

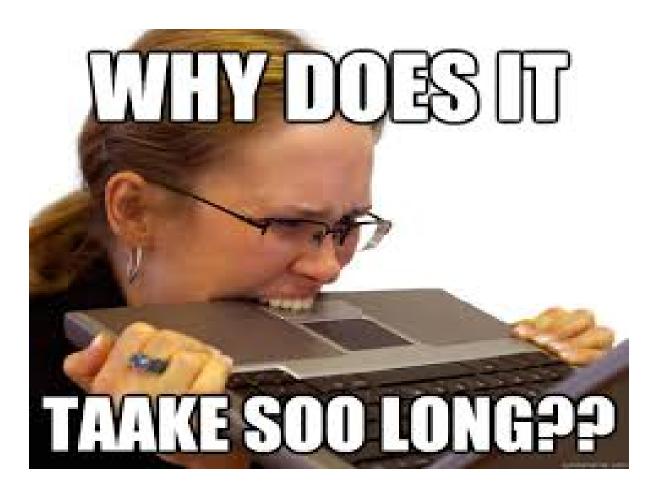
#### Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) Roundtable

### **Best Practices for Sponsored Project Transfers**

Bella DiFranzo, Grant and Contract Officer, Office of Sponsored Programs Rajni Aneja, Sr. Grant and Contract Officer, Office of Sponsored Programs









### Agenda

- Basics
- Process & Timeline
- Complicating Factors
- Relationship Management
- Best Practices
- Questions

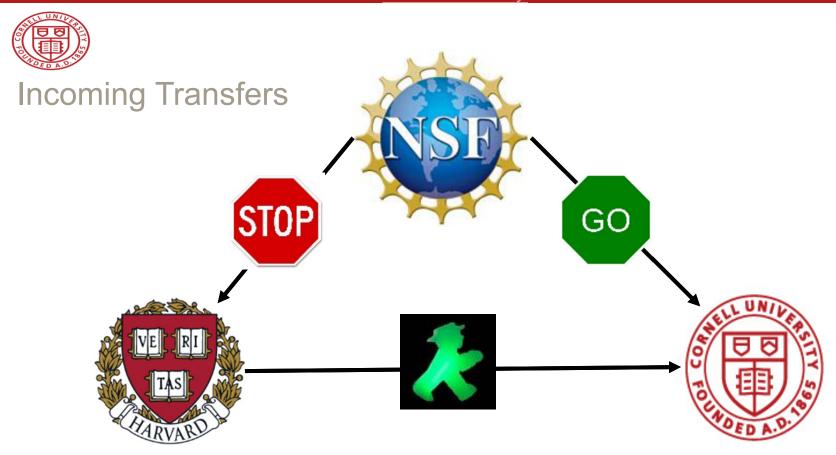


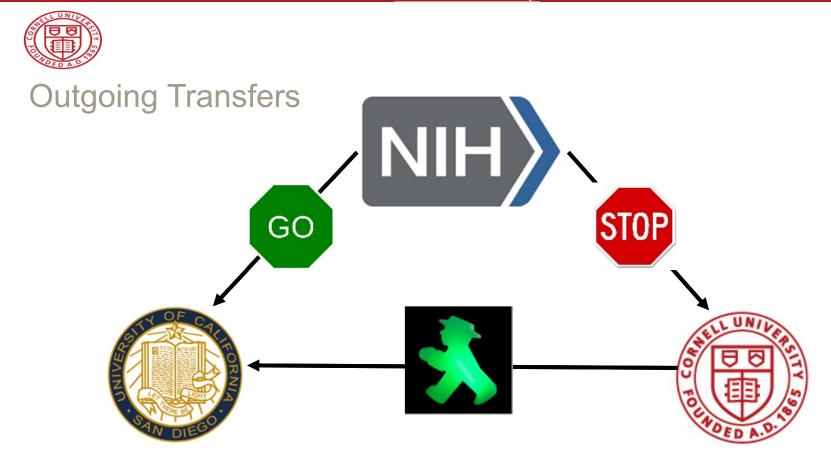
# Best Practices for Sponsored Project Transfers Basics



### What is a Sponsored Project Transfer?

- Sponsored Project
  - Externally funded project or activity
  - Awarded to institution, not individual
  - Formal written agreement between the sponsor and the institution
- Transfer of legal, administrative, and fiscal responsibility from one institution to another
- Also called "PI Transfer", "Award Transfer", "Change in Grantee Organization", etc.

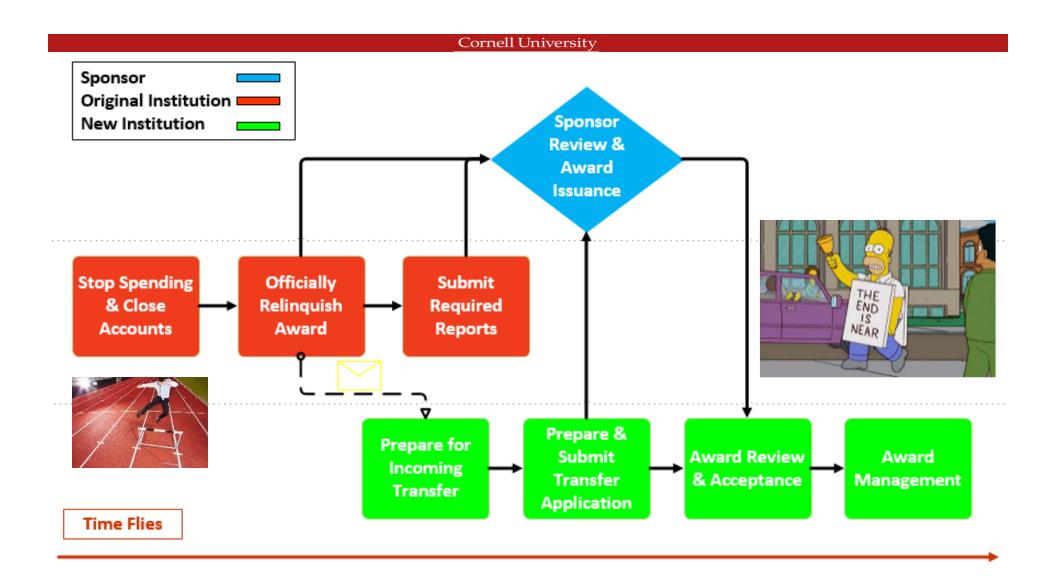


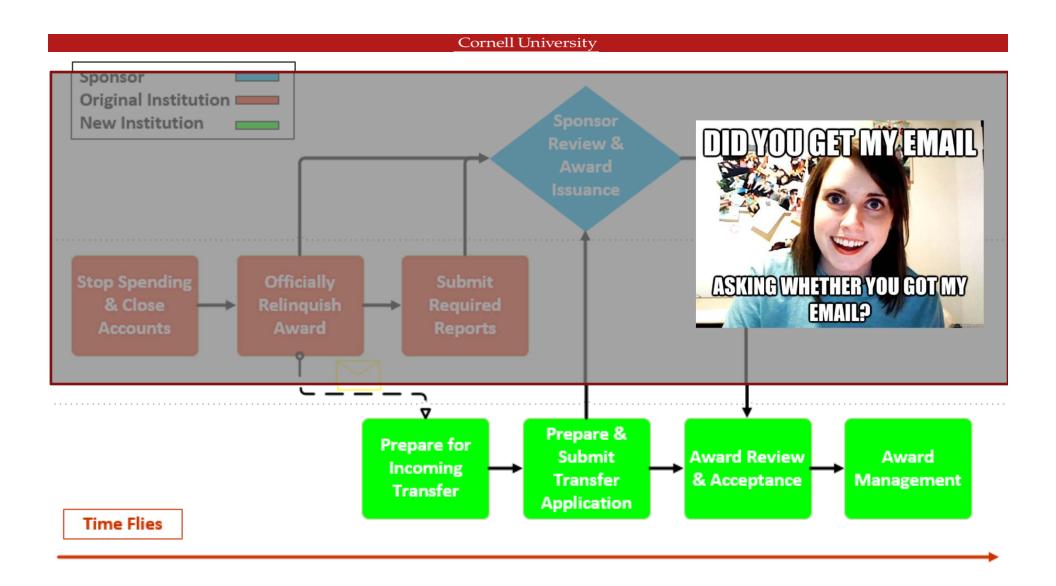




### Best Practices for Sponsored Project Transfers

### **Process & Timeline**







Sponsor

Unique Project

Award Specific Terms and Conditions

**Each Transfer is Unique.** 

Subawards?

Cost Share?

**Equipment Transfer?** 

Background IP?

Compliances: IRB, IACUC, IBC, FCOI?



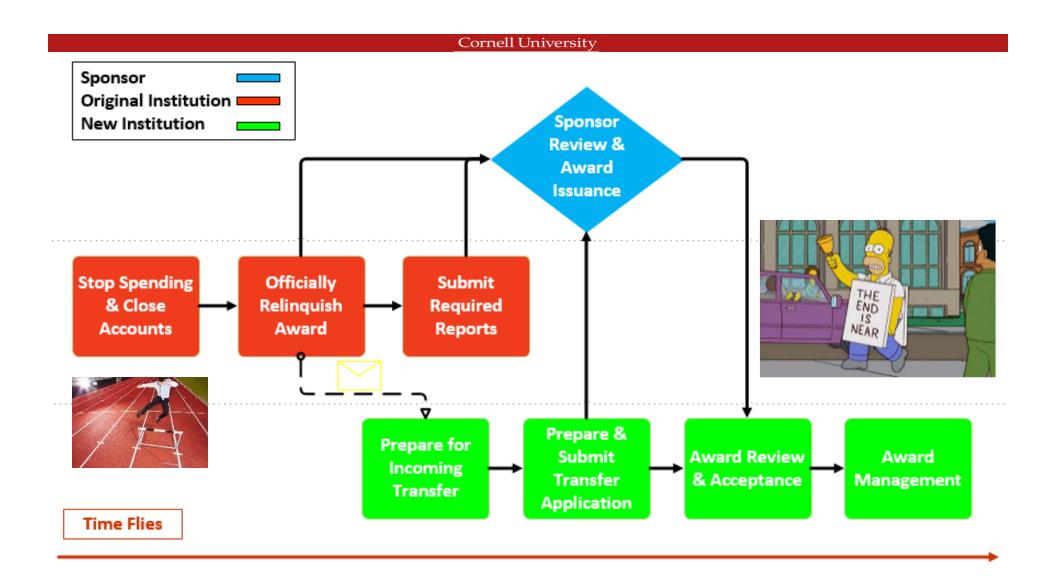


# Best Practices for Sponsored Project Transfers Complicating Factors



# **Complicating Factors**

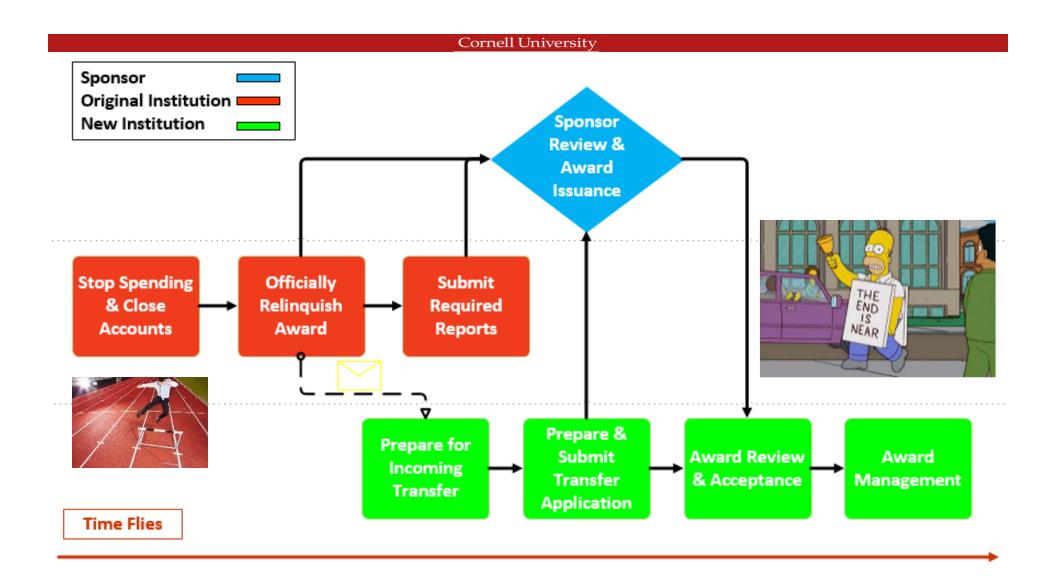
Subawards





### **Complicating Factors**

- Subawards
- F&A rate differences
- Compliances
- Equipment
- Cost share
- Background intellectual property (IP)
- Institutional policy differences





# Best Practices for Sponsored Project Transfers

# Relationship Management



It Takes a Village x N (N ≥ 3)



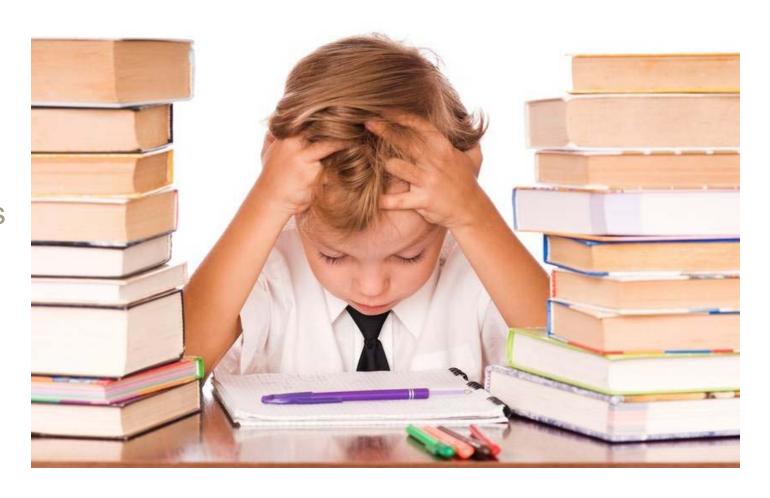


#### Individuals

- Function: Technical, Contractual, Financial
- Organizational Division:
  - o Unit Staff
    - Department/Research Center
    - College
  - o Central Office Staff
    - Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP)
    - Sponsored Financial Services (SFS)
    - Office of Research Integrity and Assurance (ORIA)
    - Center for Technology Licensing (CTL)
    - Office of the Vice Provost for Research (OVPR)
- Signature Authority
  - Authorized organizational representative (AOR)
  - Accountants & departmental administrators

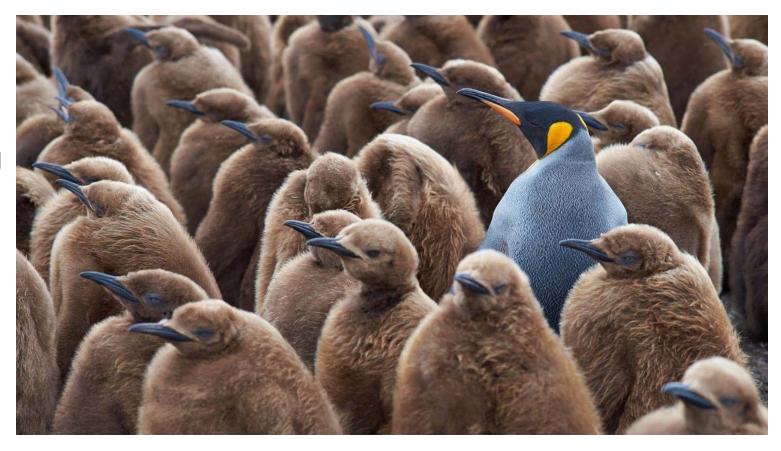


**Emotions** 





Transferring PI





# Best Practices for Sponsored Project Transfers

### **Best Practices**



### **Best Practices**

- General Best Practices
- Incoming Transfers
- Outgoing Transfers
- Non-financial Agreements



#### **General Best Practices**

- Inform OSP ASAP
- Read sponsor policy and procedures on transfers or contact the sponsor
- Read award agreement(s), proposal, project progress reports & financials





### Ask the question: can/should the award be transferred?

- Does the sponsor allow transfers?
- Is the original institution willing to relinquish the award?
- What are the sensitive personnel-related considerations?
- How far along is the project within its period of performance?
- What about when the transferring PI is not the lead, but a Co-PI?



### Alternatives to Transferring an Award

- Assign a new PI
- Subcontract work
- Split the award between the original and new institutions
- Continue the award with a temporary appointment
- Terminate the award



#### Other General Best Practices

- Build relationships be courteous
- Make initial contact via email and be specific
- Keep emails separate for each transfer
- Include project identifier(s) in your email
- Meet/Call to discuss complicated situations
- Help stakeholders understand who is who in the process
- Ask questions
- Follow up



### **Incoming Transfers**

- Inform OSP ASAP to develop a plan
- Start the process early



- Benjamin Franklin



### **Incoming Transfers**

- Meet and greet with OSP
  - Introduce sponsored program services
  - Learn the PI's research in layman's terms
  - Discuss intended transfers
  - If possible, obtain copies of the original proposal, award(s), project progress report(s) & financials
  - Establish realistic expectation
  - Obtain original institution's contact information





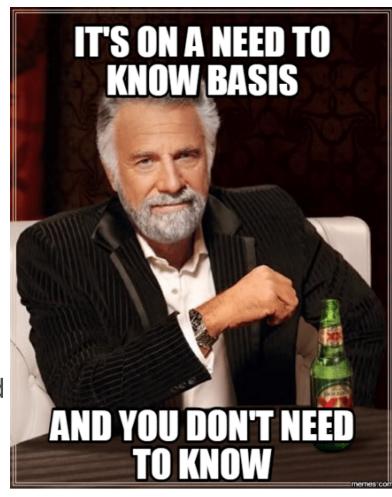
### **Incoming Transfers**

- Net ID
- Sponsor eRA system affiliation
- F&A rates
  - Institutional rate differences
  - Existing subawards
- Advanced spending account
- Compliances
  - FCOI
  - Protocol(s)
  - Congruence check(s)
  - Permits



### **Outgoing Transfers**

- Inform OSP as soon as the situation allows
- Research collaboration continues
- Technical reports to close the award





### **Outgoing Transfers**

- Relinquishing balance
  - What to do when the stipulated amount turns out to be wrong?
- Continued appointment
  - Reportable event
- Avoid paying for bills at another institution without a subaward
  - Regulations
  - Sales Taxes
  - Purchasing Work
  - F&A Difference



### Non-Financial Agreements

 Agreements covering access to other valuable resources to support research activities





### Non-Financial Agreements (information & data)

- Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA)
  - govern access to proprietary information for research and other purposes
  - general practice is to terminate & re-sign at new institution
- Data Use Agreement (DUA)
  - govern access to, and permitted uses of, restricted data
  - characterized by specific data security plan (e.g. storage requirements)
  - typically sponsors require termination on PI departure
  - delays in closeout may hinder agreement approval at new institution

### Non-Financial Agreements (tangible materials)

- Material Transfer Agreements (MTA)
  - govern transfer of tangible materials (often, but not exclusively, biological)
  - ideally terminate agreement and re-sign at new institution
  - reality is that this can cause significant delays to research, PIs therefore tend to prefer to transfer materials with them
  - transfer requires consent of the providing institution as well as new recipient

### Equipment Loans

- not institutional assets, but equipment provided by sponsors for a limited period of time and use
- transfer with the project
- subject to approval by both sponsor and new institution



## Best Practices for Sponsored Projects Transfers

### **Questions?**



Contact your GCO & Send in your comments and questions!

OSP: osp-help@cornell.edu

SFS: sfs-help@cornell.edu

Capital Assets: uco-capasset@cornell.edu







# Thank you for time and attention!