

**Notes from All NOAA CI Meeting, Silver Spring, MD
April 21, 2010**

NOAA presented a pdf of answers to administrators' questions from last year. The document has not been posted on the CI website yet – it needs to be finalized and then will be sent out by e-mail. This led to a recommendation from the administrators that NOAA not wait a year to get back to us with answers to our questions.

Reasons for new award announcement delays: 1) has to be approved by Jane Lubchenco, and it is a transition year, 2) it is an election year, and it can be held up in Congress, 3) continuing resolution – at least until the second quarter in 2011.

-check the CI Handbook for establishing a new CI process: starts ~2 years before the CI end date.

June 4th (June 1st in other communications) is the deadline to get proposals in to Heather Hay through Grants.gov, June 30th is the deadline for Heather to turn them in to GMD.

Shadow awards – competitive awards can be passed through CIOSS, but if awarded will get a new award # if the performance date goes past our current shadow award date.

NOAA Grant guidelines (from GMD)

- need to include an abstract for each proposal, avoid acronyms and jargon, don't make it too long
- the abstract can be included in the cover sheet, or at the top of a proposal (like a peer-reviewed papers)
- the idea was given to create an interactive pdf available online or through e-mail to PIs to get them to fill out the cover sheet info, including the abstract
- travel needs to be well explained, where, per diem (we can attach the OSU spreadsheet with per diem rates if we want, not required)
- clearly explain how subawardee's role is necessary to the scope of work
- (Review) multi-year projects – submit all info about the outer years to make it easier to approve in years 2-3, etc, NOAA will do an up-front review. If the estimated budget changes substantially, you can submit it through Grants Online, include the budget from before and after.
- if the rebudget is less than 10% of the whole CI award, don't send it through Grants Online, notify Ingrid with an e-mail or let the funders know (this is a courtesy, not a requirement)

There is a 90 day closeout period after the award expires, you can ask for an extension (award action request), but the award cannot be reopened after closed.

Funds will be withheld if progress/financial reports are more than 30-45 days(?) late. Grants Online will send us notices.

Something about standardizing Task I activities so NOAA can possibly change the funding source - differently than done up until now. If they decide to move forward on this, we will probably hear more information about it.

Arlene Simpson-Porter is replacing Rimas Liogys as the new GMD director.

Michelle Brown = Michelle Feagins

Beverly Manly and Patricia Ross (new) on the Compliance Team

There was a presentation from Mona Singleton, a new technical person with NOAA Grants Online. She talked about how they are working to improve their system and its communication with other systems (DOC) for better efficiency. This goes back to one of the reasons that we had to get new award numbers every 5 years. The Grants Online system is expanding to users beyond NOAA (other DOC bureaus).

Grants.gov are moving towards cloud computers (broadband) to handle the large influx of proposals, especially from the stimulus funds. You can't search for CI awards in Grants.gov to avoid "spam" applicants.

Linda Joy – CI Communicators Network, Public Affairs Specialist, 301-734-1165 (Jana Goldman – Director)

Places to put CI news:

- Climate Portal – www.climate.gov
- OAR webpage, NESDIS (John Leslie – contact for NESDIS)
- NOAA main webpage
- they will be setting up a new NOAA Research News webpage

Purpose – increased visibility for research and potential collaborators, local and national recognition, research results can inform environmental policy decisions

Online guide: Communicating Science News - A Guide for Public Information Officers, Scientists and Physicians, www.nasw.org/resource/pios/csn

oar.ci.comm.network@noaa.gov – e-mail to give feedback, share expertise with new techniques

- I suggested that having an e-mail list like this, where everyone "replies to all", would become a burden to our inboxes. Linda said that having a password protected website would be better, but NOAA cannot host it. Would a university be able to do it? Ingrid suggested that she might be willing to set up another blog as an alternative.

News that could be shared with Linda and distributed through a press release or web story:

- papers that are accepted
- a new mission starting
- honors
- your role relative to a current event

-news has to be very fresh – the Hot Items time frame is too long

-ex – before a paper is published, weeks in advance (some Administrators brought up the fact that this would not be possible due to agreements with the publishers)

Notes on the administration of consortiums (handled differently for different organizations):

-the prime is mainly responsible and usually keeps all of the Task I funding, which usually does not cover all that they are required to do

-some charge F&A on the first \$25K of the subaward to associated institutions and get none of the rest of the money that is passed through, but some don't charge any F&A to subawardees

-the prime institution asks the subawardees to download the Grants.gov application, fill it out, then submit it back to the prime, which then gets forwarded to their Authorized Representative and then on to NOAA

-the RFP does not make it clear that the money in the announcement is not guaranteed, and many of the subordinate institutions expect to receive part of the Task I funding