NSF PAPPG Updates

The following are some of the updates that will be effective for proposals submitted or due, or awards made, on or after January 29, 2018. The new PAPPG and a complete summary of changes can be found at: https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappg18_1/index.jsp

- There are three new requirements for the Budget Justification: Chapter II.C.2.d.
  - The page limit increased from three pages to five pages, per institution (i.e. subawards are now also allowed up to 5 pages also).
  - The new PAPPG makes it clear that the definition of a “year” is not provided by NSF for the purposes of abiding by its restriction of 2 months’ salary “per year” for senior personnel. NSF now requires institutions to include their definition of a “year” in every budget justification when requesting any salary for Senior Personnel. At UCSB, a “year” is defined as the fiscal year that spans from July 1 – June 30. This statement must be included in the section of the Budget Justification in which you are justifying the salary request(s). Chapter II.C.2.g(i)(a).
  - Amounts for indirect costs must be now be specified in the Budget Justification. Chapter II.C.2.g(viii).

- Project Descriptions must now contain a separate section titled “Intellectual Merit.” Chapter II.C.2.d.
  - This is in addition to the requirement for the Project Description to include a section titled “Broader Impacts.”
  - Please note that this new requirement does not replace the “Intellectual Merit” section still required in the Project Summary or the “Intellectual Merit” section still required in the “Results from Prior NSF Support” section of Project Description.

- The trial NSF COA template is made permanent requirement and must be used for all proposals. Chapter II.C.1.e.
  - Note: Footnotes have been added to the Excel document answering Frequently Asked Questions regarding the document.

- In listing “Results from Prior NSF Support” in the Project Description, awards with an end date within the past five years should be listed for each PI. Previously, awards with a begin date were required to be listed. Chapter II.C.2.d(iii).

- Participant Support Clarification:
  - An individual cannot generally be both an employee and a participant on an NSF proposal. An exception can be made in the case of student that are employed in non-research related positions.

- In April 2018, NSF will begin a pilot program to migrate some proposal submissions from Fastlane to Research.gov.

- The NSF Proposal and Award Policy Newsletter continues to be updated with relevant information and policy guidance. To register for the newsletter, follow these steps:
  - Go to www.nsf.gov
  - Scroll down until you see the “Follow Us” section on the right hand side of the page containing multiple social media icons.
Click on the yellow and white Envelope Icon.
Enter your email address and click “submit.”