

ANR Cooperative Extension Risk Assessment Best Practices

Funding -- Sources, Donors, Funders

A. Training and Support Structure/Resources

1. Provide adequate support and funding for the ANR Office of Contracts and Grants
2. Provide information to Principal Investigators (PIs) concerning UC policies and procedures regarding appropriate types of research agreements and allowable agency requirements
3. Create training opportunities/resources regarding UC guidelines for sponsored research -- what is appropriate, what is not, scientific integrity of research results, ethics, appropriate publication of research results (non-proprietary to donor), etc.
4. Improve the visibility of the development staff in Oakland with visits and on-site interviews with each county office
5. Offer workshops in this area at statewide conferences using real life examples from a range of CE county-based examples
6. Offer training, include Department Head and PI training regarding UC/ANR research guidelines in statewide venues
7. Develop a divisionwide coordinated fundraising program with a priority on donor attraction and expansion
8. Have brainstorming sessions with PIs on how to make accepting outside funding work better with less risk to UC

B. Ethicality and Policy Issues

1. Provide information to PIs to discourage "under the table" agreements with donors/agencies in exchange for research dollars and to encourage appropriate agreements with donors/agencies within UC policy
2. Reinforce that donated gift funds and research funds are UC resources, not personal resources, and as such must be administered within UC policies
3. Support only those research projects that are consistent with ANR mission/priorities
4. Support evaluation or chemical trials for seed or chemical companies only if a direct research/education component is apparent
5. Identify existing UC resources or develop questionnaires for PIs to use to determine whether future research activities are consistent with UC policy and ANR mission/priorities
6. Conduct cost/benefit analysis of accepting certain funding
7. Allow county-based grants that meet UC guidelines which will resolve issues of matching time and resources

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C. Handling Donor Requirements

1. Communicate and support efforts to fulfill UC expectations and responsibilities for ANR PIs regarding the performance of research and how to handle expectations from donors/funding agencies
2. Reinforce to PIs that they should not engage in “under the table” agreements with donors or agencies for research in exchange for unrestricted donations
3. Offer tools to donors/co-operators/funding agencies regarding UC’s sponsored projects policies and research guidelines including publication of research results