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## The Research Express

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# The Research Express

July 2015

Volume #4 Issue #6



## Grant Award Winners

Congratulations to:

Moya Alfonso, from the Department of Community Health in the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health, who received a research grant from Concerted Services, Inc.

Bettye Apenteng, from the Department of Health Policy and Management in the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health, who received a research grant from East Georgia State College.

Robert Vogel, from the Department of Biostatistics in the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health, who received a research grant from the Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety.

## Welcome our new Grant Coordinator, Kristi Reagin!



Kristi Reagin joins ORSSP as our new Grant Coordinator. She will be responsible for the College of Education, Allen E. Paulson College of Engineering and Information Technology, College of Health and Human Sciences, Associate Provost, Associate Vice President for Continuing Education, College of Graduate Studies, Zach Henderson Library, Assistant Vice President for International Studies, and Student Affairs and Enrollment Management.

Before becoming Grant Coordinator, Kristi was an accountant with the Georgia Southern University Research and Service Foundation, Inc. In this position, she helped to manage the post award function of grants. She obtained her BBA in accounting from Georgia Southern University and has over 15 years of accounting experience in both the public and private sectors.

## OMB Uniform Guidance – What to know before you budget.

The Office of Management and Budget “Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards; Final Rule” was released in the Federal Register on December 26, 2013 (2 CFR Chapter I, Chapter II, Part 200, et al.). The guidelines became effective on December 26, 2014. Per the [OMB webpage](#) this guidance “will supersede requirements from OMB Circulars A-21, A-87, A-110, and A-122 (which have been placed in 2 C.F.R. Parts 220, 225, 215, and 230); Circulars A-89, A-102, and A-133; and the guidance in Circular A-50 on Single Audit Act follow-up.”

ORSSP has developed a quick guide to help you become familiar with important changes in the new guidance before you build your budget. Click [here](#) to view the guide.

## Buying Computers on Grants under the New Federal Uniform Guidance

Purchasing Computing Devices with Federal Funds (applicable Uniform Guidance Sections 2 CFR Part 200.20 and 200.453)

Computing devices are machines used to acquire store, analyze, process, and publish data and other information electronically and include accessories for printing, transmitting and receiving, or storing electronic information. If a computing device is to be acquired for the use in the performance of a federal award, the computing device may be charged to the award provided that:

- It is essential (i.e. necessary) to perform the work under the award, and
- The cost is allocable and reasonable.

How do you determine if a device is essential (i.e. necessary)? Consider, and be sure to document, whether performing the work under the award without the computing device would be difficult and inefficient.

How do you determine if a device is allocable to an award? If a computing device is essential to a federal award, then it is allocable to that award. The total cost may be allocated to the benefiting award, even when its usage is not solely dedicated to the award. If the device is not essential, none of the cost may be charged to the award.

How do you determine if the cost of a computing device is reasonable? The Principal Investigator must make an informed, prudent decision taking into consideration not only the cost, but the utility, quality and value of the device to the project.

The MOST important thing to remember when charging computing devices to a federal award is to document the criteria outlined in this segment. Written documentation is required. Without written documentation, proof that the charge is essential, allocable, and reasonable never happened (conversations, research on cost, etc.).

*The Research Express is a monthly newsletter provided by the Office of Research Services and the Office of Research Integrity to provide the Faculty and Staff of Georgia Southern University with the most current sponsored research and compliance information. Please feel free to contact our office at 478-5465 or visit our websites at [ORSSP](#) and [Research Integrity](#). "Like" us on [Facebook](#).*