

# Grants and Contracts Administration Newsletter

March 2015

**CLEMSON**  
UNIVERSITY

*Grants &  
Contracts  
Administration*

*Guidance*



*Communication*



*Announcements*

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## ALSO OF INTEREST



**4/8/2015** - March Error Clearing Deadline

**5/5/2015** - April Error Clearing Deadline

**5/21/2015** - University-wide Post Award (PAWS) Meeting; 1:30-2:30, 118 Academic Success

## Letter from the Director

As a result of the promise of a 21st-Century government that is more efficient, effective, and transparent, the Federal Government Office of Management and Budget implemented the new Uniform Guidance on Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards effective December 26, 2014.

The changes are an effort to focus Federal resources on improving performance and outcomes while ensuring financial integrity of tax payer dollars. The reform is also intended to reduce administrative burden for non-Federal entities while reducing the risk of waste, fraud, and abuse. The revisions shown below are relevant changes in direct costs. Look for more updates in the future.

## IN OTHER NEWS

### Faculty Business Information System (FBIS)

[Faculty Business Information Systems \(FBIS\)](#) provides access to critical information for faculty members through the Grants and Contracts Accounting portal (budget and expenditure information), the CLEAR portal (effort reporting), and the Sponsored Programs Certification portal.

Please encourage your faculty to log in to check their project balances, expenditure information, etc.



6/3/2015 - May Error  
Clearing Deadline

### GCA Fun Fact

Can you guess who  
this little bathing  
beauty is?



GCA Fun Fact  
Answer:

Stephanie Duncan!!!

*Robert H. Wood*

## Uniform Guidance



Following are changes included in the new Uniform Guidance:

**Publication Costs** - Allowable up to 90 days after project end date if included in proposal

**Administrative & Clerical Costs** - Allowable as a direct cost if all of the following conditions are met:

- (1) Services are integral to the project,
- (2) Individuals can be specifically identified with the project,
- (3) Costs are explicitly included in the budget or have the prior written approval of the Federal awarding agency,
- (4) Costs are not also recovered as indirect costs

**Computing Devices** - Allowable with sponsor approval even if not solely dedicated to project

## Approved Pooled Fringe Benefits Rates for 2015-2016

For planning purposes, please notify individuals in your college/division to use the approved pooled fringe benefits rates below for FY2015-2016.



## Payroll Journals & Corrections

If valid payroll expenses are incurred at the end of a project, and the remaining direct balance is less than the total payroll, a request should be made to the appropriate GCA fiscal manager to increase the parent budget to allow the entire payroll to be posted to the fund 20 project. Corrections should be made to move the excess payroll costs to another account within 10 business days.



## Confirming Final Direct Costs

When confirming final total direct costs for project closeout, be sure to include ALL direct costs incurred and not just costs that are currently posted. Be sure to perform a review of individual costs and account codes prior to confirming the final total direct project costs. As always, GCA fiscal managers are available to assist with any questions that may arise.



If you know of someone who may benefit from the

Employee Type	Fringe Rate	Change
9 Month	29.6%	+1.4%
12 Month	36.2%	+2.2%
Students	7.3%	+2.0%
Part-Time/Temporary	16.2%	-6.6%

## Commitment Control Options (Control vs. Track)



In an effort to maintain internal controls as mandated by the Uniform Guidance, all Fund 20

sponsored projects have been changed from Track to Control. This will prevent overspending by the Child Budget line item, not just the Parent Budget.

Requests to take projects off control may be made; however, be sure to e-mail the appropriate GCA Fiscal Manager to put the project back on control immediately after journals, etc. are posted.

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STACK: