



## The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Publishes Final Uniform

On December 26, 2013, OMB published its comprehensive overhaul of federal grant administrative, cost accounting, and audit policies (aka "Supercircular") in the Federal Register, to be codified in Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This Final Guidance titled "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards" supersedes and combines the requirements of eight existing OMB Circulars (A-21, A-50, A-87, A-89, A-102, A-110, A-122 and A-133). It significantly reforms and strengthens federal grant-making to focus resources on improving performance and outcomes with the intent of reducing administrative burdens for grant applicants and recipients and reducing the risk of waste, fraud and abuse.

The Final Guidance will be effective on December 26, 2014, one year after the publication date. Audit Requirements will apply to audits of fiscal years beginning on or after December 26, 2014. For many institutions, this will result in the audit requirements becoming effective for the fiscal year June 1, 2015 – May 31, 2016.

Additional information has also been published by OMB and the Council on Financial Assistance Reform (COFAR). ORSP will continue to provide updates and further guidance for implementation as necessary regarding the pre-award grant process.

### Student Scholars Celebration:

The University of Scranton will hold its **14<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration of Student Scholars** on **Thursday, May 15, 2014**. This event will celebrate both undergraduate and graduate student scholarship by featuring their work through either a physical display of posters or oral presentations.

#### Location:

- Posters will be displayed in the LSC Lobby
  - Oral Presentations in Provost Conference Room
- Light refreshments will be provided.

A reception dinner at which we celebrate these accomplishments will be held following the event for participants and their faculty mentors.

### Upcoming Events:

- 02/07/14**—Research Seminar Series, Michael Fennie, Ph.D.
  - 02/28/14**—Research Seminar Series, Darwin Day
  - 03/07/14**—Research Seminar Series, Zachary Huard, Ph.D.
  - 03/28/14**—Research Seminar Series, Rev. Michael Bellafiore, S. J.
  - 04/04/14**—Research Seminar Series, Bryan Burnham, Ph.D.
  - 04/25/14**—Research Seminar Series, Jessica Nolan, Ph.D.
  - 05/02/14**—Research Seminar Series, Amy Banner, Ph.D.
- \*\*All presenters for Research Seminar Series are tentative.**
- 05/15/14**—**14th Annual Student Scholars Celebration**

## Margarete Zalon, Ph.D.

### Research Spotlight

**Dr. Margarete Zalon**, Professor of Nursing focused her early research on nurses' pain management practices finding that nurses underestimated severe pain and overestimated mild pain. Continuing in that line of inquiry, she found very little attention was given to pain management in nursing curricula across the country. Inconsistent findings about pain in elders led to an American Nurses Foundation funded study of pain in frail, elderly women. Dr. Zalon then received NIH-funding to examine correlates of recovery after surgery in older adults finding that pain, fatigue, and depression were significantly related to functional status and self-perceived recovery. She has partnered with Sonia Sandhaus, MSN, RNC, CRNP, an alumna of the graduate program to examine the prevention of delirium and cognitive decline in hospitalized elders. Recently, Dr. Zalon, Ms. Sandhaus and Mary Kovalski, MSN, RN, ACNS-BC, faculty specialist, and Paula Roe-Prior PhD, RN, examined delirium descriptors in patient charts. This will provide groundwork for the development of a delirium prevention clinical decision support module.

Dr. Zalon is part of an interdisciplinary team including Herbert Hauser, PhD, Robert Spalletta, PhD, Christine Zakzewski, PhD, and Ayad Haboubi, PhD that is examining unobtrusive monitoring of elders so that they can age in place in their homes. This work included developing a prototype for a technology-enhanced pill console.

### What's News in Research?



### Tips for Proposal Writers

Excerpted from Sun Associates

Tips to use as a starting point for your next grant proposal.

**1. "Read the Request for Proposals (RFP) -** The number one rule for writing a successful grant is to read the RFP...and then to follow the RFP's rules and guidelines when writing your proposal. Not surprisingly, most unsuccessful proposals violate this basic rule. The RFP is written for the specific purpose of providing prospective grantees with all of the information that they need to write a successful proposal. Most grant-makers spend a huge amount of time writing their RFP. They expect you to read it and follow it carefully."

**2. "Write Appropriate Proposals -** This follows from reading (and understanding) the RFP. Do not waste your time, or the reviewers' time by submitting proposals that do not meet the guidelines of the RFP. If an RFP says that it will not fund proposals for specific items, expenditure categories, or for specific populations, then *do not* write a proposal asking for these things. For example, it is quite common for grant-makers to state that they will not provide funds for hardware and software. If this is the case with your RFP, then *do not* write a proposal asking for funds for hardware and software. Grant-makers follow their own rules to the letter, and "exceptions" are not made. Rather, inappropriate proposals are almost always simply rejected."

**3. "Follow the Structure Provided by the RFP -** Another thing that virtually all RFPs provide is a "suggested" proposal structure or table of contents. If your RFP provides such a structure, follow it! Most of the time, this suggested structure forms the basis of the checklist that reviewers will use when reading your proposal. Reviewers use a checklist to determine if each proposal has all of the required elements, sections, etc. Make their job easier, and thereby improve the chances that they will like your proposal; organize your proposal by their structure."

**4. "Write, Modify, Resubmit -** Few proposals are successful the first time around. If your proposed project is rejected by a funder, try again. Try with a different funder and if possible, resubmit the proposal to the original grant maker. Before you resubmit an idea, it is wise to incorporate any feedback you received on your rejected proposal. Remember, when resubmitting a proposal it is necessary to redraft the proposal document to the *new* RFP (in terms of organization, components, budget requirements, etc.). Do not simply photocopy your old proposal for the new submission and do not submit proposals that do not fully fulfill the current RFP."

For full article, *10 Tips for Technology Proposal-Writers*, contact Therese Kurilla, ORSP.

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