

## RAS Update, December 2011

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## Welcome to Our New Colleagues

At the [December RAS Friday](#) meeting, we welcomed new attendees from the Office of Sponsored Programs, Research Administration Services, and the Department of Stem Cell and Regenerative Biology:

- Jennifer Lech (Newly at OSP) – Grants and Contracts Specialist, Physical and Social Sciences
- Barbara Rankin (RAS) – FAS Temporary Research Administration Consulting Specialist
- Bill Thompson (SCRB) – Sponsored Research Administrator

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## Upcoming Research Administration Events

### **RAS Workshop: Budgeting for Proposals & Awards – Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>**

Download and understand CREW reports not covered in CREW Sponsored Basics, and learn more about CREW functionality and Excel shortcuts.

### **RAS Workshop: Introduction to FASSPAR – Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>**

FAS Sponsored Program Accounting Reports (FASSPAR) is an intuitive, web-based application created for administrators and their PIs. This workshop will demo FASSPAR reports on budgets, expenses, personnel, purchase orders, and invalid code combinations.

### **RAS Workshop: FASSPAR Projections – Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>**

Use FASSPAR to create customized projections that can be uploaded and used again in future months with actual costs.

**Time, location, and registration information** for all RAS workshops is available on the [RAS Workshop Registration iSite](#). Please contact [Rady Rogers](#) with any questions.

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## Upcoming Funding Opportunities

### **Packard Fellowship Application Deadline – Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>**

The Packard Foundation Fellowship provides support for creative, early-career researchers in the natural and physical sciences and engineering. For more information and application procedures for this limited submission opportunity, please see the request for pre-proposals [here](#). Contact [Susan Gomes](#) with any questions.

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## **New FAS Temporary Research Administration Consulting Services Now Available**

FASTRAC is a service that provides direct support to FAS departments and centers by filling short-term research administration vacancies with experienced and highly functioning grant administrators. As time permits, FASTRAC also helps departments and faculty with targeted pre- and post-award projects and assists with the on-boarding of new staff. Please download the [FASTRAC Information and Request Form](#) for to request FASTRAC services, and contact [Barbara Rankin](#) or [Karen Woodward Massey](#) with any questions.

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## **New Science Division Website Provides Research Development Resources for Researchers**

The recently unveiled [Science Division Website](#) includes [a research development section for researchers](#). This page offers resources in support of research for all levels of scientific investigators, from students to faculty, ranging from funding opportunities to research compliance. The section also contains tips on finding funding and preparing competitive applications. Key features of the new page include a [Funding Spotlight RSS feed](#) and a [database of early career funding opportunities](#). Please contact [Susan Gomes](#) with feedback or questions.

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## **New Federal Guidance on Accelerated ARRA Spending**

New NIH and NSF guidance in response to OMB memo [M-11-34](#) notifies recipient institutions and Principal Investigators that ARRA grants shall have a final budget period of no later than September 30, 2013 without prior agency approval. Exceptions will be granted only with advanced approval by sponsoring agencies, and requests for waivers to the guidance are due by June 1, 2012. Please see [NIH](#) and [NSF](#) acceleration notices for details.

Harvard has 37 awards that may potentially be affected by these notices: 14 awards with obligated end dates after 9/30/2013, and 23 awards under which a 12 month no-cost extension would extend the end date past 9/30/2013. Within the FAS, 15 awards may potentially be affected: there are 6 awards with obligated end dates after 9/30/2013, and 9 awards under which a 12 month no-cost extension would extend the end date past 9/30/2013.

OSP will coordinate with local school and departmental offices to ensure compliance with the guidance, and FAS ARRA Project Specialists will be in touch with all FAS ARRA award recipients regarding this issue. In the meantime, please contact [your ARRA Specialist](#) or Grants and Contracts Specialist with any questions.

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## Revised Participation Agreement Requires Re-Signature

Individuals who perform research at Harvard or who create intellectual property through the use of Harvard resources are subject to certain University policies and, in some cases, to terms of agreements between Harvard and third parties (e.g., other institutions, organizations or companies). Such policies cover, for example, the ethical conduct of research, publication of research results, retention of research records, and handling of intellectual property. Harvard University's [Participation Agreement](#), which is designed to help carry out Intellectual Property Policy and other research policies and to help Harvard fulfill its responsibilities relating to research, has recently been revised. All existing signers will shortly be asked to [re-sign the new Participation Agreement electronically via GMAS](#). Official signature requests will be emailed in waves beginning in February; however, all researchers are welcome and encouraged to sign now.

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## Managing Your Research Revision in Progress

*Managing Your Research*, the well-known, well-loved RAS guidebook for Harvard sponsored research administrators, is currently under revision. Reissue is scheduled for early 2012. Sponsored research administrators interested in participating in the final round of edits should contact [Karen Woodward Massey](#) by Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>.

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## GMAS Rollout Implementation Plan Enters Phase III

The third and final phase of the GMAS Rollout Implementation Plan (GRIP) will launch on January 1<sup>st</sup>, beginning the deployment of GMAS at the Divinity School and at all remaining FAS departments. For the latest information on progress of this important initiative, visit [OSP's new GRIP webpage](#). A GRIP/GMAS section of the RAS Website, including GMAS cheat sheets and job aids, will be available beginning in January.

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## Current REACH Participants Offer Testimonials

At the December 16<sup>th</sup> RAS Friday meeting, current participants in the Research Excellence in Administration Certificate at Harvard (REACH) program discussed their experience as students and answered audience questions. Research administrators looking to further their practical knowledge of the field are encouraged to apply for Spring 2012 Foundations or Intermediate cohorts. Application details are posted on the [REACH page](#) of the OSP website. Contact your [local REACH representative](#) with questions or to be put in touch with a current REACH student.

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## About RAS Update

Research Administration Services publishes this monthly e-newsletter for the FAS sponsored research community. RAS Update reviews topics covered at [RAS Friday meetings](#) and contains pertinent research administration announcements from RAS, OSP, FSS, and FAS Finance, as well as other FAS academic and administrative departments.

To subscribe/unsubscribe, visit the RAS Fridays Mailing List [registration page](#).

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