

## ALES RESEARCH & STRATEGIC INITIATIVES TEAM - FAQ

March 2023

### Who are we?

<b>Barb Thomas, PhD</b> ALES Associate Dean (Research) (ADR) <a href="mailto:bthomas@ualberta.ca">bthomas@ualberta.ca</a> 780-492-3405	<b>René Déry, PhD</b> ALES Research and Innovation Director <a href="mailto:rene.dery@ualberta.ca">rene.dery@ualberta.ca</a> 780-492-0174
<b>Marina Offengenden, MSc</b> ALES Research Development Coordinator <a href="mailto:offengen@ualberta.ca">offengen@ualberta.ca</a> 780-492-6039	<b>Krista Stefan, MA/BSc/PEng</b> ALES Research Development Coordinator <a href="mailto:kstefan@ualberta.ca">kstefan@ualberta.ca</a> 780-492-1896

### Where are we located?

- 2-10 and 2-14 Agriculture/Forestry Centre
- Marina and Krista (2-10C): Either Marina or Krista will be in the office during working hours
- René (2-10H): On campus Monday to Friday
- Barb (2-14B): By appointment
- <https://intranet.ales.ualberta.ca/research/>

### How do we serve/support the academic community?

- **Development of Large-Scale Strategic Initiatives**
  - We 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.
- **Research Funding Applications and Proposals**
  - We provide advice and answer questions as you develop your research applications and proposals.
  - We review research documents for eligibility, compliance and required elements, and work with you to obtain signature(s) and approval(s) as needed.
  - We provide additional support for Assistant Professors and newly hired faculty where possible.
  - We provide Department Chairs with a summary of departmental activity, noteworthy cases and strategic opportunities on a regular basis.
- **Research Services Office (RSO) on-line review and approval**
  - The deadline to submit a proposal for internal review is 8 business days prior to the sponsor deadline, to allow time for Faculty and RSO reviews and approvals; we will inform you if this deadline is extended for high-volume competitions (e.g., Ag Funding Consortium, NSERC Discovery). Please check the RSO website or contact the ALES Research Development Coordinators if you need help determining the deadline.

- **Research Applications and Proposal Reviews completed by the ALES Research Coordinators will include:**

- Budget and Budget Justification, ensuring they are correct and comply with UofA policy and sponsor guidelines.
- Overhead (OH) or Direct Grant Administrative Costs (DGAC) are included (default is 30% for OH).
- Authorization from the Dean is included in the submission if there is any deviation from the standard rates for OH or DGAC; or if there are any Faculty commitments (e.g., funding support, space).
  - Note: The Dean's approval is not needed if there is a *publicly available policy* on overhead from the sponsor which is less than 30%, however, the reduced amount must be included in the proposal.
- Authorization from your Chair is included in the submission if there are any Department commitments (e.g., teaching release).
  - Note: Formal authorization(s) must be in place **prior to submission** for internal review or it will be returned to the PI.
- Contributions (cash and in-kind) made from other sources (e.g., supporting companies, researchers, other institutions, etc.) must have supporting documentation attached to the proposal.
- Certifications, Commercial Rights (e.g., intellectual property, IP), Data Transfer Agreements are included where appropriate.
- Alignment to non-budget related sponsor guidelines in order to improve success rate for applications – *only if submitted well before the deadline*.
- If the application requires Faculty letters of support, the draft letters must be provided by the PI along with the application to be reviewed and signed by the ADR.

- **Research Funding Opportunities:**

- A main priority of our team is to regularly connect with the Vice-President Research and Innovation (VPRI), RSO, Tri-Agency, and other offices and funding organizations to be aware of new opportunities as early as possible and allow for the development and communication of internal Faculty processes for competitions that require Faculty level adjudication.
- We can help you best, if you (the PI/Researcher), provide us with early notification of your intent to apply.
- We will notify all ALES PIs ASAP of funding opportunities of broad interest and individual PIs when more specific opportunities arise.
- RSO Funding Opportunities list:
  - <https://www.ualberta.ca/research-services-office/funding-opportunities/index.html>