

Optimizing RSCA Support Town Hall

Office of Research

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Purpose of Town Hall

- SJSU Research, Scholarship & Creative Activity (RSCA) Plan – Fall 2015 campus discussions
- Impact of current RSCA funding
- Optimizing future RSCA support

SJSU RSCA Plan

- On Provost page:

http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/academic_plan/RSCA_plan/index.html

- On Office of Research page:

<http://www.sjsu.edu/research/>

- To see the final plan:

http://www.sjsu.edu/research/docs/SJSU_RSCA_PLAN_FINAL.pdf

SJSU RSCA Plan

- Four goals established with multiple objectives.
- These goals were established from discussions with various groups in Summer and Fall 2015

RSCA resources

- Mini-RSCA funding (SJSU & CSU base funding)
- RSCA Infusion funding
- F&A (Facilities & Administration or “indirects” associated with external grants)
- Uses: assigned time, travel, student assistants, supplies & equipment, RSCA infrastructure

Annual RSCA investments

- Annual mini-RSCA grant opportunities
 - \$250K **base** funding from Provost
 - \$165K CSU RSCA funding for 2016-17 (SJSU prorated full time equivalent faculty)

\$415,000 total for mini-RSCA grants in 2016-17

\$1.5 M One-Time Funding (2014-2016)

- For stimulating and supporting RSCA
- \$1M to colleges & library
- \$0.5M university level programs
- Subsequent funding depends on college and library reports on RSCA accomplishments and developed RSCA metrics

F&A distributions

- F&A rates are from federal government
- Cover expenses not assigned to any single grant
- At SJSU, after Research Foundation (RF) expenses are covered, the university invests in Academic Affairs

Research Foundation

Sponsored Program Advisory Committee

- Working group to provide feedback to the RF Board – how to invest recoveries to SJSU that are returned to the campus (F&A allocations)
- F&A are the facilities and administrative costs associated with external grant activity – rates are approved based on real costs to the university that are not covered by any one grant.

Scenario

- Need \$100K, so write a proposal for \$143,400
- \$100,000 used for your RSCA (direct costs)
- \$18,400 for RF and some campus expenses (some of indirect or F&A costs)
- \$25,000 to Academic Affairs (university provides the rest of indirect or F&A costs to be used to reinvest in RSCA)

Current F&A distributions

Case	Office of Research	Pool -low F&A grants	PI	Dept	College
Current – no low F&A		\$0	\$8,333	\$8,333	
Current – with low F&A					

Grant from Private Foundation

- A \$100,000 award from a Private Foundation, the Tower Foundation receives a 10% fee (\$10,000).
- Private Foundation conditions:
 - If the award is \$100,000 and fees allowed, the university receives \$110,000 total.
 - If capped at \$100,000, you will receive \$90,000 for the work and TF will receive \$10,000
 - No additional funds are returned to the campus.

Limitations of current F&A Distributions to Academic Units

1. The current process removes members of the SJSU community from any decision-making regarding the best way to reinvest the available F&A funds.
2. The current model does not provide for any central or University-wide investment of funds.
3. The current model's requirement that the colleges and departments subsidize low F&A rate grants results in some units receiving little or no F&A funds for reinvestment despite generating significant F&A revenues.

Limitations of current F&A Distributions to Academic Units (continued)

4. There is insufficient institutional review of whether a low F&A grant proposal is sufficiently resonant with the University's mission to warrant the F&A subsidy.
5. The current model does not distribute the Board-approved F&A distribution to units in proportion to the contribution their sponsored activity makes to the distributed funds.

SPAC recommendation to RF Board:

Possible Solutions

Current model under consideration:

- a. PI investment - 15% for new awards; unchanged distribution of 1/3rd for “grandfathered” grants
- b. Office of Research – 10%
- c. Pool for low F&A grants – 25%
- d. Investment in Colleges – 50%

*Note that %s would be slightly different in the first years of the new model, due to grandfathered grants increasing % to PIs; actual %s each year would increasingly approach model %s as new awards replace old.

Comparison

Case	Office of Research	Pool -low F&A grants	PI	Dept	College
Current – no low F&A	\$0	\$0	\$8,333	\$8,333	\$8,333
Current – with low F&A	\$0	\$0	\$8,333	\$0	\$0
Propose – no low F&A	\$2,500	\$6,250	\$3,750	\$0	\$12,500
Propose – with low F&A	\$2,500	\$6,250	\$3,750	\$0	\$12,500

Other F&A information

- Not all grant items have associated F&A
 - Student scholarships and stipends
 - Equipment
 - Sub-awards to other campuses (only \$25,000 is charged F&A)

Strategic use of Resources

Goals:

- Invest in faculty and student RSCA
- Optimize
- Sustain

Conclusion

THANK YOU! Any comments please email:

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