PI ARTICLE: OSP and G&C – Who Does What?

A common source of confusion around campus involves differentiating between the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) and the Office of Grants & Contracts Accounting (G&C). At Georgia Tech, OSP reports up through the Office of the Executive Vice President for Research. G&C reports up through the Office of the Executive Vice President for Administration and Finance.

There are fundamental differences between the two offices that extend beyond the high-level distinctions of preaward versus post-award. The table below may be used to differentiate the tasks assigned to each office:

Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP)	Grants and Contracts Accounting (G&C)
Proposal Review : Provide guidance in identifying and	Award Set-Up: Create GR (grant) worktags for new
reviewing relevant sponsor requirements and Institute	awards and to track participant support, subawards,
policies to ensure compliant proposals and cost	cost share, etc.; process modifications finalized by
estimates and assist with the preparation of the	OSP. (All sponsored awards must be initiated with OSP
business portion of proposals.	prior to establishment in the GT accounting system).
Proposal Submission : Oversee the submission of all	Invoice Preparation and Submission: The Billing and
proposals and applications from GTRC, GTARC, and the	Reporting team within G&C is responsible for
Georgia Institute of Technology for funding for	submitting invoices to sponsors for expenditures
research, instruction and other sponsored activities.	charged to grants.
Award Negotiation: Contracting Officers (COs) serve	Financial Report Preparation and Submission: The
as the sponsor's point of contact for business matters,	Financial Administration team within G&C is
including negotiation of awards and other	responsible for submitting required interim and final
agreements, such as MOUs.	financial reports to sponsors.
Award Acceptance & Execution: COs and/or	Award Close-Out: G&C is tasked with the financial
GTRC/GTARC officers (e.g. OSP Director) execute the	close out of grants/awards.
resulting negotiated agreement.	
Award Management: All post-award contractual	Federal Government Rate Calculations and
contact with the sponsor should be handled through	Negotiations: Prepare, submit, and negotiate of fringe
OSP including no-cost extensions, project changes	benefit rates, F&A rates, and GSTRP rates with the
(modifications) and deliverable questions.	Federal government
Closeout: The Closeout Team will ensure that all	Service Center Rates: Service centers are operations
required closeout documents are submitted to the	within GT that provides goods/services to other users
sponsor (i.e., final invoice, disclosures on patents and	inside and outside of GT. G&C assists with the
inventions, property, and security).	preparation and review of cost center rates.
Education and Outreach: Provide educational	Education and Outreach: Management level reporting
opportunities in research administration to the	related to Grants and educational outreach initiatives
campus community (faculty and staff).	and training in coordination with OSP.
Subaward Negotiation and Management: Perform	<i>Effort reporting</i> – To ensure the attestation of
award negotiation and management for outgoing	personal services charges on grants, G&C manages the
subawards and sponsored project consulting	monthly electronic Workload Assignment (eWAFs)
agreements. Provide oversight of our subrecipients'	process and the annual effort certification (ASRs)
compliance with agreement requirements and	process.
processing of subawardee invoices.	
Exchange Agreement Negotiation and Management:	Sponsored Program Financial Compliance Activities:
Draft and negotiate Non-Disclosure Agreements	Manage the responses to Federal, State, and Sponsor
(NDAs), Material Transfer Agreements (MTAs), and	audits, as well as desk reviews and site visits;
Data Use Agreements (DUAs) related to research	review/approval of certain high risk cost transfers and
discussions. These agreements may be needed pre-	budget revisions.
award or during performance.	

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