Good afternoon,

A lot has happened since Kyle Everard sent out his last audit update in January. In March, I replaced Kyle as RSP's Audit Coordinator. Kyle now manages the NSF/DOE team. Thankfully, he's also willing to be my audit mentor while I learn the ropes!

Also in March, the Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB) finished up their FY22 Single Audit. UW-Madison goes through this review process annually, and each year LAB picks different areas to focus on. During FY22, the auditors reviewed the R&D cluster.

UW-Madison had two findings related to the R&D cluster. The first was related to inventory requirements for federal equipment. The audit found we did not perform a physical inventory of all federal equipment, and we did not receive approval to waive this requirement. The finding stemmed from staffing shortages at Property Control. They are now fully staffed and on track to have the full inventory complete by the end of FY24.

The second finding concerned unallowable costs on federal awards. LAB found that UW-Madison used $650 in federal funds for two items that were not allocable to those federal projects. While the dollar value was incredibly low, LAB deemed it statistically significant based on their sample. Therefore, UW-Madison was found not in compliance with federal requirements for the use of federal funding for FY22.

Our Corrective Action Plan for the unallowable cost finding is two-fold. First, the unallowable expenses were transferred off the awards and onto non-sponsored funding. Second, I'm here today to remind you of RSP's robust website and RED training program. Both resources are available to campus to help us understand our responsibilities in relation to sponsored programs. Our website includes relevant policies and procedures, as well as helpful FAQs on a variety of topics. I strongly recommend that new research administrators take full advantage of the training and information available to them. Even veteran administrators are encouraged to review the list of courses and refresh, if necessary. The landscape is continually changing and becoming more complex. The more knowledge we collectively have as a campus, the more likely we are to be compliant.

The full audit can be found here.

Feel free to reach out to me with any audit-related questions or concerns.

Kelly Belshaw
Audit Coordinator & Interim Effort Administrator
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