. For more information about developing a session tailored to the needs and location of your group, please contact us.

We Want To Hear From YOU!

Let us know what you like (or don’t like) about our newsletter and which research administration topics you’d like to learn more about. All feedback is welcome.

Office of Research | 1505 Race Street | Philadelphia, PA 19102 | drexel.edu/research

This message sent to all Faculty and Staff via Drexel Announcement Mail was approved by Aleister J. Saunders, PhD, Senior Vice Provost for Research