

## UNLV Research Council

Friday, January 22, 2016

### MEETING MINUTES

In Attendance: John Mercer, Greg Borchard, Jennifer Pharr, Ernesto Abel-Santos, Brad Donohue, Kwang Kim, Gary Cerefice, Tom Piechota, Stan Smith, Zach Miles, David Paul, Carol Brodie, Sue DiBella, Liam Frink, Brian Hedlund, John Brodie, Jackie Hess, and Jill Zimbelman

\*Items in Blue are Action Items

1. General Announcements/Updates – Tom Piechota
  - a. Workday@UNLV Update – Jackie Hess
    - i. Testing of Workday's automated workflow began with HR/Payroll January 11. Finance's testing, including grants functionality, began January 19. A small number of UNLV project team members are participating in this testing effort February 5.
    - ii. February 8 additional project team members will begin testing along with a small number of our volunteer Change Partners who perform the day-to-day activities being replaced by Workday. This phase of testing runs through February.
    - iii. The next prototype environment (P2), scheduled to be available April 22, is intended to incorporate what was learned in January/February testing. I expect to provide demos from the P2 tenant, and will be back out to campus to road show some of the decisions that have been made.
    - iv. The third prototype environment (P3) will be used for parallel payroll as well as end-to-end process testing. P3 detailed scheduling has not yet been released but was initially projected to be complete in late July.
    - v. The project still targeting an October 2016 Workday implementation.
  - b. Professor Andreas Stefik will be one of nine people to be recognized as a White House Champion of Change for Computer Science Education on January 26
  - c. UNLV's Solar Decathlon team has been accepted into the 2017 competition
2. Top Tier Planning Updates – Tom Piechota
  - a. Health for Nevada (handout)
    - i. Discussed the importance of hiring new faculty members already having grant(s) as a requirement which then correlates with publications
    - ii. **Please present to your college/school and provide any input, questions, or comments to Tom**
  - b. Other
    - i. Jim Thomson is working on a report regarding promotion and tenure, and will be invited to discuss with Research Council
3. Proposal Deadline Policy – David Paul (handout)
  - a. Presented draft expectations to set standards for proposal submission, including deadlines, by category (standard, non-standard, and very large proposals)

- b. Deadlines depend upon the following complicating factors:
    - i. Direct cost greater than \$1.5 million/year.
    - ii. Cost sharing
    - iii. External Collaborators/Sub-awards
    - iv. Requires additional space
    - v. Involves a foreign sponsor
  - c. Proposal accuracy cannot be guaranteed if these deadlines are not adhered to, and proposals received after deadlines cannot be prioritized ahead of proposals that meet the requirements.
  - d. [Please present to your college/school and provide any feedback to David Paul](#)
4. Limited submission process improvements – Carol Brodie/David Paul
- a. In response to the request to streamline the limited submission process, here are a few proposed steps:
    - i. We've already begun including information on current limited submission announcements in the funding opportunity bi-weekly newsletter. This is just a reminder to faculty about current limited submission competitions that are open.
    - ii. When we send out announcements, instead of just asking faculty to tell us that they're interested in submitting a proposal, we want to require a pre-proposal at the time they notify us. This will reduce the wait time before researchers are able to begin working on a proposal, should they be selected to proceed. To reduce the burden to faculty, the pre-proposal will be brief and will consist of:
      - 1. List of all key personnel and partners
      - 2. One page (maximum) description of the proposed project
      - 3. Brief CV for the lead PI
      - 4. Proof of commitment of the funds for any required cost share and/or a statement of any space/renovation needs for the project.
    - iii. There are some limited submission opportunities where we know the approximate deadline well in advance. For these – especially the larger or more popular grant programs – we will send the announcement out at least 6 months ahead of time. This will be with the caveat, of course, that we are providing information based on previous calls, and that we will update the selected individuals on the deadline and any other changes to the RFP.
5. Faculty Opportunity Awards Update – Tom Piechota/Brian Hedlund
- a. Call for Proposals is open for 2016 Faculty Opportunity Awards – short term, non-renewable funding for projects in four categories (Individual Investigator Award, Innovation/Technology Development Award, Collaborative Interdisciplinary Award, and Center of Excellence Challenge Grant)
    - i. Up to \$500,000 is available to support these efforts in this round of proposals (maximum budgets of \$20,000-\$100,000 each)

- ii. Submission deadline is February 19, 2016
- iii. Ten proposals have already been received for the Center of Excellence Challenge Grant, intended to support emerging and existing collaborative teams intending to pursue large extramural funding initiatives that will establish a Center of Excellence at UNLV.
- iv. FOA FAQ Sessions are being offered at noon on Monday, Jan. 25 (SU 209) and Tuesday, Jan. 26 (SU 213). Please disseminate this information to your college/school.
- v. Please volunteer to review FOA by contacting Brian Hedlund

**Next Research Council Meeting**

Friday, February 26, 2016, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., SEB 2251

## UNLV Top Tier - Health for Nevada Initiative

### Background

Raising the health standards in Nevada is critical to enhancing quality of life in the state and improving its economic vitality. Nevada consistently places near the bottom of rankings of U.S. states in many health-related measures, including the incidence of chronic illnesses, such as diabetes and respiratory disease; the availability of doctors; the delivery of preventive services, such as immunizations and prenatal care; the quality and quantity of mental health care; and the risk of suicide.<sup>1</sup> Further, the health care disparities in the Mountain West states are higher than the rest of the U.S. states and are manifested in higher rates of the 12 leading causes of death, including coronary heart disease, cancer, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.<sup>2</sup>

UNLV is helping to address these challenges with numerous academic and research programs. The creation of the School of Medicine, whose first class will enter in the fall of 2017, is a milestone for health care education, service, and research in Southern Nevada. A variety of other health care education and research initiatives are underway as well. For example, UNLV is leading the multi-year National Institute of Health-funded IDEA Clinical Translational Research project. UNLV researchers also recently joined with the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health to obtain an \$11.1 million grant from the NIH for the advanced study of both Parkinson's and Alzheimer's Diseases. The state Knowledge Fund is supporting the establishment of the Nevada Institute for Personalized Medicine. Additionally, three startup companies that have tremendous commercial potential have been produced through UNLV research in biotechnology and bioengineering.<sup>3</sup> UNLV researchers actively pursue the substantial grant funding available at the federal level,<sup>4</sup> but additional key infrastructure, faculty members, and programs are needed for UNLV to become even more effective in acquiring this and other types of funding. By investing in Health for Nevada Initiative, the state will provide support that will facilitate acquisition of more federal funding and will enable faculty to address more of the state's pressing health issues.

The health care sector is also important for economic development in Nevada. In addition to attracting companies such as Switch and Zappos, Southern Nevada is also observing growth in the health-care industry with the addition of such organizations as the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health, Varian Medical Systems, and Comprehensive Cancer Centers. All of these entities rely on UNLV for workforce development, basic and applied research, and additional innovation that can catalyze economic growth for the region. Thus, it is important to build the workforce development capacity and research infrastructure at UNLV, as the university is located in the state's primary urban center with the largest population and most diverse demographics; it also has perhaps the most significant health disparities. An investment in the Health for Nevada Initiative would bring more health care jobs to Nevada and spur research with great potential to produce effective, new health-care related products, drugs, and services. It would also help save the state money in the long term by reducing health care costs. All of these developments will directly benefit the state's economy in a key sector identified in the Governor's Economic Development Plan: Health and Medical Services. By investing in the Health for Nevada Initiative, the state will help advance the Governor's strategic goal of "leveraging a strong medical/health sector to build other emerging industries." These types of investments have paid off in the past by advancing Nevada in the nation's health care rankings.

For example, the UNLV School of Dental Medicine helped move the state from a national ranking of approximately 48<sup>th</sup> on number of dentists per capita to a current ranking of approximately 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Connection to the Top Tier Plan**

An investment in the Health for Nevada Initiative not only helps build faculty and student health expertise, but also complements the launch of the UNLV School of Medicine. The advancement of the medical school is a key component of one of five institutional goals identified in the Top Tier Strategic Plan. Launched in the past academic year, UNLV's Top Tier aspiration is to become a high-performing university in research, teaching, and community engagement. UNLV is hard at work achieving these goals, which include the following: expanding research, scholarship, and creative activity; increasing student achievement; launching a world-class medical school and successfully integrating it within the broader academic health center; building better community partnerships; and improving our infrastructure, business processes, and shared governance. Investment in human health capabilities would help to increase the number of new faculty and staff members, graduate students, and research space necessary to achieve these Top Tier goals. Such an investment would have a direct, positive impact on Nevada in terms of health care, jobs, and economic diversification that arrive with development of new health-related products, drugs, services, and start-ups. The Health for Nevada Initiative request is *in addition to* the School of Medicine's request for programmatic and infrastructure support, which is itself an institutional priority;<sup>5</sup> added to the request for funding for the School of Medicine, the Health for Nevada Initiative would benefit medical school research and education tremendously through provision of additional faculty members, graduate students, and infrastructure.

### **Hiring of New Faculty Members (\$16.5 million two year request - \$11 million base increase)**

To support growth in the field of human health, it is essential to hire senior and junior faculty in various fields that will work in teams to address this important issue for the state. **UNLV anticipates the need to hire senior and junior research-intensive faculty members over the next 10 years, whose state support will be provided as summarized below:**

- Senior Faculty: 3 years at 100%, then transition to 50% funding from state
- Junior Faculty: 6 years at 100%, then transition to 50% funding from state

Through a combination of initial hiring of faculty members with \$11 million in base funding and reinvestment in these funds as those faculty members transition to external funds, it is anticipated that approximately **156 faculty members will be hired over a 10-year period**. UNLV's commitment will be to support the startup costs, which are estimated to be \$4 million per year over the 10-year period. These new professors will possess expertise in many areas: community health, pharmaceutical development, biomedical engineering, robotic surgery, dental medicine, health informatics, nursing, healthcare business and administration, health law and policy, healthcare hospitality, physical therapy, health education, and other societal aspects of healthcare and caregiving. Additional expertise will be sought in the public health areas, such as improving access to clean water, the built environment, and health strategies for developing countries.

### **Support for Graduate Students (\$6.05 million two year request - \$3.025 million base increase)**

Graduate students provide support in all the human health research areas, and in doing so, they become a skillfully trained workforce. These students will work with professors on health-related projects that are important for the state, region, and beyond. To be competitive, stipends for graduate assistants (GAs) must be at the appropriate level, and there must be a sufficient number of assistantships available. **For this, UNLV requests \$6 million to increase competitive, market-based assistantships and stipends for the Health for Nevada Initiative.** These funds will be used to provide research GAs to faculty on a competitive basis to support their research and grant-writing initiatives. As faculty members acquire external funding for research projects, they can request additional funds from the Health for Nevada program to further build out research teams with additional GAs. This program could include support for competitive summer GA support for doctoral students.

### **Research Support (staff, operating, equipment)**

The proper research support is essential for faculty members and students to be successful in their activities. This support includes staff members for core facilities (e.g., computer, wet and dry labs), compliance-related functions (e.g., environmental health and safety, support of clinical trials, protection of human subjects), and administrative support for operations. Operating funds are requested covering service contracts, equipment repair, and upgrades. Major equipment funds would be used for core facilities and equipment such as high-throughput gene sequencer, cyclotron, and high-end confocal imager.

### **Infrastructure (Renovation Funds and Engineering (Biomedical) Building - (\$14.5 million)**

Having the sufficient infrastructure—including space, laboratories, offices, and other facilities—is essential for UNLV to reach its Top Tier aspirations over the next 10 years, and for Nevada to reap the benefit of having UNLV (and, likely, UNR) become a stronger research university. UNLV is committed to driving the efficient use of research space by repurposing existing facilities and ensuring that as many grant-funded activities as possible occur in current research facilities. Over the next 10 years, we are committed to increasing research productivity in space moving from \$190/asf to \$300/asf. As part of this increase, we will evaluate the need to renovate and repurpose research space that will accommodate faculty growth over the next 2-5 years. This includes spaces such as the old spaces (wet and dry) in the Harry Reid Center, White Hall, Chemistry Building, EPA facility and other research labs that are still useful but need upgrading. We also propose a new Engineering Building (approximately 50,000 net assignable ft<sup>2</sup>) at a cost of approximately \$35 million (a combination of state, UNLV, and external funding). The research space inside the Engineering Building will be prioritized for activities that are in alignment with the Health for Nevada Initiative such as biomedical engineering and include areas such as medical devices, diagnostics, and prosthetics. The College of Engineering has experienced over a doubling in research expenditures (FY 2013 – \$4.9 million to FY 2015 - \$11.4 million) over the past three years and this along with a new emphasis in biomedical engineering will create a demand for new research space. **In this request, UNLV asks for renovation funds (\$10.0 million) and planning funding for the new engineering building (\$2.4 million).**

## Metrics of Success and Conclusion

A university's collaboration on human health issues involves a multidisciplinary approach that can enhance the private sector's endeavors. Metrics of success will include improvements in human health rankings, interactions with industry, commercialization of research (new IP, patents, startups), jobs from new businesses, student/workforce training, and enhanced federal funding. On average, every \$5 million in research funding produces 1.7 invention disclosures and results in one patent application per year. Eventually, this commercialized research leads to license agreement with companies, revenue for the university, and/or startup companies. UNLV's development of the Health for Nevada Initiative establishes the strong infrastructure and expertise to help Nevada realize its economic development potential while transforming the standards for health care in the state and region.

## Financial Summary

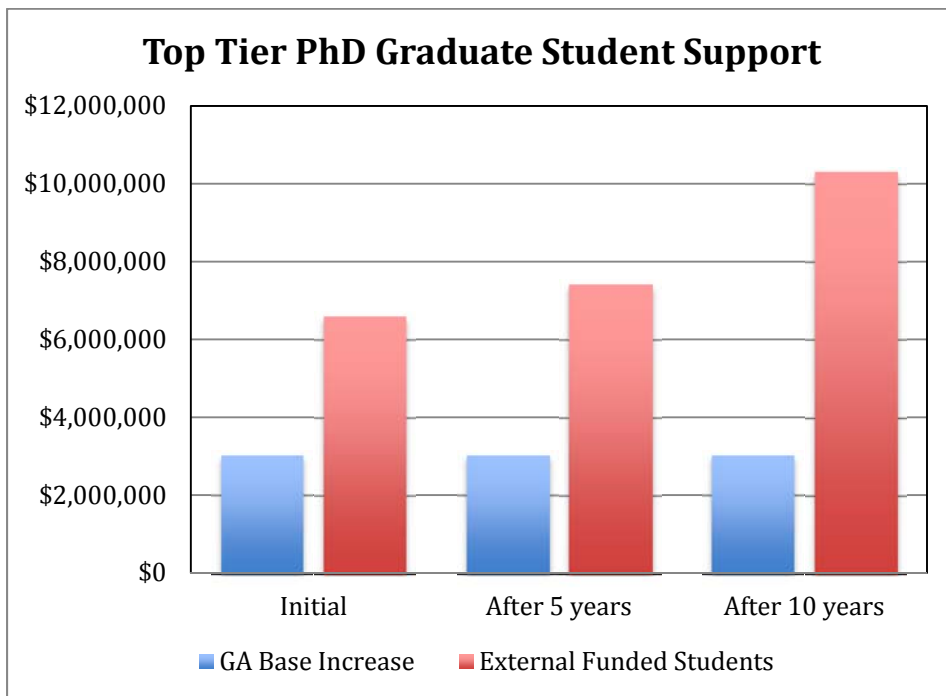
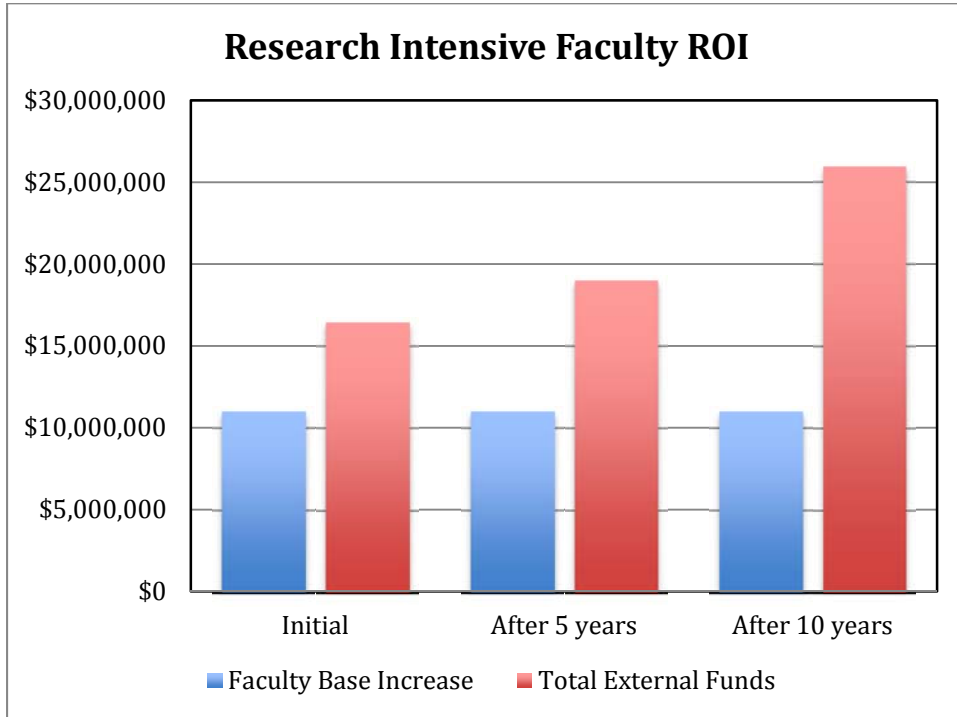
### Funding Request (millions)

	FY 2018		FY 2019		FY 18-19 State Request
	State	UNLV Match	State	UNLV Match	
Faculty Hiring <sup>6</sup>	\$5.5	\$4.0	\$11.0	\$4.0	\$16.5
Graduate Assistants <sup>7</sup>	\$3.025	\$3.0	\$3.025	\$3.0	\$6.05
Support Staff	\$1.2		\$2.4		\$3.6
Operating	\$1.0		\$2.0		\$3.0
Equipment	\$1.5		\$3.0		\$4.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12.2</b>	<b>\$7.0</b>	<b>\$21.4</b>	<b>\$8.0</b>	<b>\$33.7</b>
<b>Infrastructure<sup>8</sup> (Renovation &amp; Planning)</b>	<b>\$10.0 Renovation</b>		<b>\$2.4 Planning</b>		<b>\$12.4</b>

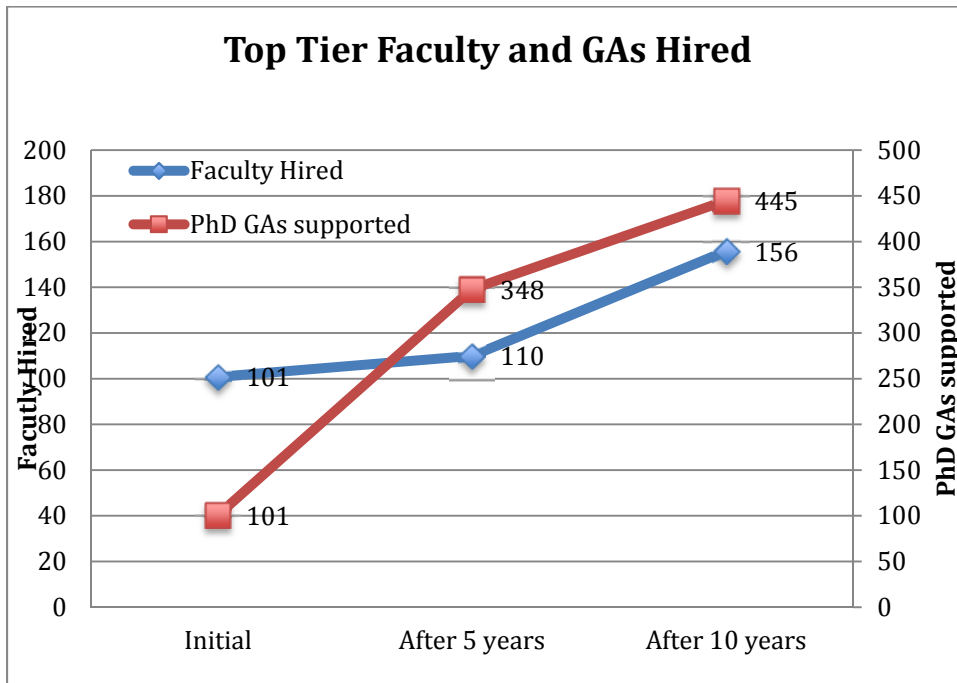
### Notes:

1. NSHE Science and Technology Plan. "Health Care Access and Research." January 2015. Page 15.
2. As compiled from Center for Disease Control data and presented in Table 5 for the NIH supported and UNLV lead IDEA CTR proposal.
3. The three most recent UNLV startups were based on biotechnology/bioengineering. MoveMedics is based on the invention of a research team that created shoe insoles that helps prevent foot ulcerations that plague diabetics. Abel Therapeutics is researching, developing, and commercializing a novel compound designed to prevent *Clostridium difficile* infections. A third has developed a compound to prevent American Foulbrood Disease, which kills millions of honeybees each year and can impact up to a third of all agricultural crops.
4. For example, the NIH receives more than \$20 billion per year for research in the various programs.
5. The SOM is requesting \$17,101,776 for FY 18-19 above the state general fund base of \$19,567,702.
6. State funding will be used for hiring new faculty in health areas. UNLV match is based on startup for senior and junior faculty.
7. Requests for Health for Nevada GAs must be supported by faculty with external funding.
8. Building costs will be shared between state allocations, UNLV, and external sources.

### Summary of Return on Investment (ROI)







## Office of Sponsored Projects (OSP) Proposal Deadlines

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Each month, the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) reviews, signs, and submits large numbers of proposals. Numerous administrative requirements exist and proposals must be carefully reviewed for compliance prior to submission. Consequently, in order to provide the best possible service and ensure timely submission, OSP has the following deadlines for proposal processing. The deadlines depend upon the following complicating factors:

- Direct costs greater than \$1M/year
- Cost sharing
- External Collaborators/Sub-awards
- Requires additional space
- Involves a foreign sponsor

### **STANDARD PROPOSALS** *(no complicating factors)*

- 1) **Notify OSP:** At least **10 working days** before the submission deadline. Provide: 1) basic proposal information (PIs, etc.), 2) a preliminary budget, and 3) a reference/link to the proposal guidelines.
- 2) **Final budget and Routing Form:** **4 working days** before the submission deadline.
- 3) **Final versions of all required documents:** **4 working days** before the submission deadline. *A draft technical section\* is appropriate at this time.*
- 4) **Final technical section:** **2 working days** before the submission deadline.

### **NON-STANDARD PROPOSALS** *(w/complicating factors)*

- 1) **Notify OSP:** At least **20 working days** before the submission deadline. Provide: 1) basic proposal information (PIs, etc.), 2) a preliminary budget, and 3) a reference/link to the proposal guidelines.
- 2) **Final budget and Routing Form:** **5 working days** before the submission deadline.
- 3) **Final versions of all required documents:** **4 working days** before the submission deadline. *A draft technical section\* is appropriate at this time.*
- 4) **Final technical section:** **2 working days** before the submission deadline.

\*If a draft technical section is submitted, OSP must be notified that a final version will be submitted later. The final technical section may not change 1) the amount of project funds requested from the sponsor, 2) the project's budget justification, 3) cost sharing or matching, 4) F&A (indirect) costs requested, 5) effort of key project personnel, or 6) subcontracts.

### **VERY LARGE PROPOSALS:** *(Direct costs \$2.5M/year or more)*

*Any proposal with direct costs greater than \$2.5M/year must be brought to OSP's attention as early as possible.*

### **Proposal Deadline Summary**

	<b>STANDARD</b>	<b>NON-STANDARD</b>	<b>VERY LARGE</b>
Notify OSP	10 working days	20 working days	As soon as identified
Budget finalization	4 working days	5 working days	1 month
Final documents	4 working days	4 working days	10 working days
Final technical section & certifications	2 working days	2 working days	5 working days

### **EXCEPTIONS**

The Office of Sponsored Programs understands that there may be mitigating circumstances for late preparation of a proposal. In these situations, individual circumstances will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and reasonable efforts will be made to review the proposals. However, proposal accuracy cannot be guaranteed if these deadlines are not adhered to, and proposals received after the deadlines cannot be prioritized ahead of proposals that meet the requirements. If a late submission is anticipated, it is important to notify OSP in advance so an appropriate plan can be established. In many instances at least a partial review of the proposal, particularly the administrative and financial sections, can be initiated in an effort to accommodate truncated timelines.