



Date: December 2, 2021

To: Deans

From: Christopher J. Keane, Vice President for Research, WSU
Vice Chancellor for Research, WSU Pullman

Subject: Reporting Sponsored Project Credit Metrics at WSU

As you recall, the Office of Research (OR) issued the attached guidance regarding credit reporting in December 2020. The memo outlined changes in credit reporting developed by OR working with faculty, staff, and college/campus/central leadership. The purpose of these changes is to improve credit reporting so as to more accurately recognize the contributions of all involved. This is particularly important as WSU increasingly garners large, interdisciplinary awards involving multiple investigators, colleges, and campuses.

The memo describes three “views” of credit reporting, namely:

- a) The “sponsor” view: The view of credit as seen by the sponsor, measured by awards received.
- b) The “as spent” or “expenditure” view: The actual spending of the award by involved individuals, units, colleges, and campuses as reported by Workday.
- c) The “intellectual contribution” view: This measure, expressed as a percentage for each of the involved individuals, is meant to apportion credit amongst those who develop and execute a given award/project.

I’m writing regarding implementation of item b) above. Implementation of this “as spent” or “expenditure” has necessitated the creation of a significant number of new accounts associated with existing sponsored projects. This workload, combined with staffing shortfalls in pre- and post-award support and the additional work arising from recently awarded large grants, is placing significant strain on the administrative staff critical to ongoing functioning of the WSU research enterprise.

Accordingly, we are suspending implementation of credit reporting view b) above effective immediately. OR will work with the colleges, campuses, and individual units to prototype alternative approaches to b) consistent with current and anticipated workload, and available resources.

Dan Nordquist will be the point of contact for OR on this effort. OR will propose a revised path forward for item b) above by February 28th, 2022.

Thank you for your continuing support of our collective efforts to improve credit reporting. Please let Dan or me know if you have questions.

Cc: Elizabeth Chilton, Provost and Executive Vice President
David Cillay, Chancellor, WSU Global Campus



Daryll DeWald, Vice President for Health Sciences and Chancellor, WSU Spokane
Sandra Haynes, Chancellor, WSU Tri-Cities
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