ALES RESEARCH & STRATEGIC INITIATIVES TEAM - FAQ

Who are we?

Who do you contact for support?

- We are all available for you to contact directly, but for dedicated support:
  - Marina will support RENR, REES and HE.
  - Chris will support AFNS.
  - Sarah will support Chris and Marina (e.g. complications, busy times, etc).
- We will maintain a tracking sheet to provide you with seamless and uninterrupted support.
- We will review the support assignment above in the coming months.
- Our processes may be adjusted as we adapt to the new system.
- Visit our webpage on the Faculty Intranet https://intranet.ales.ualberta.ca/research/

How do we serve/support the academic community?

- Development of Large-scale Strategic Initiatives
  - We are here to support the development of large multi-researcher, faculty and institutional applications; working alongside researchers, sponsors and stakeholders to help manage submissions and launch new large strategic research programs.
  - Sarah will take on this responsibility with support from Chris and Marina as availability and capability allow.
- Research Funding Applications and Proposals
  - We are here to provide advice and answer questions as you develop your research applications and proposals.

Where are we located?

- To be determined
- Planned office time at Earth Sciences/South Academic Buildings and Li Ka Shing Centre; or set up an open google meeting during our current Covid-19 situation.
We review research documents for eligibility, compliance and required elements, and work with you to obtain signature(s) and approval(s).

Unfortunately, there will not be time for dedicated review of content and grantsmanship (how well an application tells a story); however, for some competitions there may be opportunity for this additional support.

Efforts will be made to provide additional support for Assistant Professors and New Hires where possible and feasible.

We will provide Department Chairs with a summary of activity by PI on a regular basis.

- **RSO on-line approval processes**
  - Marina or Chris will complete the review for Department/Faculty approval.
  - There may be some changes in the on-line approvals chain over the next few months.
  - The deadline to submit a proposal for internal review will be at 3 business days prior to RSO deadline (RSO requires 5 business days for full review of standard grants) but may be longer for some competitions as communicated by the team.

- **Research Application and Proposal Review:**
  - Budget and Budget Justification are correct and comply with UofA policy and sponsor guidelines.
  - Overhead (OH) or Direct Grant Administrative Costs (DGAC) are included.
  - Notice of pre-approval from the Dean must be included in the submission if there is any deviation on standard rates for OH or DGAC; or if there are any Faculty commitments (e.g. funding support or space).
  - Notice of pre-approval from the Chair must be included in the submission if there are any Department commitments (e.g. teaching release).
  - Formal documentation of pre-approvals must be in place prior to submission for internal review or it will be returned to the PI (without further review) for the PI to obtain pre-approval documentation from the Dean or Chair and resubmit.
  - Contributions (cash and in-kind) from other sources (supporting companies, researchers, other institutions, etc) have supporting documentation.
  - Certifications and Commercial Rights (e.g. IP) where appropriate.
  - Alignment to non-budget related sponsor guidelines in order to improve success rate for applications – only if submitted well before deadline.

- **Research Funding Opportunities**
  - Our main priority will be to better connect to the VPRI, RSO, Tri-Agency, and other major funding organizations so that we can be aware earlier of opportunities; and to allow for the development and communication of internal Faculty processes for competitions that require Faculty level adjudication. Sarah's will work to develop these relationships and processes.
  - Alternatively, researchers will provide us with early notification of intent to apply.
  - We will notify all ALES PIs of funding opportunities that are of broad interest; and notify relevant groups and individual PIs of more specific opportunities.

- RSO Funding Opportunities list
  - [https://www.ualberta.ca/research-services-office/funding-opportunities/index.html](https://www.ualberta.ca/research-services-office/funding-opportunities/index.html)