

Comment RE: 2019 PAPPG

Bargerstock, Burton <bb@msu.edu>

Tue 6/12/2018 2:51 AM

To: Plimpton, Suzanne H. <splimpto@nsf.gov>;

Dear Reports Clearance Officer Plimpton:

I am writing to express my concern with the proposed change to the language of the "Synergistic Activities" Section (Section D) of the biosketch included in the draft NSF Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide (PAPPG) for 2019. The strictest interpretation of "a single example," as used in this text, may limit proposers to providing a stripped-down list of activities devoid of the context and background needed to help reviewers assess the significance of the proposer's past broader impacts contributions. I believe that the NSF should continue to allow proposers to use their discretion in describing five single examples (with context and background), or up to five categories of broader impacts/synergistic activities that may include a few representative examples in each category, so long as the overall two-page limit for biosketches is not exceeded. If the NSF adopts the proposed change of wording, I ask that it clarify the meaning of "a single example" and provide a set of clear samples to show what is permitted in this section.

Respectfully,
Burt Bargerstock

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