

January 8, 2010

Deans, Directors, Department Chairs, Faculty, and Administrative Officers:

Since 1980, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has required that instruction in the Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) be incorporated into all training grants. In the ensuing twenty years, these requirements were also made applicable to research education grants, individual fellowships and career awards. Recently, NIH issued updated requirements for RCR through Notice NOT-OD-10-019. The revised guidance indicates that:

- *New proposals submitted on or after January 25, 2010, for all NIH research training, career development, research education grants, fellowship, or dissertation research grants must include plans for providing education in RCR.*
- Peer review of applications will include an evaluation of the RCR instructions plans. Although RCR plans will not be a factor in determining an impact/priority score, applications with unacceptable plans will not be funded until the applicant provides an acceptable revised plan. Specific issues that should be addressed in the RCR plans are outlined in the NIH Notice. Please note that a plan that includes only online training as the sole means of instruction will not be considered acceptable.
- *Noncompeting continuation* applications (or progress reports) submitted for the January 1, 2011 deadline and after, must report on the instruction that was provided.

Notice NOT-OD-10-019 provides information about best practices, makes recommendations about the subject matter that should be included in the educational plans, and outlines specific requirements for institutional and individual applications. The notice can be accessed at: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-10-019.html>.

Since inception of the NIH RCR requirements, UCLA has allowed Principal Investigators to determine how instruction should be handled on a grant-by-grant basis. I anticipate that this practice will continue. I would however, welcome any ideas that you may have about building a more robust campus RCR program.

Please share this memorandum with your colleagues to be sure that everyone is fully informed about these updated requirements. If you have any immediate questions, please contact Assistant Vice Chancellor Ann Pollack at apollack@research.ucla.edu or at x40387.

Sincerely,

Roberto Peccei

Vice Chancellor for Research