RAMP TOWN HALL

June 16, 2022

Andre Marshall, Vice President, Research, Innovation, and Economic Impact

Mike Laskofski, Associate Vice President, Research Services

Amanda Fucci-Bartoszek, Director, Research Reporting, Systems, and Training

Maribeth Luftglass, Project Manager, ITS

Joe Taylor, Managing Director, Huron

David Tubis, Senior Director, Huron

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

AGENDA

Research at Mason

Research Administration Management Portal (RAMP) Update

Communications, Outreach and Training

Research Administration Project

Research Reporting Project

Research Administration Management Portal (RAMP) Demo

Questions

Research at Mason

- Mason became R1 in 2016
- Mason research expenditures have doubled over last 5 years
- Current year expenditures are up 13% compared to this time last year
- Administrative burden on faculty is a concern nationally
  - Federal Demonstration Partnership (FDP) [2018 Faculty Workload Survey](#) of over 11,000 PIs nationally found that **44% of faculty federal research time is spent on administrative tasks (not active research)**
  - Inadequate systems, inconsistent and inefficient processes, and lack of local support increases faculty burden
- Increasing regulations and audit scrutiny from Sponsors and the State
- Mason's research infrastructure has not kept up with the growth, but current projects will move us closer to R1 levels

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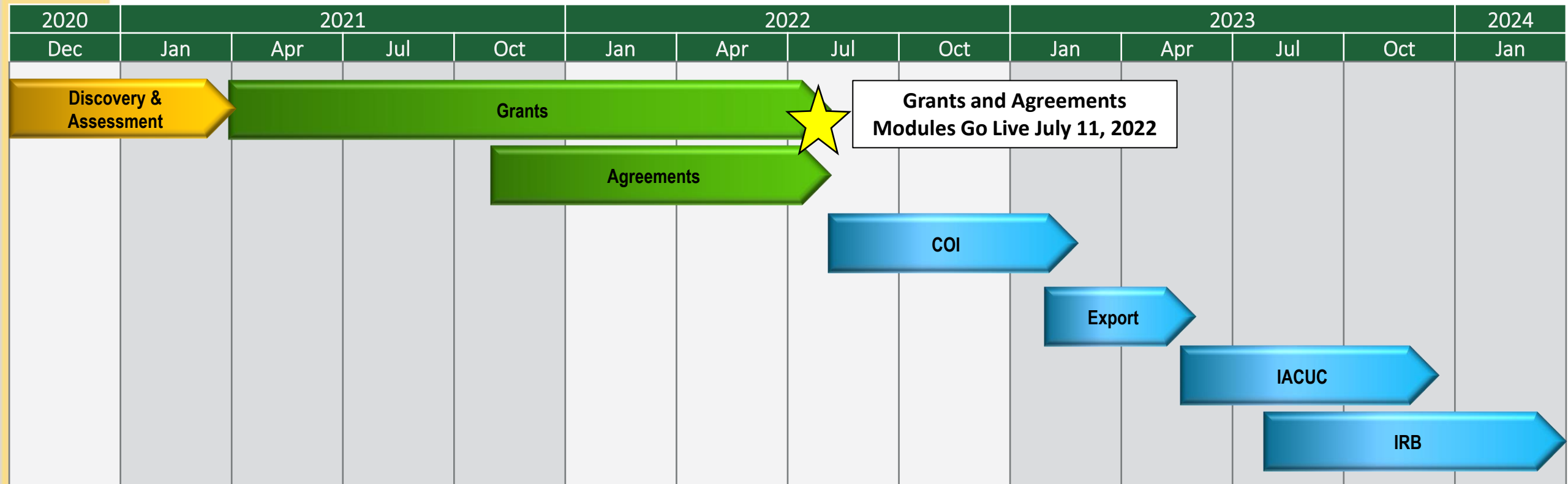# Research Administration Management Portal (RAMP)

Why RAMP

- Current systems are outdated, not integrated, at their capacity, and are not sustainable
- RAMP (Huron Research Suite) is used by more top research universities than any other research administration technology and is implemented at more than 50% of R1s

Benefits of RAMP

- Easier access and **better user experience for faculty**
  - Workflow transparency to track status of a record, who has it, and next steps
  - Dynamic SmartForms only request required data
  - System validations reduces rework
- Integrated modules allow for **more efficient** and **automated processing**
- Improved data capture results in more robust reporting capabilities
- **Reduced risk** for the University

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RAMP Project Timeline

- RAMP Grants and Agreements is on schedule for a July 11, 2022 Go-Live

- Finalizing Data Migration for the move into RAMP Grants (Submitted Funding Proposals and Active Awards)

- Coordinating go-live efforts with Chart of Accounts and MicroStrategy teams

2020	2021				2022				2023				2024
Dec	Jan	Apr	Jul	Oct	Jan	Apr	Jul	Oct	Jan	Apr	Jul	Oct	Jan

Discovery & Assessment

Grants

★ **Grants and Agreements Modules Go Live July 11, 2022**

Agreements

COI

Export

IACUC

IRB

RAMP Grants & Agreements Go-live

June 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 GMU Holiday	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

June 15–18: No New Award or SubK Enc Setup in Banner
June 13–15: RAMP Training Sessions (OSP)
June 22–24: RAMP Training Sessions
June 19–23: No New Award or SubK Enc Setup in Banner
June 24–25: COA Banner Blackout
June 27–29: RAMP Training Sessions
June 26–29: COA Banner Blackout

July 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 *COA GO LIVE*	2
3	4 GMU Holiday	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

July 5–8: RAMP Training Sessions
July 6–9: RAMP Migration
July 10: RAMP Migr.
July 11: *RAMP GO LIVE*
July 11–15: RAMP Training Sessions
July 18–22: RAMP Training Sessions
July 25–29: RAMP Training Sessions

George Mason University

RAMP Communications and Outreach

Communication	Details
RAMP Kick-off Meeting	• April 2021 • Approximately 120 participants including Associate Deans, Faculty, and other key stakeholders
RAMP Project Website	• **https://ramp.gmu.edu** • Background and information about the RAMP project • Communicates status, updates, FAQs and important project information

Regular Stakeholder Updates	• Provide project updates, receive input, answer questions, get buy-in and support
	  • Research Council
	  • OSP Advisory Group
	  • RAMP Project Leadership and Core Teams
	  • Research Administration Executive Committee and Working Group
	  • Academic Representatives Committee (Reps from each College/School including faculty)
	  • PI Advisory Committee

Faculty Senate	• Met with Research Committee in September 2021 and Full Faculty Senate in November 2021
Executive Council	• Updated in October 2021, March 2022
University-wide Communications	• Research email ListServs • Articles in Provost newsletter (2/23/22, and 5/25/22 and 6/15/22) and Staff Senate (3/9/22) • Town Hall meeting (4/14/22 and 6/16/22)
Training	• Utilizing MasonLEAPS with videos and quick reference guides

Communications Resources

➢ RAMP.GMU.EDU

➢ RAMP Information Sheet

➢ Funding Proposal Smartforms

➢ Provost Newsletter

➢ Introduction to RAMP Video

RAMP Training

- Curriculum has been vetted and we are finalizing the materials for Go-Live
  - Completed updates to videos and guides from User Acceptance Testing feedback
- Utilizing MasonLEAPS to host training materials and develop curriculums by role
  - **Search for "RAMP" in MasonLEAPS**
  - Series of Short Videos and Quick Reference Guides
- Live Training Sessions will begin end of June – Register in MasonLEAPS
- Support will be available post Go-Live

Research Administration Project – Where we are

- Nearly all R1 universities have capable research administrators supporting faculty locally, either in departments, schools, or centers

- We have worked with HR on finalizing job classifications and job descriptions and with Finance to provide transitional funding for Colleges/Schools to address staffing deficiencies.

- Recent College/School postings for Research Administrators:
  - CEHD (1 position, 1 hired)
  - CHHS (2 positions)
  - CHSS (4 positions, 2 hired) - Pre-Award Lead hired
  - CEC actively searching for 4 new positions
  - COS posted 5 new positions this week

- OSP will lead training and provide support to new local pre-award hires

- Central "Local Unit Support" Team will be established for Schools without local pre-award support

- OSP reorganized into Pre-Award and Post-Award teams https://osp.gmu.edu/staff-contacts/

- Closely monitoring impact of Governor and University's position on telework policy

Research Reporting

- Improving the quality and availability of reporting across the research community to enable **data-driven decision-making**

- Establishing an integrated, robust data warehouse solution with MicroStrategy in collaboration with ITS

- First phase of prioritized reports planned to be delivered and aligned with the implementation of the RAMP Grants and Agreements modules

- Example reports: Current & Pending, Proposal Summary, Keywords

2021						2022							
Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug

Requirements Validation

Technical Design/Development

Report Development

Testing/Accept
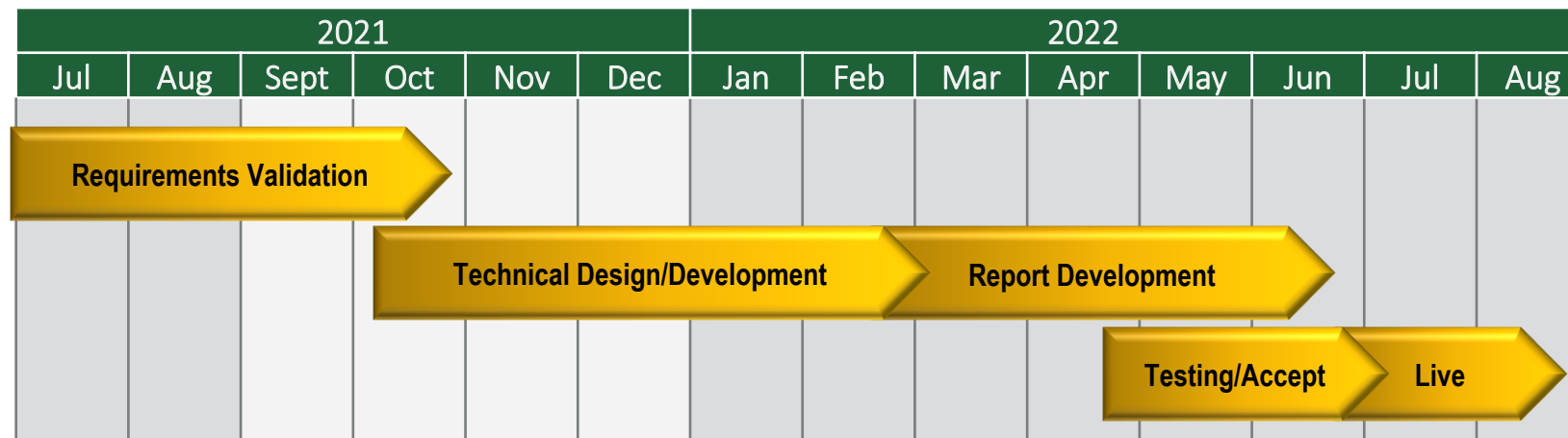
Live

RAMP Grants Demo

REMINDERS

- RAMP Go-Live on July 11
- Online Training Videos and Quick Reference Guides available Now on MasonLEAPS
- Real-time Training Sessions available – register in MasonLEAPS
- Communicate with your College / School Research Administration Team
- Send Questions to **RAMP@gmu.edu**

QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU!

For more information, visit RAMP.GMU.EDU

Additional questions can be sent to RAMP@gmu.edu

APPENDIX

RAMP Governance

Executive Sponsors	**Kevin Borek** (VP of Information Technology and CIO) **Aurali Dade** (AVP ORIE) **Deb Dickenson** (VP, Finance) **Rose Higgins** (Associate Dean for Research, CHHS)	**Mike Laskofski** (AVP, Research Services) **Andre Marshall** (VP for ORIEI) **Charlie Spann** (Deputy CIO & Assistant VP, ESD, ITS)
Project Leadership Team	**Margaret Ewell** (Dir Pre Award, OSP) **Amanda Fucci-Bartoszek** (Dir Research Reporting, Systems, and Training, OSP) **Rebecca Hartley** (AVP, ORIA) **Kim Jervey** (AD Contracts, OSP)	**Mike Laskofski** (AVP, Research Services) **Maribeth Luftglass** (Project Manager, ITS) **Ahmad Taheri** (Director, EASD, ITS) **Joe Taylor** (Managing Director, Huron) **David Tubis** (Sr. Director, Huron)
Core Grants & Agreements Implementation Team	**Kevin Brooks** (Sr RA, OSP) **Joanne Carter** (Sr RA, OSP) **Janice Cohen** (Dir Fin and Research, CHSS) **Margaret Ewell** (Dir Pre Award, OSP) **Jennifer Fortney** (Research System and Business Analyst, OSP) **Amanda Fucci-Bartoszek** (Dir Research Reporting, Systems, and Training, OSP) **Jessica Guzzo** (Dir RA, CEHD)	**Kim Jervey** (AD Contracts, OSP) **Mike Laskofski** (AVP Research Services) **Maribeth Luftglass** (Project Manager, ITS) **Kimberly Maze** (Reporting and Sys Admin, OSP) **Angie Railey** (Dir Post Award, OSP) **Andrew Sprecher** (RA Manager, OSP) **Amir Tofighi** (SA EASD, ITS) **David Tubis** (Sr Director, Huron)
RAMP Training Team	**Janice Cohen** (CHSS) **Luiza Daddario** (Huron) **Maggie Ewell** (OSP) **Jennifer Fortney** (OSP)	**Amanda Fucci-Bartoszek** (OSP) **Jessica Guzzo** (CEHD) **Maribeth Luftglass** (ITS) **Kimberly Maze** (OSP)

RAMP Academic Unit Stakeholders

Academic Representatives	Lisa Kahn (CVPA)	Terri Mancini (CEC)
	Dianka Curtis (Carter School)	Zhisheng Yan (CEC)
	Julie Shedd (Carter School)	Blake Silver (CHSS)
	Karina Korostelina (Carter School)	Rashmi Pershad (CHSS)
	Holly Park (CHHS)	Janice Cohen (CHSS)
	Lillian de Jonge (CHHS)	Michele Schwietz (CHSS)
	Rosemary Higgins (CHHS)	Nuno Garoupa (Law)
	Diane Spence (SBUS)	Kate Daie (COS)
	Jean-Pierre Auffret (SBUS)	Meghan St. George (COS)
	Maggie Kebe (SBUS)	Monique Van Hoek (COS)
	Eamonn Kelly (CEHD)	Pat Gillevet (COS)
	Jessica Guzzo (CEHD)	Angela Warren (SCHAR)
	Arthur Pyster (CEC)	Naoru Koizumi (SCHAR)
	Kim Goodwin-Slater (CEC)	
PI Advisory Group	Dr. Parag Chitnis (CEC)	Dr. Cynthia Lum (CHSS)
	Dr. Rebekah Hersch (RII)	Dr. Kamaljeet Sanghera (CEC)
	Dr. Amy Hutchison (CEHD)	Dr. Monique Van Hoek (COS)
	Dr. Naoru Koizumi (SCHAR)	Dr. Ali Weinstein (CHHS)
	Dr. Lance Liotta (COS)	

User Acceptance Testing Team

Academic Units	**Rhonda Troutman** (COS) **Heather Longest** (CEHD) **Pam Ivey** (CEHD) **Donna Senator** (CEHD) **Mike Washburn** (CEC)	**Becky Warden** (CHHS) **Joshua Fleck** (CHHS) **Ryan Pryke** (SCHAR) **Angela Warren** (SCHAR) **Maggie Kebe** (SBUS)
OSP Pre-Award	**Joanne Carter** **Andrew Sprecher** **Carly Curran**	**Regis Saxton** **Jennifer Kasparian** **Jennifer Stromberg**
OSP Post-Award	**Kevin Brooks** **Liz Hale**	**Dan Porter** **Josh Bowen**
OSP Contracts	**Kim Jervey** **Lindsay Gilbreath**	**Karen Gentry**
Reviewers	**Maggie Ewell** (OSP) **Jessica Guzzo** (CEHD) **Angie Railey** (OSP) **Eileen Gallagher** (OSP) **Michele Schwietz** (CHSS) **Janice Cohen** (CHSS)	**Rashmi Pershad** (CHSS) **Terri Mancini** (CEC) **Meghan St. George** (COS) **Holly Park** (CHHS) **Diane Spence** (SBUS)
Other OSP	**Heather Scruggs** (Billing) **Gio Hernandez** (Financial Reporting/Closeout) **Jennifer Fortney** (System/Business Processes)	**Yolanda Tamayo** (Subcontracts) **Kimberly Maze** (Reporting)