NYU Research Leadership Meeting - September 17, 2019

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for attending the first Research Leadership Forum of 2019-2020 academic year. As promised, I am attaching minutes and PDF slide decks for your reference and also for those of you who were not able to attend.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, December 4, 2019. A reminder and an agenda will be sent before the meeting. If you would like us to cover a specific research topic or have any feedback to share, please email Farooq Niazi (farooq.niazi@nyu.edu).

I look forward to a productive and successful year working with, and supporting, each of you.

Warmly,

Stacie Bloom
Vice Provost for Research
New York University

MEETING MINUTES:

UPDATE: International Research presented by Vice Provost Stacie Bloom

The US government recently requested information from large federal granting agencies regarding protections around the integrity of US taxpayer-funded research; ensuring that IP and technology resulting is not stolen by foreign organizations and governments; and clarifying the roles of grant and program officers, Offices of Inspector General, and grant recipients. In response, federal agencies have implemented policies and procedures and universities continue to be primarily responsible to collect information, identify technologies that can be protected and identify and manage conflicts of interests.

- NIH Policy on Other Support and Financial conflicts of Interest and Foreign components
- NIH FAQ – Other support and Foreign Components clarification
- NSF Dear Colleague Letter: Research Protection. NSF is developing new forms for biosketch and Current and Pending Support for all proposal submissions (early 2020).

The Department of Energy (DOE) has a more aggressive stance on engagement with foreign talent programs, and may limit collaboration on projects with researchers from certain countries.

DOE's Working Group on Economic and National Security Issues reviewed a proposed policy in late 2018 to prohibit DOE funded recipients from using US tax dollars to support international collaborations with, or to support foreign nationals from "sensitive countries," which were not listed, in areas of research identified by the group. In January 2019, the DOE stated intent to limit engagement with non-US talent programs, indicating that current or future participation would jeopardize funding eligibility.

- Eric Schneebeck briefed us on University of Kansas fraud case where a PI has been indicted. link

At NYU, faculty members and grant administrators must review federal sponsor submission requirements for foreign activities, biosketches and other support disclosures. They must be up-to-date and fully reflect the information required by the sponsor. NYU has not restricted faculty engagement in talent programs

such as China's Thousand Talents Program, yet faculty should be aware that affiliations with such programs and other non-US government programs may impact federal funding decisions.

UPDATE: Sponsored Research, presented by Assistant Vice Provost Nancy Daneau

- Faculty submitted 1763 proposals to federal, state, city, foundations, corporations, foreign organizations and non-profits requesting $1.115B in FY19.
- The majority of proposals submitted to federal agencies (78%) go to NSF (in volume) and NIH (in $'s). More than half of the dollars awarded are federally funded, and our faculty win more awards from the NIH than from the NSF.
- Our success rate of 25-29% is above the national average of 23% and the numbers of funded PI's increased to 502 in 2019 from 427 in 2018.
- Mega Grants - number of proposals submitted by our faculty over $1.75 M has increased by 13% in FY19 over FY18. Faculty submitted 175 proposals in FY19 compared to 155 in FY18. The trend suggests our PI's are competing for larger awards.
- NYU's research expertise and recruitment strategies has us well aligned with the Office of Science and Technology Policy's FY20 spending priorities ("The Second Bold Era") for federal research agencies. https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/FY-21-RD-Budget-Priorities.pdf
- Individuals with non-traditional roles and titles are eligible for PI status if requested with the approval of their Chair, Dean, and the Provosts Office. Additional guidance forthcoming.
- Research Development team will focus on activities that support each school and leverage NYU's assets to incentivize faculty to win funding and continue to build the university's competitiveness and capacity for research.

LEADERSHIP HIGHLIGHT: Enrollment Management presented by MJ Knoll-Finn, Senior Vice President
The Division of Enrollment Management works to recruit, evaluate, select, enroll, assist, and serve the students of NYU. The Division is responsible for all enrollment functions, research, and operations for NYU's schools and colleges in New York as well as degree-granting campuses in Abu Dhabi and Shanghai. https://www.nyu.edu/about/leadership-university-administration/office-of-the-president/office-of-the-provost/enrollment-management.html

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHT: NYC Media lab presented by Justin Hendrix
NYC Media Lab connects media and technology companies with New York City's universities to drive innovation, entrepreneurship and talent development. A public-private partnership launched by the New York City Economic Development Corporation, NYC Media Lab funds projects and programs that foster collaboration across an array of disciplines and emerging technologies. The Combine, NYC Media Lab's venture platform, helps companies connect to startups within the City's thriving technology ecosystem. https://engineering.nyu.edu/rlab