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Memorandum

November 3, 2008

To: Deans, Chairs and Faculty Involved with NSF Research Activity

From: David P. Earwicker, Assistant Vice President, Research Administration & Contract Administration

Re: Changes in National Science Foundation Policy and Practice

The National Science Foundation (NSF) recently issued a revised Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG) that will be effective for proposals submitted on or after January 5, 2009. Several significant changes have been made and the following two items may be of particular interest.

Revision to Faculty Salary Policy

NSF has addressed requests for greater flexibility in charging salary to grants by revising its salary reimbursement policy. NSF will now limit salary compensation for senior project personnel to no more than two months of their regular salary in any one year. This limit includes salary received from all NSF-funded grants. The prior limitation to summary salary has been eliminated and the new policy allows for reimbursement of two months of salary per year whenever appropriate during the year. If additional time is needed, any compensation in excess of two months must be disclosed in the proposal budget, justified in the budget justification and must be specifically approved by NSF in the award notice.

Clarification of PI Definition

NSF has clarified the Principal Investigator (PI) definition to state that they will make no distinction in scientific stature among multiple PIs, whether referred to as PI or co-PI. All of the senior personnel are equally responsible for the conduct of the project and submission of the requisite project reports.

For more on these changes or to access the new PAPPG (NSF 09-01), contact your Sponsored Research Officer by calling 278-7565 or visit http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf091.