



Update on OSR Training Planning

Past View

The Office of Sponsored Research (OSR) Training Department's 2008 training goal was to make available to the campus a training resource to provide consistent, on-demand baseline instruction in pre-award administration. OSR Training developed and rolled out "Research Administration: Kick Start", a first generation self-paced online certificate program in pre-award administration, targeted to new research administrators.

Given the university's staff turnover in the departments and limited instructional resources, "Kick Start" addresses the campus' training needs in a scalable fashion in a more cost-effective way: manage the cost of training travel and time away from the job, and that of learning by pushing the learning curve with "just-in-time" instruction.

Forward View

We will soon update and migrate "Research Administration: Kick Start" to SumTotal, the university's new learning center from its current home on WebCT on the library servers.

We also plan to support new research administrator performance by making better use of interactive webinars, group interaction, and job aids to address pressing information and instruction needs in a more timely way. We hope to develop select courses for a standard curriculum based on a pre-award curriculum framed with significant input by a planning group composed of experienced departmental and central unit research administrators.

OSR Training has been working internally, and with the Human Resources department, and with the Budget and Controller's offices to frame a wider, integrated training curriculum to better support research administrator competency development and for career purposes. We will continue this effort.

Designing, developing, and delivery instruction is a time-intensive activity, requiring collaboration between OSR Training and technical Subject Matter Experts. Resourcing these efforts is contingent upon the availability of technical subject matter experts and access to other applicable resources in the present economy.

In early 2009, we will finish redesigning the Office of Sponsored Research (OSR) website in the new web content management system. Our goal is to create a more consistent and integrated look and feel to the OSR/OR website and to better organize OSR web content to aid users in finding information more readily.