

Minutes Research Communications Council
April 14, 2017

OGR and the Federal Landscape Related to Research

Our featured guest this month was Melissa Haas, Associate Director for the Office of Governmental Relations (OGR). Melissa discussed the OGR's mission and responsibilities and provided perspective on the federal landscape as it relates to research and its relationship to communicators.

A few things we discussed include:

- OGR Role
 - System Unit
 - Work with coalitions—APLU, AAU, etc.
 - Equip Legislative Staffers to be advocates for the University of Illinois
 - Note: Legislative members have limited time so it's important to develop and practice a dynamic elevator speech

- IL Delegation has excellent representation on a number of committees
 - Transportation
 - AG
 - Appropriations
 - Science committees

- Opportunities
 - Work with OGR to create "101" intros/educational programming or briefings
 - Engage with alumni staffers
 - Support letters
 - **Amplify your messages:**
Join the OGR mailing list for newsletters and updates:
<https://illinois.edu/gm/subscribe/14060>
Follow OGR on Twitter:
@UIFedRelations and @UIStateRelation

Updates from the OVCR

- Our new Research Communications Coordinator, Tyler Wolpert started on Thursday, April 20. He comes to us from the Family Resiliency Center where he has been a Communications Specialist for the past three years. Tyler will be working to coordinate OVCR news, manage our social media activities, develop and edit website content, and tackle many other communications-related tasks for the OVCR and our reporting units.
- The Office of the Chancellor and the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research are [accepting proposals](#) to fund 4-6 research symposia to conclude the Sesquicentennial Celebration that tackle big-picture topics with clear societal impact and that showcase the university's research strengths. The symposia will occur on April 10-12, 2018.
Deadline for proposal submission is Friday, April 28.

- [Search is ongoing](#) for the Associate Vice Chancellor for Research for the Humanities, Arts and Related Fields in the OVCR.
- [Search is ongoing](#) for the OVCR Faculty Fellow; applications due April 28
- Research Enterprise Transitions:
 - Melissa is now the managing director of the Office of Proposal Development (OPD)
 - The University System's Grants and Contracts Post Award will be reuniting with the campus Office of Sponsored Programs in July. This transition will help ensure continuity across the sponsored project lifecycle.

Updates from the Group

Carle Illinois College of Medicine

- The College of Medicine is welcoming its first faculty members who come from 9 colleges across campus.
- [Marketing materials](#) for the college are now available.

FAA

- FAA is developing a new internship program for graphic design and visual arts students who can develop professional experience working with clients. After gaining experience, students involved in the program will be available to work in various organizations across campus. Andy will provide more details as the program evolves.

Family Resiliency Center

- The [FRC's 2016 annual report](#) was recently published.

Graduate College

- The Grad Ed Dashboard will be launching soon, and more details will be announced shortly.

IGB

- The annual [IGB Fellows Symposium](#) takes place on Thursday, May 4. Learn about IGB research, hear about current issues in the life sciences, and connect with other students on campus. **Registration for the symposium will close on April 28.**

LAS

- The Natural History Building has been transformed into a modern space for learning and research, while preserving historical details. A [rededication ceremony](#) is scheduled Saturday, October 28, 2018.
- [Celebrate the history](#) of Illinois Innovation on April 28th with Fred Hoxie, editor of University of Illinois: Engine of Innovation (U of I Press, 2017). The new publication tells the story of Illinois through essays and vignettes about key inventions, places, and people.

- Experience a [rare total solar eclipse](#) with the University of Illinois' astronomy professors in Goreville, Illinois. Spend time with astronomers, hear a talk from the Department of Astronomy, view the eclipse through our telescopes, and get a pair of glasses for safe viewing. The program begins at 11:30 a.m. Monday, August 21. **The registration deadline is August 11, 2017.**
- The Chemistry Annex reopened recently after a full renovation and construction of a 9,600-square-foot addition. The building will be [rededicated](#) on Friday, October 6 at 10:00 a.m.

NCSA

- NCSA has paid internships opportunities related to design, social media, and copywriting. The opportunities will provide experience working with clients in an agency environment.
- In next few weeks, NCSA expects to hold an event announcing the findings of a Blue Waters Illinois Economic Impact Study. More info to come once details are finalized.

OCR

- Brunswick Corporation [will soon open](#) the Brunswick Innovation Laboratory in the Research Park.
- Syngenta [has established](#) a Digital Innovation Lab in Research Park to help solve agricultural challenges.

Technology Services

- Co-sponsored by the Illinois Data Science Initiative (iDSI) and Research IT at Technology Services, the [Social Media Analytics Summit](#) is focused on bringing together researchers, educators, students, and outside industry partners who are interested in understanding what is happening in social media analytics research. **This free half-day event is on Tuesday, May 2.**
- Kaltura now offers an easy way to [create closed captioning \(CC\) files](#). Users can also make videos searchable, so they're easier to find, reused at later date, or used as a study aid.
- Illinois Box—a secure cloud based storage service available to all students, faculty, and staff—is now moving to unlimited storage for users.

University Library: Office of Advancement

- The Library is [accepting applications](#) from faculty, APs, and grad students who need to purchase numeric, spatial, or textual data for their research. **The deadline is May 26 and awards (in the \$5,000 range) are announced in late August.**