ORA 2.0

Russell Brewer
Associate Vice President
Who is ORA?

- Merger of Office of Sponsored Research (OSR) and Research Financial Compliances and Services (RFCS).
- Office of Research Administration (ORA) existed until 2011.
- Why now?
  - Leverage strengths of both groups – enormous pool of talent and expertise.
  - More efficient support and processes for the research enterprise.
  - Enhance our service to the community.
  - Speak with one voice.
Who We Are

- OSR
  - Pre-Award – proposals, contract negotiation
  - Post-Award – PTA set up, financial reporting, closeout
  - Financial and Data Analysis
  - SeRA System
  - Client Advocacy and Insights
Who We Are

- RFCS
  - Property Management Office
  - Cost and Management Group (CMA) – negotiations with federal government on fringe and indirect costs
  - Research Administration Policy and Compliance – sponsored research audit coordination and resolution, service center policy, expenditure allocation PTAs, cost burdening process
  - Research Financial Reporting – expenditure review and certification, Trustees report, etc.
  - Sponsored Receivables Management – billing for all sponsored awards
Top Initiatives

- Successfully merge RFCS and OSR
  - New branding – one organization, not two distinct groups.
  - Develop ORA cultural norms.
  - Frank Topper agreed to lead brainstorming sessions.
  - Staff climate surveys to gauge where to start.
  - Leadership retreat.
  - Lead the way (WFH, technology usage, agility of workforce).
  - Campus outreach.
Top Initiatives, continued

- Develop an innovative IT support strategy to successfully deploy “connect from anywhere” concept.
  - What do we need to be successful in RWC?
  - Initial project undertaken by Megan Miller with Service Design Group – results presented to leadership.
  - IT visioning sessions in January. Proposals in process from UIT.
  - Laptops for all staff.
  - “Fully present” from anywhere – participate, be seen, engage, have a common experience.
  - Comfort with new systems, first to adopt.
  - Pilot new support model with CRC.
Top Initiatives, continued

- Process-improvement projects
  - Expand on previous efforts – thank you Sandip and team!
    - SeRA
      - Module 3 (PTA Manager)
      - Module 4 (Subawards)
      - Module 5 (Closeout and Reporting)
    - Proposal-routing assessment – phase 2
    - Post-Award assessment
  - Expand to entire ORA organization.
    - First project identified – Clinical Trial process review
Top Initiatives, continued

- Develop an ORA workforce strategy.
- Dive deeper into ORA systems.
  - How can we keep pace with our innovative ideas – i.e., can needed system changes keep up?
  - How do we use and direct existing SeRA resources?
  - Shadow systems reduction.
  - How do we drive adoption?
Top Initiatives, continued

- Go-live of revamped ReUse website
  - Available for faculty/staff.
  - Post items available and/or wanted for SU business purposes.
  - Design and functionality influenced by user and focus group input.
  - Available in SPARC* at reuse.stanford.edu.

- Surplus Property Sales reorganized to ensure service continuity.
  - Online excess item request – equipment, supplies, furniture, electronics, etc. – in SPARC.
  - Individual item sales still available by appointment; bulk sales expanded.
  - Fleet Garage source of excess vehicles.
  - Onsite sales managed by SPS.
  - Collaboration with project management continues.

*Stanford Property Administrator’s Resource Center
Top Initiatives, continued

- Client Advocacy and Insights: Providing Resources for Client Needs
  - Make information accessible and available.
    - Improve ORA web presence.
    - Share knowledge and expertise via subject-matter experts.
    - Provide basic organization-level sponsored-projects data.
    - SeRA PI Dashboard (*My Projects*) with at-a-glance info and more detailed options.
    - Gather feedback and input on what clients need from ORA.
Campus outreach – Research Administration Partnerships

- H&S Partnering
  - Joint effort between H&S Dean’s Office and ORA.
  - Focus group sessions with reps from all 60+ departments in January and February.
  - Develop roadmap of issues that are most important to H&S.

- RMG Partnering
  - Retreat held in November with senior leadership.
  - Joint all hands meeting held to brief staff on new partnership.
  - Follow-up projects underway.
Save the Date!

ORA FAIR

November 14, 2017
9:30 am to 11:30 am
McCaw Hall
Arrillaga Alumni Center

Join us to learn what ORA does and meet our people!
We’ll have booths on everything you need to know about research administration!

Games, giveaways, refreshments, and festivities!