

January 12, 2015

Subject: TARA Update

USC Faculty:

TARA provides a comprehensive suite of research administration software tools. Tools now available on the TARA portal (research.usc.edu/usc-research-administration-system/) include:

- **Kuali Coeus** (KC pre and post award) for proposal routing/approval, award establishment and award management.
- **Click Commerce** for IRB, IACUC, radiation safety, biosafety and conflict of interest.
- **CORES** for core laboratory billing and financial management.
- **Sophia** for intellectual property management and material transfer agreements.
- **FiPS** for financial projections on existing awards.
- **KFS** for effort certification and financial management on accounts.
- **TARA Reports** for reporting on research activity.

The roll out of KC pre-award last semester has eliminated the use of PAR forms in all units other than proposals submitted by and/or involving ISI and ICT. In addition, we have recently deployed **Wyzehive** for submission of internal proposals (e.g., programs such as Zumberge that are funded by USC and institutionally limited submissions), a **contracts and grants billing** module and a **research training finder**.

These additional steps will complete TARA:

- Kuali Coeus Pre-award for routing and approvals will be expanded to include ISI and ICT beginning February, 2015.
- Cayuse software will be added to Kuali Coeus to enable the direct electronic submission of proposals to grants.gov. The system rollout to campus is scheduled to begin March, 2015.
- Negotiation tracker to provide visibility as to the status of negotiations is scheduled to be implemented within DCG by March, 2015 and available to the campus early summer
- Integration points will be completed among TARA software applications to minimize the need for data re-entry.
- TARA Reports will be expanded to include new reports, and existing reports will be enhanced.

As a separate project, led by Dr. Joshua Lee (Chief Information Officer for Keck Medicine of USC), OnCore software is being deployed for clinical trials and biorepository management. The OnCore team has held an extensive series of meetings with stakeholders to plan for deployment, which will include test projects this spring, followed by complete adoption for all new clinical trials this summer. OnCore will be integrated with TARA and Cerner Electronic Medical System over the coming year as well.

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In addition, a separate project led by James Gibson (director of environmental health and safety) is deploying the EH&S Assistant software this semester. EH&S Assistant includes modules for: (1) Radiation Materials (beta testing to begin this week; live the beginning of February); (2) Chemical Materials (beta testing in February; live in March); (3) Laboratory Inspection Module (beta testing in February; live early April); (4) Biological Materials (live in April); and (5) Hazardous Materials Management (coordinated with the launch of prior four modules).

Prior to the start of TARA, USC's only software tool for research administration was the iStar (Click Commerce) application for IRB. We are now close to realizing the initial vision of the project (<http://research.usc.edu/tara-overview/>) for an integrated software suite linking all aspects of research administration.

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