

## University of Connecticut

### Recovery Act Synopsis

#### October 2009 ARRA Reporting

##### Overall:

The University of Connecticut (UConn) and The University of Connecticut Health Center (UCHC) have been very aggressive in pursuing ARRA funding opportunities. The administrative effort has been led by Dr. Michael Crouch at UConn in Storrs and Mr. Jeff Small at UCHC in Farmington. This substantial grant writing effort is attributed directly to the faculty of the respective campuses. To date, UConn and UCHC have submitted 372 proposals. NIH provided 48 grant awards; NSF provided 24 grant awards; and 5 awards came from other federal agencies, for a total of 77 awards. The total dollars awarded UConn/UCHC thus far surpasses \$24,800,000.

##### Administration/Reporting:

Due to the fact that these awards are from federal agencies, the Sponsored Program Offices (OSPs) are submitting duplicate reports to the federal and state government. Reports are issued through the federal reporting site directly by the OSPs and the state reporting is processed through agency accountability officers to your office. The state reporting requires an upload to CORE-CT as well. This duplication of reporting has added a significant and burdensome administrative effort at both the OSP and agency level. As you know, this administrative effort is unfunded and has significantly increased over the past eight months.

##### Oversight, Transparency and Data Quality:

The oversight of ARRA reporting for UConn/UCHC is coordinated by our office, The Office of Audit, Compliance and Ethics (OACE) . For transparency purposes, we have made routine reports to our Joint Audit and Compliance Committee and to the Board of Trustees. To further aid in our transparency efforts, a link on UConn's home page for CT Recovery has been added along with multiple links regarding ARRA on the OACE web site, (see below).

[ARRA Data Quality Plan Policy – Draft](#)

[ARRA Funding Opportunities and Guidance](#)

[CT Recovery Initiative Website](#)

[The American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009](#)

[UCHC Draft Data Quality Plan Procedures](#)

[UConn Health Center Office of Research and Sponsored Programs ARRA web page](#)

[UConn Storrs and Regional Campuses Data Quality Plan Procedures](#)

[UConn Storrs and Regional Campuses Office for Sponsored Programs ARRA web page](#)

The Data Quality Plans were developed by OACE and involves oversight by the respective OSPs and Internal Audit. Additionally, the State Auditors will play a role as part of their annual A-133 audit of federal funding. Near term data quality resides with the OSPs and OACE, while systemic checks will be provided by Internal Audit.

### **Reporting Status**

Note #1: The federal government requirements for reporting for FTEs differ from the state requirements. FTEs for state reporting purposes are cumulative; FTEs for federal reporting are incremental. For example: if a full time employee works for one month out of a quarter on a grant, the FTE is reported as 0.33 FTE on the federal quarterly report. The same employee would be reported as 1.00 FTE on the state report for the one month that the employee works. At the end of the quarter, the figure for the state would be 1.00 FTE (cumulative for the quarter) and the figure for the federal report would be 0.33 FTE. At no time would the state and federal FTE figures match.

Note #2: We have experienced challenges in reporting, primarily with formatting issues. Solutions include working directly with OPM and the respective OSPs to enhance timeliness and formatting accuracy. The reports submitted June through September 2009 were definitely part of the learning process. Currently, we are working directly with the respective OSPs to ensure the correct reporting templates are used for state reporting purposes.