



National Institute
of Nursing Research



Advancing Science, Improving Lives

Midcareer Technical Workshop

Path to a Sustained Program of Research



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Module I: Establish & Sustain POR

- **Hallmarks: Productivity, Integrity, Satisfaction**
- Guideposts (Benchmarks)
- Strategies to maintain POR momentum
- Value of Program Director guidance
- Competing application decision
- Interview with senior scientist



Successful POR Hallmarks: Productivity

Initial R01 signals investigator independence

- First step in successful POR
- Long-term goal: SERIES of projects sequenced efficiently to address an important health issue

Successful POR requires ongoing research funding to support

- Stability of project personnel
- More rapid progression of science



Successful POR Hallmarks: Productivity

1. Publications

- Build publications into project timeline
- Reprint requests (journal impact/citations)
- Invitations: Member of special panel
Invited article/Guest editor



Successful POR Hallmarks: Productivity

2. Invitations to be a part of other teams
 - Co-Investigator role
 - Co-authorship
 - Consultation requests



Successful POR Hallmarks: Productivity

- Be strategic about invitations accepted
- Be sure additional tasks build your research profile and fit your research narrative
- Try to get double or triple mileage for effort



Successful POR Hallmarks: Integrity

“The public must be able to trust the science and the scientific process informing public policy decisions...

If scientific and technological information is developed by the Federal Government, it should ordinarily be made available to the public.”

Barack Obama

*March 9, 2009, Memorandum
for Executive Departments &
Agencies: Scientific Integrity*



Successful POR Hallmarks: Integrity

- Premise: Research must be meticulous & objective so that results are valid & credible
- Published reports: Truthful, free of bias, with detail to allow replication & further analysis
- Goal: Transparency, reproducibility, and accessibility



Successful POR Hallmarks: Integrity

What discourages openness & transparency?

- Drug companies: profitability focus
- Individual bias
- Competition among research groups
- Concern for career advancement



Successful POR Hallmarks: Integrity

Definition: Scientific Misconduct

- Fabrication
- Falsification
- Plagiarism

Does not include honest error or difference of opinion



Successful POR Hallmarks: Integrity

Misconduct consequences

- Ineligible to receive Federal funding for grants or contracts
- Prohibition from service on PHS advisory committee, peer review, or consultation
- Submission of retraction/correction of pubs
- Required to provide institutional certification of services or data
- Loss of employment, reassignment, mentor



Successful POR Hallmarks: Integrity

What helps to maintain integrity standards?

- Careful records of the research project
- Data reviews at research team meetings
- Presentations at research team level in preparation for conference presentations or publication submissions
- Research team member co-authorship



Successful POR Hallmarks: Satisfaction

- Bonus that promotion criteria align
- Aware of impact POR is having
- POR implementation is demanding & intense
But with great potential to energize and delight the investigator!



Successful POR Hallmarks: Satisfaction

“To (one) who devotes (a) life to science nothing can give more happiness than increasing the number of discoveries, but (the) cup of joy is full (and overflowing) when the results of (our) studies immediately find practical applications.”

Louis Pasteur

