Training Grant Administrators (TGA) Group
Stephanie Scott
Director of Communications and Outreach
SPA
February 29th, 2012

Agenda

- Review List of upcoming proposals and renewals
- Review TGA Point of Contact
- Review New NRSA Stipends for FY2012
- xTrain Issues
  - workaround regarding early terminations
  - the Sponsor role (Fellowships)
- New CourseWorks Introduction
  - Seem like something worth pursuing?
New NRSA Stipend Levels

- Issued January 20, 2012
- Effective with all Kirschstein-NRSA awards made on or after October 1, 2011
- NOT-OD-12-033
- Tuition and Fees, Training Related Expenses for trainees, and the Institutional Allowance for individual fellows remain unchanged
- Stipends increased by 2%, despite tightening of federal budget

Update on xTrain

- Commons Working Group discussed xTrain issues in January
- The appointment form drives what is on the Termination Notice (TN)
- Glitch issuing early terminations – will show full 12-month stipend when it should be prorated
  - “Modify Termination Date” on TN isn’t automatically recalculating the stipend amount
- Workaround:
  - Delete the TN
  - Submit an amended appointment form
  - Resubmit TN
xTrain Issues - The Sponsor Role

Concerns Fellowships - Why is the grant for which I am a Sponsor not appearing on the My Grants screen?

- On occasion, the Sponsor’s account is not automatically associated with the grant for which they are the official Sponsor.

- Happens when the name on the Sponsor’s Commons account differs slightly from the name indicated on the fellowship award.
  - Example, the Commons account of “John J. Smith” will not be associated with a fellowship award if the name of record on the Sponsor’s Commons account is “John James Smith”.

- Sponsor should contact the eRA Commons Help Desk to troubleshoot the issue.
- Be sure to enter the Sponsor name on the fellowship application just as it appears in the Sponsor’s Commons account. This will ensure that the fellowship will be associated with the correct Sponsor when awarded.
- The Commons Help Desk MAY redirect you to SPA to assign the correct role.

The NEW Courseworks

- New CourseWorks (aka “Sakai”) is the university’s new course management system, which allows instructors to
  - distribute class materials
  - communicate with students
  - promote online discussions

- Other campus groups can now use this system.
- A TGA site has now been created and, as members, we can...
  - share/store files
  - post announcements
  - share a calendar
  - even post group discussions
Purpose for the TGA group

- To share and store files needed to create and maintain training grant information
- To share a calendar for all bi-monthly meetings and training grant related deadlines
- To share and post timely announcements
- To create more interaction and discussion between departments
- Members only university protected area to share grants information

Sharing files

The Files & Resources tool allows you to upload, download, copy, delete, and organize your files and materials.
Calendar

The calendar has day, week, month, year, and list views, and can be exported to most desktop calendar clients (E.G. Outlook, iCal).

Accessing New CourseWorks

- You can access your course sites at http://newcourseworks.columbia.edu.
- Once you click Login you will be asked for your University Network ID (UNI) and password. These are the same credentials you use to log in to Columbia Web sites and to check your email.
- Once logged in, you will see links to any sites you’re associated with. You can access this view at any time from clicking My Courses on the upper right.
- New CourseWorks runs best in the Firefox browser, but the functionality should be consistent when using any modern browser.
TGA Site has been created

https://newcourseworks.columbia.edu/portal/site/Training_Grant_Administrators_Group