October 11, 2013

To: Deans, Chairs and Directors

From: Stephen Hsu
Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies

Re: Information resources for research impacts of the government shutdown

The effects of the government shutdown on research at MSU are beginning to be felt, with agency delays in new awards, and in some very limited cases related to research contracts, “stop work orders.” For the most part, existing grants can continue without interruption. Some secondary impacts of the shutdown may now also be encountered, including:

- the unavailability of Federal employees to travel at government expense, either to MSU or to conferences we have organized elsewhere (see: http://blogs.nature.com/news/2013/10/us-government-researchers-barred-from-scientific-conferences.html#comment-15719), and
- the possible inaccessibility of national laboratory facilities our researchers are expecting to utilize in the conduct of our projects. (See: http://blogs.nature.com/news/2013/10/national-laboratories-prepare-to-shutdown.html).

OVPRGS staff should be apprised if any such second order impacts appear likely to affect specific faculty or student research or creative activity adversely.

Although we cannot predict how long the government shutdown will continue, we want to provide the University community with up-to-date information and contacts to address any questions related to research impacts at MSU.

My earlier October 3rd memo to Deans, Chairs and Directors on the impact of the government shutdown, a Question & Answer (Q&A) document, and some areas of impact for MSU sponsored projects administration have been posted to the Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies (VPRGS) website (http://vprgs.msu.edu/shutdown2013). The VPRGS site also includes specific agency communications, and other information regarding the shutdown. This site will be updated as new information becomes available.

To contact our Office with questions or concerns, please send a message to research@msu.edu.

For specific questions related to the shutdown and its effect on the administration of sponsored projects at MSU, please feel free to contact the following individuals:

- **Proposal questions** can be directed to Mike Litteral (884-4282), Craig O’Neill (884-4275) or Katie Cook (884-4237).
- Questions relating to **awards under negotiation** should be directed to Gladys Raymond (884-4258) or Diane Cox (884-4243).
- **Post award transaction and award set-up questions** can be directed to Kristy Smith (884-4247) and Stacy Salisbury (884-4252)