***MCED00120_0000[1]****EFFORT REPORTING NEWS!*

*November 2014*

**Columbia U. Settles with Feds Over Improper Tracking of Effort**

Columbia University did not “properly track employee effort and appropriately charge Federal grants” for an 8 year period for its International Center for AIDS. This resulted in a $9.2 million dollar settlement with the Federal government.

The claim alleged that the effort reports were certified as correct by the principle investigators on the grants without using suitable means to verify accuracy of the reports. Effort was certified without properly determining the allocation of work among the grants.

Employees were interviewed during the investigation process revealing that their estimation of time spent on the grants did not approximate what they were paid from the grant.

As you can see, it is extremely critical that both Faculty Effort Certification Reports (FECs) and Grant and Contract Certification Reports (GCCRs) be carefully reviewed to ensure the effort charged to the grant is a reasonable representation of the effort performed. The consequences of not performing adequate reviews can be costly.

**Incorrect PUCs Cause GCCRs to Appear on Wrong List**

An incorrect payroll unit code (PUC) documented in FIN or MyFD can (and does) result in the GCCR appearing under a PUC that does not have responsibility for reviewing and confirming that the charges are appropriate for the work performed.

When a Transpasu is processed and a sub award set up, the department (either of the parent or sub) must contact Payroll to have the PUC changed to the sub if it is under a different reviewer than the parent budget. The PI of the sub then becomes fiscally responsible for charges on the sub.

This is not an automatic process. Contact Payroll at [pronline@u.washington.edu](mailto:pronline@u.washington.edu)

**Introducing Katherine Gudgel**

Welcome Kathy to effort reporting. She has taken Donna Sunkel’s place and will be working with departments completing Interim Cost Share Reports, reviewing recertified effort reports and following up on delinquent FECs.

**Training Available December-January**

 Using the Tools

Salary Limitations

Introduction to Grant & Contract Certification

  K Awards

Registration opens the middle of the month prior to the class date.

Sign up for Alerts or Register at: <http://www.washington.edu/research/index.php?page=ospLearning>

CHECK IT OUT!

* The new web page on 100% sponsor funded research faculty.
* Allocation of effort examples – unique problems and how to solve them.
* <http://f2.washington.edu/fm/maa/fec>

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*Do you have questions or want someone to call you? Email efecs@u.washington.edu*