REEport PROJECTS - THE WHAT, WHY, AND HOW OF LAND-GRANT CAPACITY FUNDING

Moderator: Nancy Wilkinson
Presenters: Dana Holt and Kat Carter-Finn
3 Objectives to cover today

#1 – History of Capacity Funding

#2 - Why do we need REEport Projects?

#3 - How do I get a REEport project and effectively report?
History of Capacity Funding
Legislative History

- Morrill Act of 1862
  - Established Land Grant Institutions

- Hatch Act of 1887
  - Authorized funding for Agricultural Experiment Stations

- 2\textsuperscript{nd} Morrill Act of 1890
  - Established HBCUs
Nat’l Ag Research, Ext. and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (NARETPA)

USDA is the leading federal agency for agricultural research, extension & education programs

Improving America’s School Act of 1994 (IASA)

Land grant status to 29 Native American colleges

The Food, Conservation & Energy Act 2008 (aka 2008 Farm Bill)

Authorized competitive grants for Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges & universities (HSACUs) at Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs)
University of Florida/IFAS

UF Rankings of Note:

• US News & World Report 2018:
  • Top 10 public university
  • 11\textsuperscript{th} globally for agricultural science reputation and research.

• 2\textsuperscript{nd} in NSF’s 2016 Higher Education Research & Development (HERD) Survey for Agricultural Sciences, Natural Resources & Conservation.
Capacity Grants

• Administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

• Capacity programs ensure that the Land-Grant University System and other partners maintain the “capacity” to conduct research and extension activities.

• Capacity Grants, formerly known as Formula Grants, are intended for land-grant institutions, schools of forestry, and veterinary medicine to fund research and extension activities.
## Overview of Research Capacity Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hatch Regular</td>
<td>General agricultural research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hatch Multistate</td>
<td>Cooperatively planned research of concern to multiple states or a region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McIntire Stennis</td>
<td>Program focused on natural resources and forestry-related research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Health</td>
<td>Program focused on Animal Health. Limited currently to faculty in the College of Veterinary Medicine</td>
</tr>
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Why do we need REEport Projects?
Benefits of Capacity Funding

- Promotes multistate and multi-institutional collaboration for forming the national research and extension “systems” needed for addressing complex, multidimensional, and regional challenges.
- Provides institutions the flexibility to address local and regional emergencies and emerging challenges while sustaining long-term research programs and longitudinal studies.
- Strengthens the infrastructure and capabilities of land-grant institutions.
## Capacity Grants – UF’s FY 17 Allocation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Capacity Program</th>
<th>UF’s FY 2017 Allocation</th>
<th>Required Match</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hatch Regular</td>
<td>$2,995,215</td>
<td>$2,995,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hatch Multistate</td>
<td>$971,293</td>
<td>$955,194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McIntire-Stennis</td>
<td>$724,445</td>
<td>$724,445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Health</td>
<td>$63,899</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,754,852</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,674,854</strong></td>
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REEport (Research, Education, and Extension project online reporting tool)

- REEport is USDA/NIFA’s singular grant and capacity project reporting system.
- Replaced the CRIS web forms system in May 2013.
- Through REEport, NIFA staff can receive, distribute and return all necessary data and associated approvals electronically.
- New capacity project initiations, Progress Reports, Final Reports and the annual Financial Statement are submitted through REEport.
REEport (Research, Education, and Extension project online reporting tool)
REEport Projects: Why we have them

• IFAS Research, as part of the Land Grant system receives capacity funding used to support salaries and research expenditures.
• Faculty must have an active REEport project to be eligible to spend capacity funds.
• REEport projects serve as an accounting link for the expenditure of funds within IFAS.
REEport Projects: Who needs one?

- Faculty must have an active REEport project if they:
  - Have a research appointment
  - and/or
  - Receive a USDA/NIFA competitive grant
How do I get a REEport project and effectively report?
New to REEport or don’t see the “REEport (SAES – University of Florida)” active application?

Please submit a ticket to our office via http://research.ifas.ufl.edu/main-menu-tab/resources/myrequest/ to activate your REEport account.
### Track Project Initiations

If you have questions or need further assistance, please contact Dana Holt in the Office of the Dean for Research at 352-392-3150 or danasu@ufl.edu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accession Number</th>
<th>Project Number</th>
<th>Proposal Number</th>
<th>Performing Department</th>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>Project Director</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

[Create a New Project]
REEport Project Portfolio
Current Number of Capacity Projects = 328

- Hatch Regular: 73%
- Hatch Multistate: 11%
- McIntire-Stennis: 15%
- Animal Health: 1%
Project Timeline
Hatch Regular, McIntire-Stennis and Animal Health Projects

Internal UF Requirements:
1. Your proposal must be reviewed by at least 3 subject-matter experts
2. Complete and submit the UF/IFAS project approval form
3. Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) training is required by USDA/NIFA

Visit UF’s REEport website for step-by-step instruction: http://research.ifas.ufl.edu/reeport/
Project Timeline
Hatch Regular, McIntire-Stennis and Animal Health

**STEP 1: CREATE**
Develop a proposal that includes the following:
- Cover Page
- Justification
- Objectives
- Timetable
- Personnel
- Collaboration
- Title
- Previous Work
- Procedures
- Budget
- Units Involved

**STEP 2: REVIEW**
3 subject-matter experts must review your proposal
- Incorporate meaningful feedback from reviewers

**STEP 3: SUBMIT**
Submit internal UF/IFAS approval form through link below
- Initiate project via REEport website and click submit

⭐️ Budget and Timetable are required for McIntire-Stennis proposals only.
Internal UF Requirements:
1. Complete and submit the UF/IFAS project approval form
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Visit UF’s REEport website for step-by-step instruction: http://research.ifas.ufl.edu/reeport/
REEport Project Setup – Summary Overview

- Hatch Regular, McIntire-Stennis and Animal Health:
  - Proposal is required and must be reviewed by at least 3 subject-matter knowledge experts.
  - RCR training must be completed before project can become active.

- Hatch Multistate:
  - Multistate projects are already approved on the national level by NIFA so no proposal is needed.
  - Join the project in NIMSS and initiate a REEport project under the objectives your research will focus on.
  - RCR training must be completed before project can become active.
Reporting Requirements

• Capacity-Funded projects:
  - Progress reports follow a federal fiscal year duration, no matter when the project started. Reports for the most recent period ended September 30th must be submitted annually by March 1st.
  - Final reports must be submitted by March 1st of the fiscal year following the project’s end date, but may be submitted at any time to terminate the project.
Reporting Requirements – Progress Report

• Reporting “shells” created automatically
• Dates cannot be changed and are sequential
• Next shell created only after previous is submitted

  NOTE: This applies even if you are late in submitting your reports.

• Cannot be submitted more than 90 days prior to the Reporting Period End Date
Reporting Requirements – Final Report

- Form and function same as Progress Reports
- Submitted at project conclusion or to terminate early
- Can be submitted at any time
Output, Outcome, IMPACT?
What is the difference?
• **Activities:** conducting and analyzing experiments or surveys; assessments; facilitating; teaching; or mentoring.

• **Events:** conferences; demonstration sites; field days; tours; symposia; workshops; and trainings

• **Services:** consulting; counseling; and tutoring.

• **Publications:** journal articles; books; conference abstracts.

• **Other Scientific Products:** methods, or techniques; data or databases; equipment or instruments; patents and patent applications; applications for Plant Variety Act protection; models; new germplasm, or genetic maps; decision support tools.
Outcome

• Outputs lead to project outcomes. An outcome is defined as a measurable and documented change in knowledge, action, or condition as a result of the project.

• Outcomes relate directly to the project objectives and are supported with quantitative data.

  • “Increase in the number of acres that...”
  • “Decrease in the number of children that...”
  • “Increased profits from the sale of...”
IMPACT

• So what? Who cares? Why does it matter?
• Who are the individuals, groups, parts of society impacted by these changes? How are they impacted?
• **Think: PEOPLE!**
What is your project about?
What is the issue?

**Outputs** – What you did about the issue. Activities

**Outcomes** – What changed as a result?

**Impact** – How does it affect society? Individuals? How does it make a difference in their lives?
Example of a Well Written Accomplishment

Increasing the nutritional value of wheat:

Researchers cloned and gene, GPC-BI, from wild wheat that increases the protein, zinc and iron content in the grain, offering a potential solution to nutritional deficiencies affecting hundreds of millions of children around the world. The researchers found that all commercial pasta and bread wheat varieties analyzed so far have a nonfunctional copy of the GPC gene, suggesting the gene was lost during the domestication of wheat. Reintroducing the functional gene into commercial wheat varieties could increase their nutritional value.
Helpful Hints

• State it for a broad audience and use general terms
• Explain things simply and directly
• Use quantitative values and/or trends to validate impact
• Consider a change in knowledge, action or condition
• Remember most people who read these reports are not technically trained or educated in your field of expertise. Write in a manner that is meaningful to readers, stakeholders, USDA administration and Congress.
Ways NIFA Communicates Impacts

- Annual NIFA Impact Publication
- NIFA Annual Report
- NIFA Communications (NIFA Update, Fresh from the Field, Twitter, Blogs, News Releases)
- NIFA Web Pages
- Searchable databases (NIFA Data Gateway & LMD)
- Speeches for Leadership
- Fact sheets, displays, posters, newsletters
How does NIFA get information about your projects?

- REEport: Non-technical Summary (What); and Accomplishments (How, Who, and How Much)
- Plan of Work: Annual Report & Outcomes
- Direct communication with you: impacts, success stories, photos, press releases, web articles, tweets, etc. #NIFAImpacts
- UF/IFAS communications office
Resources

• The University of Florida REEport Website

• REEport Resources and Tools (from NIFA’s website)

• REEport Portal

• NIMSS Website (Multistate Projects)
QUESTIONS
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