Research.gov is NSF's New Home for Project Reporting

On March 18, 2013, the National Science Foundation (NSF) will completely transfer all project reporting from FastLane to Research.gov. This means that Principal Investigators (PIs) and Co-PIs will use Research.gov to meet all NSF project reporting requirements, including submission of Final, Interim, and Annual Project Reports and the Project Outcomes Report. The new Project Reporting Dashboard will make it easier for PIs, Co-PIs, and Sponsored Project Office (SPO) staff to see which reports are due or overdue, and will provide access to all reports submitted to NSF. Research.gov provides research-related information and grants management services in one location. Research.gov is the modernization of FastLane, providing the next generation of grants management capabilities for the research community.

Annual and Final Project Reports

The new project reporting service in Research.gov will meet the federal government's requirement that research agencies implement a new reporting format for research and research-related projects called the Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR). The RPPR is the result of a government-wide effort to create greater consistency in the administration of federal research awards by streamlining and standardizing reporting formats. This transition of project reports will include an incremental rollout to select institutions beginning in fall 2012. The roll out to all awardee institutions is anticipated for early 2013.

The new project reporting service will:

- Be accessed from the Project Reporting Dashboard in Research.gov
- Use the new government-wide RPPR format, which is similar to the report format previously used in FastLane's Project Reports System
- Collect project report information in a more structured format
- Feature a rich text editor that supports common scientific characters and symbols
- Allow PDF upload of images, charts, and other complex graphics
- Eliminate the need for PIs and co-PIs to provide demographic data for project participants

Project Outcomes Reports

The Project Outcomes Report for the General Public is a required report, written by PIs specifically for the public, to provide insight into the outcomes of NSF-funded research. The America COMPETES Act (ACA) of 2007, Section 7010, requires that both research outcomes and citations of published documents resulting from research funded, in whole or in part, by NSF be made available to the public in a timely manner and electronic format. A Project Outcomes Report is required for new awards or existing awards that receive funding amendments on or after January 4, 2010. Once submitted, Project Outcomes Reports are available to the public through Research.gov's Research Spending & Results service.

PIs/co-PIs use Research.gov to submit a Project Outcomes Report that:

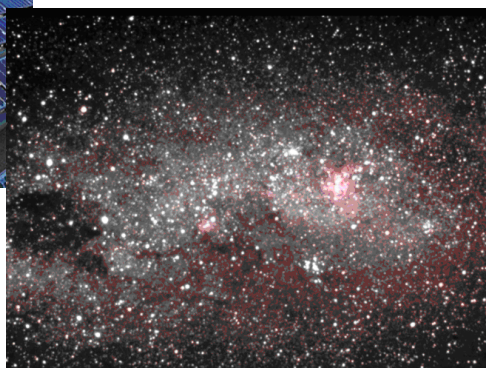
- Briefly summarizes the outcomes of the award in 200–800 words
- Is written for the public in non-technical, plain, understandable language
- Describes the project outcomes or findings that address the intellectual merit and broader impacts of the work as defined in the NSF merit review criteria
- Is posted for general public viewing exactly as submitted by the PI/co-PI without review or approval by NSF
- Includes no more than six images (optional)

PIs/co-PI's can creatively showcase their work by uploading images with the report!

A New Adhesive That's Even Better than a Gecko's Toes

Researchers Produce More Efficient Solar Cells

These examples are illustrative of future Project Outcomes Reports, but are not real reports



Scientists Discover Relationship amongst Distant Galaxies

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Contact Information

For more information on Project Reports on Research.gov, please email feedback@research.gov.

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