NIH Public Access Policy: A Learning Opportunity

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The Setting
Medical Center Library & Archives

Potential compliance managers:
- Duke Office of Clinical Research (DOCR)
- Office of Research Support (ORS)

The Problem
Starting July 1st, 2013 non-competing renewal that is NOT compliant = funding delay!

+ Experience w/ NCBI databases and systems
- No experience w/ eRA Commons/NIH grants
+ Time/personnel available
- Not as familiar w/ Policy

In Late 2012 NIH Public Access Policy Notice:
Author/PI receives NIH funding
Publish peer-reviewed article
Publisher or Author/PI submits manuscript to NIH Manuscript Submission System (NIHMS)
Author/PI approves submission
Article added to PMC = Compliant!

Must link eRA Commons & My NCBI accounts
Manage compliance

What happened in-between?

2008
Policy created
New penalty for non-compliance

2013
 Few PI's maintained compliance!
• Some articles in PMC - mostly publisher submitted
• Most articles NOT in PMC - author/PI didn't submit or submission stuck in NIHMS

= A confusing MESS!

Challenges
For researchers & their staff:
- Learning the process and systems
- Log-in issues
- Finding final peer-reviewed manuscript files
- Remembering 2 NIHMS approvals
- Determining if an article fell under the Policy
- Understanding how My Bibliography fits in

For library team:
- Learning the process and systems
- Having limited access to systems
- Sorting GRANT PACM report
- Dealing with bad/confusing data - deceased PIs, wrong grant #s, multi-PIs, etc.
- Finding contact info for PI's authors
- Notifying PIs/authors and getting their attention
- Tracking internal processes

Takeaways
- Library support viewed positively
- Time commitment - initially very high, more manageable now
- Communication important
- Research staff often key to progress

Solutions
- Create educational materials - diagrams, websites, presentations, etc.
- Offer in-person consultations
- Offer workshops in a variety of settings
- Email PIs/authors detailed, individualized information tailored to their compliance needs
- Communicate with NIH, NCBI, and others about problems we encounter
- Broadcast via newsletters and listservs important news and information
- Develop database connecting PACM data with internal Duke data

NIH Grant Support @ Duke
- #13 for total $1 of NIH funding
- #17 total awards

Best for job!