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June 2012 COGR Meeting Thursday Morning Costing Presentation - Kennedy

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Costing Session Break-out:

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Federal Financial Reporting, Cash Requests, Electronic Systems ... and the Burden

COGR Meeting

Thursday, June 7, 2012

Washington Marriott Hotel

Washington, D.C.

Agenda for this Session

- Introduce Presenters
- Stress Points
- Wayne State, Minnesota, and Yale Case Studies
- Your Concerns, Q&A, Other Comments

Presenters

- Sue Paulson, Finance Director, Sponsored Financial Reporting – University of Minnesota
- Gail Ryan, Assistant VP, Sponsored Program Administration – Wayne State University
- Tracy Walters, Director, Grant and Contract Financial Administration – Yale University

What are some Stress Points

- Accountability & Transparency; Government-wide
- Accounting for Unobligated/Unspent funds, and highlighted in tight budget times
- Unique agency-by-agency approaches: reporting expectations, electronic systems, etc.
- Unique interpretations within the SAME agency
- Grants versus Contracts (OMB versus FAR)
- Subrecipient reporting and accountability
- IGs, Congress, OMB ... Fraud, Waste, and Abuse

Manifestation of Stress Points

- FFATA, 2006. Agency populated website, but unique treatment of subrecipients
- ARRA, 2009. “Poster-child” for accountability and transparency
- Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2012 (DATA). Passed House, working thru Senate – a new reporting layer?
- Executive Order 13576, June 2011. Building upon ARRA’s RATB, creates the GATB
- NSF’s “preemptive” Award Cash Management Service (ACM\$) roll-out in January, 2013

Case Studies and Discussion

- How do institutions organize around Federal reporting and post-award management?
- Which agency reporting practices, expectations, and/or systems are the most problematic? The best?
- How did institutions organize around ARRA reporting and would these models be sustainable?
- What are the greatest challenges we currently are experiencing? Organizational, Technological, etc.
- How can our community quantify/demonstrate burden to Federal policymakers? In terms of cost of systems, cost of doing business, cost of compliance, etc.

**What can be improved? How can
COGR inform? How do
we effectively advocate?**

