REGULATORY BURDENS FOR FACULTY:
An update on progress and areas of continued concern

Matthew B. Wheeler, Chair
UIUC Academic Senate Executive Committee
The status in March 2011

Regulatory Burdens for Faculty:
Focusing on Research

Matthew B. Wheeler, Chair
University Senators Conference

ILLINOIS
Regulatory burdens from several sources: Paperwork and Bureaucracy

- Differences in Agency Requirements
- Audit Fears
- Federal Regulations
- Safety – Biological, Chemical, Radiation, General Lab Safety, etc.
- Export Controls

What is under University control?

- Institutional Requirements - Pre- and post-award, OTM, hiring,
- Technology (or lack thereof)
- Expectations (of time and effort)
Easing the Burden

Three areas of focus

• Research Compliance
• Conflict of Commitment and Interest
• Procurement
Addressing the Challenges

- Huron Consulting conducted analysis of research admin in Spring 2011
  - Focused on pre-award and select compliance processes
  - Also defined key IT requirements for RFP for Research Admin Software
  - Final report has 18 recommendations
  - To date, a number of recommendations are in the process of implementation (Rec. #4 UIUC Campus Administrative Manual-Research Compliance (i.e. research, safety, human subjects etc., are undergoing revision; Rec. #5, assist Investigators with grant submission; Rec. #13) others are yet to be implemented (i.e. Rec. #1 have not gotten very far due to lack of a process to do such; not begun Rec. #8 or #15 at this point)
    - building electronic protocol submission for IRB and IACUC
- OVPR to lead task force to expand upon and implement Huron recommendations
  - Committee members identified, including VCRs and faculty members from each campus
  - Will benchmark and I.D. best practices
- RFP issued for Research Administration Application Suite Components
  - Focused on pre-award and select compliance processes
  - Massive, multi-year undertaking
Software and Integration for:

- Proposal development
- Award Tracking
- PI Portal or Dashboard
- Conflict of Commitment and Interest Compliance
- Animal Care, Biosafety, and Review Board Compliance

Project status

- RFP released December 2011
- Ratings have been collected but extra efforts underway to engage faculty feedback.
CONFLICT OF COMMITMENT & INTEREST
Revisions and Updates

• Revised policy approved by BoT July 19
• New RNUA/COCI Section on OVPR Website
  – provides access to policy and materials in a central, easily navigable location
  – provides answers and addresses collective concerns
  – promotes transparency by providing clear explanation for rational behind policy revisions
  – strengthens disclosure process for new employees and provide basic guidelines for HR and business staff responsible for new hire paperwork
  – UIUC built and implemented internal system to deal with new HHS regulations, new system is for training and process management of these new requirements.

• Research Admin Software suite will align processes across the three campuses and provide a web-based system to report/update conflict list

  (this is likely to be the most difficult part as the individual campuses want to do these processes their specific way, three separate systems or one system?)
Procurement

Governmental Relations has been working to address state procurement challenges

• They have achieved some relief at the edges (i.e., Krannert Center, Assembly Hall, Library)
• Continues to be a burden for faculty and remains an items of great concern
Final Thoughts

Additional Comments

- Some hiring processes have been streamlined, reducing paperwork
- Issue of Academic vs. Civil Service Employees (Civil Service Merit Board) presents a real concern
- Pension issues