Electronic Research Administration @ LSU

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“Electronic Research Administration (eRA) provides critical IT systems support to manage the receipt, processing, review, award, and monitoring of research and non-research grants at an institution or agency.”

National Institutes of Health (era.nih.gov)
eRA at LSU

**Sponsored Programs System** (SPS) has been used at LSU since 2003 to manage the Pre-Award process for developing, authoring and review of external grant applications. SPS was built for the campus mainframe and continuously developed to address the campus needs as they evolved.

**InfoReady Review** is a commercial product used to manage our internal grant applications, limited submission competitions and other approval workflows for the Office of Research & Economic Development.
Not in our eRA at LSU

SPS only processes Pre-Award information and documentation. It does not handle:

- Post-Award processing and reporting
- Conflicts of Interest reporting and management
- Research Compliance reviews and management
Why Replace SPS

- SPS only runs on the campus mainframe
- Mainframe will be decommissioned
- There are now many vendors of eRA software
- ITS prefers to work with vendor solutions
Need for a new eRA

- Integrated services for grant preparation and approvals
- Comprehensive on-demand reporting for Deans, Chairs, Faculty and Administration
- Modernize internal review processes for research compliance
- Shared resource for research for all LSU entities
Finding a new eRA for LSU

Fall 2016
Ad Hoc Committee

Members from LSU, Ag and PBRC
Criteria for eRA

**Intuitive User Interface**
- Easy to use
- Easy to configure
- Easy to manage

**Enterprise Grade**
- SaaS
- Multi-campus support
- Continuous development

**Solid Performance**
- Established company
- Extensive user base
- Best of class application
Finding a new eRA for LSU

- **Committee Established**
  - Fall 2016

- **RFP**
  - Summer 2017

- **Product Selection**
  - Spring 2018

- **Implementation Begins**
  - Fall 2018

- **Vendor Presentations**
  - Spring 2017

- **Procurement**
  - Fall 2017

- **Contract Negotiation**
  - Summer 2018
Introducing InfoEd Global

The InfoEd Solutions Suite represents a comprehensive, fully integrated collection of software applications specifically designed to reduce the cost, time, and inefficacy that confront today’s research offices.

InfoEd’s solutions eliminate the redundant effort, last minute paper chases, and compliance blind spots that represent near universal administrative challenges.
Introducing InfoEd Global

InfoEd Global focuses 100% of their business on research administration

- 25 years of providing eRA solutions
- Clients include ~ 400 university, hospital, and government agencies world-wide
- Best-of-class product
- Makers of SPIN grants database
Strengths of InfoEd Global

- Software as a service (SaaS)
- Fully integrated product
- Integrations with
  - HR/Accounting (Workday)
  - Faculty 360 (Digital Measures)
- Sponsor to sponsor submissions (S2S) for federal grants
- Supports the whole grant life cycle
- Provides comprehensive reporting
TAIL Program

- **Transforming and Architecting the Information Landscape**
  - A technology modernization initiative. Others include:
    - Student Information System Modernization Program (Geaux Forward)
    - Hybrid-Cloud Infrastructure Program
  - Includes projects intended to modernize enterprise information architecture, applications, and IT tools
  - Ratified by IT governance
  - Supported by central IT
eRA Project Modules

- Conflicts of Interest
- Sponsored Programs
- Human Subjects
- Animal Subjects
Training and Support

- Configurable/custom embedded user guides
- Develop online training resources
- Workshops for
  - Faculty, staff, graduate students
  - Colleges, Departments
- Establish Campus User Groups
  - Administrators of Sponsored Programs
  - Faculty Researchers
Deployment Schedule

- **Process Begins**
  - Aug 2018

- **Sponsored Programs Module**
  - May 2019

- **Human Subjects Module**
  - Nov 2019

- **March 2019**
  - Conflict of Interest Module

- **July 2019 (FY 2020)**
  - Transition from SPS to InfoEd Global

- **May 2020**
  - Animal Subjects Module
Name The eRA Contest

We use several products to help support research, including InfoEd Global, InfoReady Review, and InfoReady Marketplace. We need a single name or acronym to encompass it all.

We need your help! *Create the eRA brand!*
Name The eRA Contest

Create the eRA’s brand identity!

Now soliciting ideas. All submissions will be reviewed by the project team, and the winning name will be selected by the VP-RED.

Submit by December 1, 2018 – www.lsu.edu/research/era/
Contact

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