DGA Meeting
June 9, 2015
Pre-award Updates

- **USDE IES August 2015 Deadlines**
  - For the August 6th, 2015 IES deadline, please create EPCS records on or before Friday, July 10th, 2015
  - For the August 20th deadline, please create your EPCS record on or before Friday, July 24th, 2015
  - Early submission of grant applications is strongly encouraged by IES and Sponsored Projects Services. Grant Application Packages ready for submission and Finalized EPCS records well in advance of the deadline will allow Sponsored Projects Services to employ a staggered review and submission process. To ensure successful submission of applications, applications should be completed and ready for SPS final review and submission **well in advance** of the August 6th and August 20th deadlines.

- **NIH ASSIST grant submission module**
  - ASSIST is a web-based system that was developed by NIH, in close partnership with Grants.gov, to address common application submission challenges identified by the community. NIH first launched ASSIST in 2012 for multi-project applications since these complex applications didn’t fit with existing electronic submission methods at the time. Since then, NIH has expanded ASSIST as an optional method of application submission for single project applications.
  - NIH plans to eventually enable all applications for competing grants to be submitted through ASSIST, and as we go on, these will be announced in the NIH Guide and Extramural Nexus when available.

- **NIH Policy on Application Compliance, NOT-OD-15-095**
  - Non-compliance issues associated with submitted applications can have serious consequences. NIH may withdraw any application identified during the receipt, referral and review process that is not compliant with the instructions in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide, the Funding Opportunity Announcement, and relevant NIH Guide Notices.
Some examples of how this policy is applied to NIH applications include but are not limited to:

- Applications containing one or more bio-sketches that do not conform to the required format may be withdrawn (NOT-OD-15-032).
- Applications that do not conform to the page limit requirements because inappropriate materials have been included in other parts of the application may be withdrawn (NOT-OD-11-080).
- Applications submitted as new but containing elements of a resubmission or renewal application are noncompliant with the resubmission policy and may be withdrawn (NOT-OD-15-059).
- Applications submitted after 5 PM local (applicant organization) time on the application due date may be withdrawn (NOT-OD-15-039).

Reminder: QRC and SPS Budget Templates to be updated in July/August, 2015

- Use the QRC posted online on the SPS website
- Use budget templates posted online on SPS website or from the newly created EPCS record. Please don't save copies of templates to your computer since they may be out of date.