RII Track-2:
Focused EPSCoR Collaborations
Update and Outlook

16 May 2016

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RII Track-2: Focused EPSCoR Collaborations

- National Academy of Sciences study, EPSCoR 2020 and EPSCoR 2030 workshops call for mechanism to facilitate multi-jurisdictional collaborations - studies emphasized use of novel approaches
    - "Experimental" – The 'E' in EPSCoR.

- Combine small group expertise distributed in different EPSCoR jurisdictions into a "critical mass" capable of competing for large scale NSF or other agency competitions.

- Want to promote productive, <u>balanced</u> collaborations that are capable of sustained activities beyond the award period.

- Additional current priorities:
    - Development of diverse early-career faculty
    - Building capacity in NSF-wide priority areas

FY 2015 RII Track-2 Awardees

Project Title	Principal Investigator	Jurisdictions
Innovative, Broadly Accessible Tools for Brain Imaging, Decoding, and Modulation	Walt Besio, Univ. of Rhode Island	RI, OK, KY
Developmental Chronnecto-Genomics (Dev-CoG): A Next Generation Framework for Quantifying Brain Dynamics and Related Genetic Factors in Childhood	Vince Calhoun, The MIND Research Institute	NM, LA, NE
Strengthening the Scientific Basis for Making Decisions about Dams: Multi-scale, Coupled-systems Research on Ecological, Social, and Economic Trade-offs	Kevin Gardner, Univ. of New Hampshire	NH, RI, ME
Feeding and Powering the World - Capturing Sunlight to Split Water and Generate Fertilizer and Fuels	Nathan Hammer, Univ. of Mississippi	MS, AL, LA
Unmanned Aircraft System for Atmospheric Physics	Jamey Jacob, Oklahoma State Univ.	OK, NE, KY
Bridging Cognitive Science and Neuroscience Using Innovative Imaging Technologies	Peter Kalivas, Medical Univ. of South Carolina	SC, AL
Low-Cost, Efficient Next-Generation Solar Cells for the Coming Clean Energy Revolution	Nitin Padture, Brown Univ.	RI, NE
Catalysis for Renewables: Applications, Fundamentals and Technologies (CRAFT)	Bala Subramaniam, Univ. of Kansas	KS, SC

FY 2016 RII Track-2 Status

- Research Focus Areas:
  - Understanding the Brain
  - Sustainable Food, Energy, and Water Systems

- Continued emphasis on:
  - Inter-jurisdictional collaboration; and
  - Recruiting and development of diverse junior faculty

- More than 50 proposals submitted

  - ~70% in Sustainable Food, Energy, and Water Systems

  - Each EPSCoR jurisdiction is represented as either lead or partner on at least one proposal

- Decisions expected by August

FY 2017 Outlook

- No major changes to solicitation release or LOI/proposal deadlines.

  - Hopeful that solicitation release will be slightly earlier, and deadlines slightly later to allow more time for proposal preparation.

- Changes to Research Focus Areas are likely.

- Minor changes to submission eligibility and proposal requirements are possible.

RII Track-2 Data Outcomes Portal (T-2 DOP)

- Goal is to provide a common framework for outcomes data reporting

  - Improved quality control of data

  - Uniformity of what is captured across projects

- Generates a consistent picture of the metric-based progress of individual projects and, importantly, the program overall.

  - Standardized set of figures are provided each year to inform PIs and NSF EPSCoR about the state of the project.

  - Allows the projects' own evaluation efforts to focus less on metrics documentation and more on the broader assessment of progress.

- Intent is explicitly **<u>not</u>** to use these data to compare projects relative to each other

T-2 DOP Interface

T-2 DOP Data Entry

NSF EPSCoR RII Track-2
DATA OUTCOMES *PORTAL*

Log Out

ENTER NEW FUNDING

Return to Previous Page

Save Record

Instructions

PI of Record: Szymeczek, Caroline

Type of Funding: ☐   If other, specify: _____

Proposal Title: _____

Funding Organization: ☐   Specify: _____

Submitted Date: ☐ ☐ **Status:** ☐   **Award Number:** _____

Funding Dates (Pending & Awarded Funding): Begin date: ☐ ☐   End date, if applicable: ☐ ☐

Total Proposal Amount: Requested: ____   Awarded: ____
(e.g., 100,000; use commas but no $ sign and no decimals)

PIs, Co-PIs, and other Key Personnel for this Proposal:

1. T-2 Project PIs and Co-PIs:

T-2 Researchers (including yourself):
Names: Select all that apply.

☐ Bollenbacher, Skip
☐ Miller, Leigh
☐ Superstar, Excellent
☑ Szymeczek, Caroline

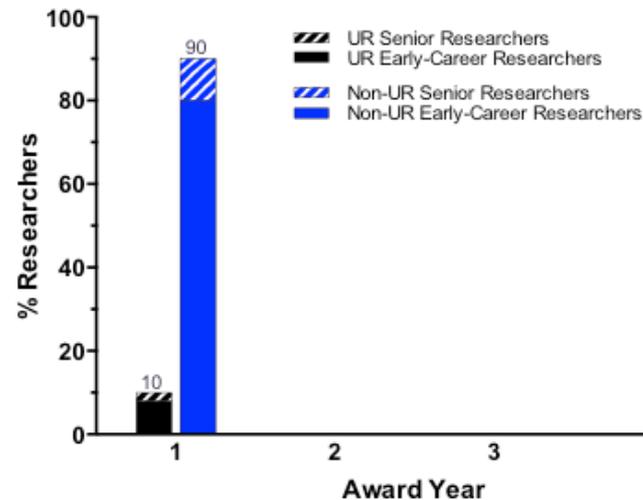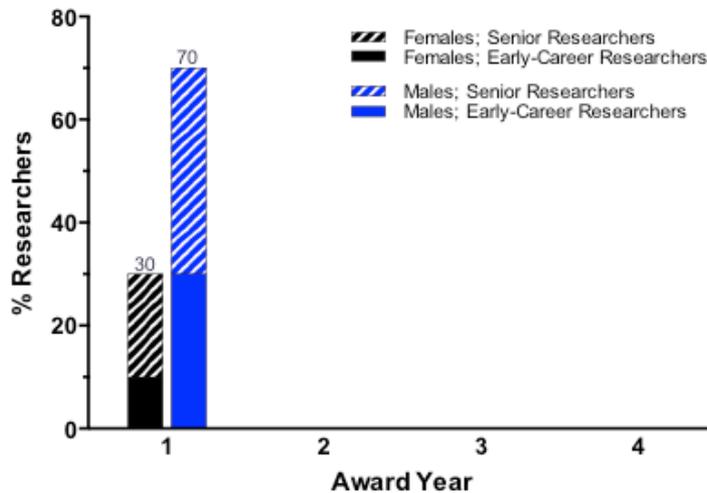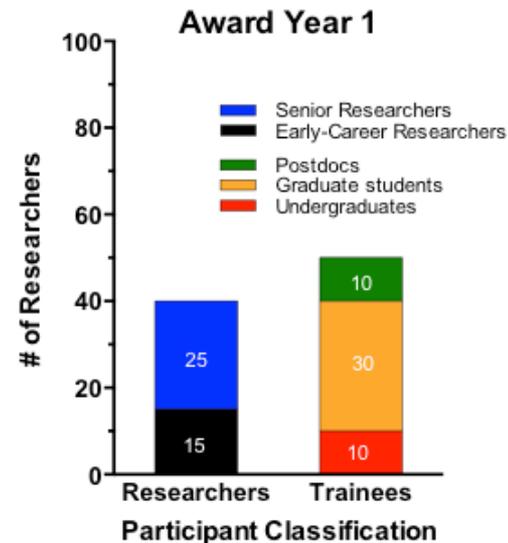# Annual Cycle for Data Collection/Reporting

- Data collection occurs throughout project year, with periodic reminder emails to keep up with data entry.

- Six weeks before the annual report due date, an initial 'Snapshot' is taken of each project's database.

- After a one-week Quality Control process, data are sent to project PIs along with a list of questions regarding possible discrepancies in the data.

- Projects have approximately two weeks to update the database and otherwise address any discrepancies.

- One month before annual report due date, a final 'Snapshot' is taken.

- Final annual data are provided to PIs one week later in tabular form and another ten days later in summary figures.
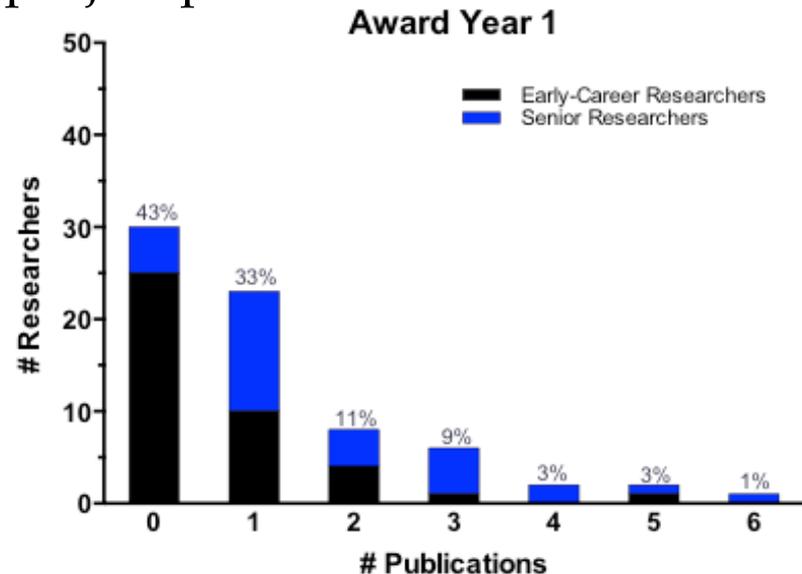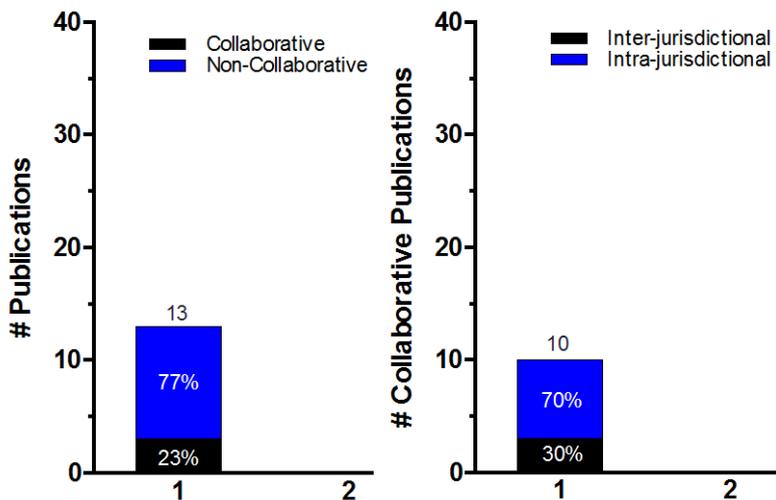
Participant Data

- Portal initially populated with PI-provided list of researchers and trainees, then updated as needed.

- Researchers are identified as 'Senior' or 'Early-Career'.

- Demographic data are self-reported, and not visible to others.
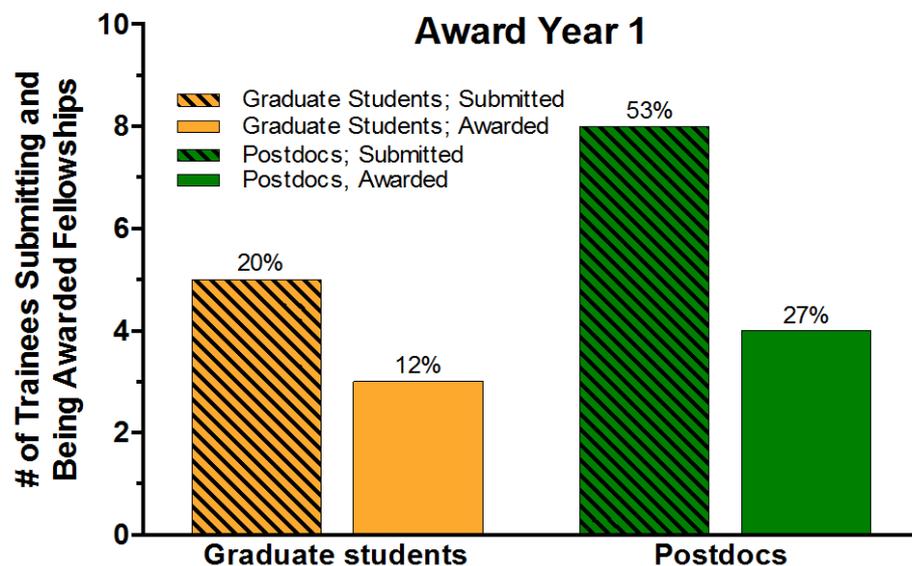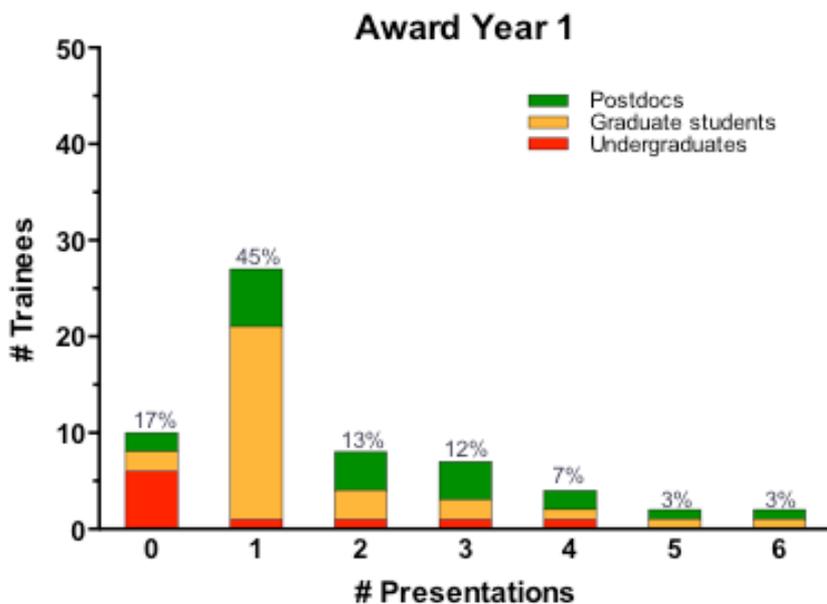
Publications (+ Proposals & Patents)

- Emphasis for RII Track-2 is on building sustainable inter-jurisdictional collaborations, with special focus on early-career faculty.

- Not just counting outputs, also looking at:
  - Collaborative vs Non-collaborative
  - Intra- vs Inter-jurisdictional collaborations
  - Early-Career vs Senior researchers
  - Differences across participating jurisdictions

- Main interest is in progress over the project period.

Trainee Activities

- Trainee activities tracked in addition to the faculty-level researchers.

- Interest in understanding progress with the traditional markers of trainee success, plus any added benefits associated with working on a inter-disciplinary, inter-jurisdictional project.

- Again, project progression is the major focus.

Thank you!