

FROM HERE TO THERE – BIRD’S EYE PERSPECTIVE ON GRANT LIFECYCLE AND ADMINISTRATION

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“What gets measured gets done” or “measure it to manage it”. The statements have become matter of fact. However, measurement (and even metrics) alone cannot fully communicate an organization’s story without the point of accountability. As a dynamic org, we must measure what is necessary, using the appropriate lenses to analyze the most relevant information that allows robust decision-making. A key function of Program Planning and Control (PP&C) is to assist HRP in the development of such strategy that ensures the proper execution of program research goals.

With introspection of the Technical Officer role as defined by 2 CFR (i.e., Part 200, Part 1800) and subsequent governance under the NASA Grant and Cooperative Agreement Manual (GCAM), we’ve realized an obvious disconnect among Principal Investigator’s (PI), technical communication with the elements and some of the administrative/fiduciary requirements that should run parallel to the science work. This find has introduced new program risks as evidenced through incomplete deliverables or other less-than-successful requirements through the lifecycle for work we fund.

One solution the Grants Technical Officer proposes is for PP&C to share in the communication with stakeholders of grants administration much earlier in the award process in attempt to reduce programmatic risks; particularly in data, reporting and performance management. As such, the planned IWS 2022 session will focus on (plenary) topics that include (1) definition of the grant lifecycle, (2) anatomy of a grant (NF1687 the award document), and (3) performance measurement/post-award monitoring.

As HH&P pursues its strategic objectives to evolve the directorate into a data rich and knowledge rich organization, it has become increasingly important to develop the multiple levels of insight across the program to ensure data and other reporting (qualitative/quantitative), alongside proper administration. And the desired outcome is to make certain HRP meets/exceeds the accountability standard that our research information is received, maintained and accessible in posterity.

REFERENCES (tbd, if necessary)

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[nasa_gcama - revised nov 12 2020.pdf](#)

[2CFR Part 1800](#)