

# Research Core Development Initiatives and Updates

UNC Office of Sponsored Programs



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# Research Core Development Contact Information

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# Poll Questions

- What is your position?
  - Core Director, Core Staff, Core Administration, Dept Administration, Dept Leadership, Central Office Administration
- What is your biggest concern or struggle related to your core (1 word)?
  - Open Ended
- What is your largest administrative burden?
  - Open ended
- Do you have competition within UNC for the services you provide?
  - Yes, No, I Don't Know



# Research Core Development

Soliciting feedback from campus regarding Core support, services, and business process improvement

Partnering with departments, schools, and existing recharge centers to develop a campus-wide Core strategy

Mission: To provide additional support/resources to the management of RSCs by:

Establishing a central asset database and increase purchasing power

Assisting with solutions for marketing core facility services



# Engagement



“Listening Tours”



Soliciting feedback to  
better understand  
challenges and obstacles



Joining the discussion with  
ALL RSCs



Creating comprehensive  
list of cores at UNC /  
Listserv

# Equipment/Assets

Equipment and services database to improve marketing and communication

Gain information about equipment/assets held across all cores at UNC

- UNC Annual Asset Inventory – requests for cores
- Create potential for increased purchasing power, increased discounts, and lower costs

Maintenance Agreements – working with UNC Purchasing Services to identify opportunities

- Ability to make more effective and efficient purchasing decisions



# Recharge Rate Review Process



Working closely with OSR Cost Analysis and Compliance



Process should be more user-friendly and transparent, less cumbersome, reduced response times



Creating a rate review management tool - Smartsheet



Offer resources and training opportunities to Core Directors and Staff



OSR prioritizing interim rate modifications/additions



# Smartsheet – Rate Review Management

## Internal to OSP Cost Analysis and Compliance

- Tool for management of recharge rate review process
- Metrics, dashboards, and reporting capabilities to identify potential efficiencies
- Workflow management to reduce processing times
- Ability to send automatic emails and reminders

## External to Campus

- Increased transparency and visibility of the rate review process
- Webpage integration to allow cores to view current status of rate review
- Webpage form to allow submission of off-cycle rate reviews





# Smartsheet Dashboards

## Average Days to Complete Rate Reviews

James Pike

70

Meghan Kraft

9

Average  
Time Overall

40

Average # of  
rates

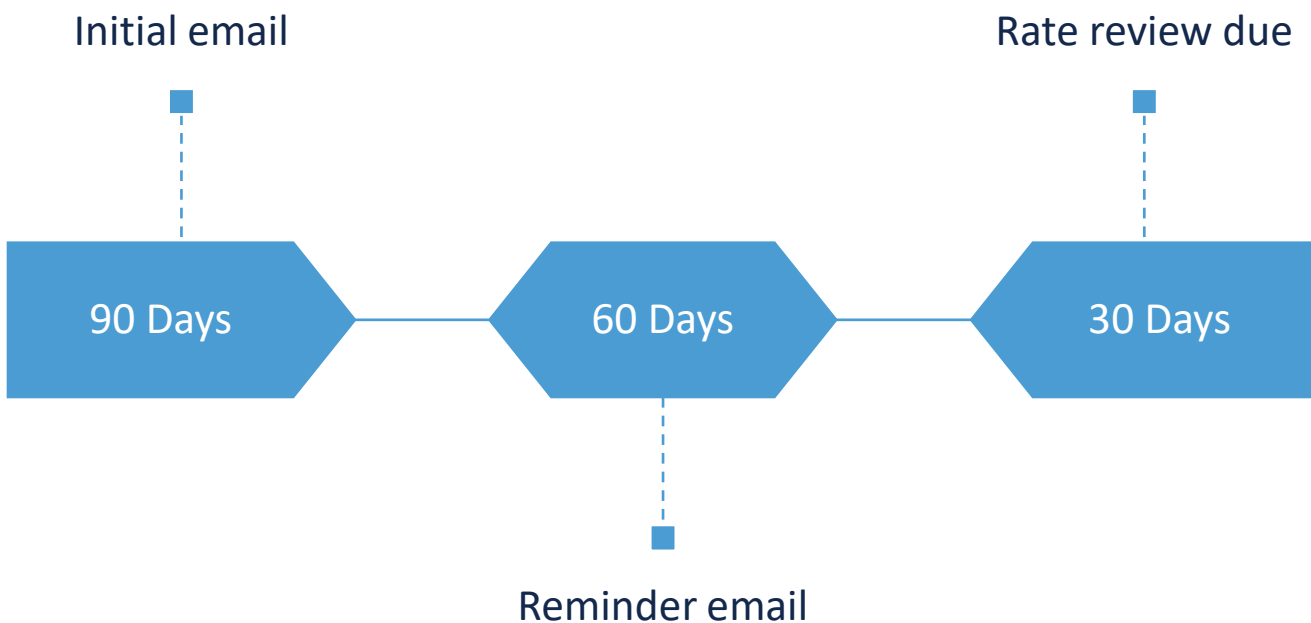
15

Average Time  
for LCCC

9



# Additional notice



Message: Dear Research Service Center Administrator,

The Office of Sponsored Research (OSR) has completed an evaluation of all identified Research Service Centers (RSCs) and has determined that the Fake Account , 0111111 does not have a current recharge rate review on file.

Attached are copies of the operating plan and rate development worksheet; both of which must be completed for the RSC rate review process. Two separate rate development worksheets are attached: one which includes a subsidy and one without a subsidy. Please choose which template is required for your RSC and complete only one of the two templates. If the RSC is subsidized, and a specific group of members receives the benefit of the subsidy – please use the “With Member Subsidy” template. If the subsidy provides a similar benefit to all internal customers, please use the “No Member Subsidy” template.

Note: Please use our rate development worksheet template. The template includes current figures for university F&A and fringe benefit rates. The use of our template will allow us to improve efficiency.

The following link, to the current RSC policy and operating guidelines, may assist you in the rate development and review process:

<https://policies.unc.edu/TDClient/2833/Portal/KB/ArticleDet?ID=132339>

If you need additional assistance, the OSR Cost Analysis unit is available for questions ([rsupport@unc.edu](mailto:rsupport@unc.edu)).

The requested documents must be completed and returned to [rsupport@unc.edu](mailto:rsupport@unc.edu), no later than 04/01/22.

Thank you very much for your assistance.



# What's the status?

- On Hold
- Review Documents Requested
- Review Documents Received
- Analyst Starts Review
- Forms Sent to CA&CE Manager
- CA&CE Manager Returns Forms to Analyst
- Forms Sent to Department
- Forms Returned to OSP
- Analyst Preparing Final Docs
- Forms Sent to CA&C Director
- Director Returns Forms to Analyst
- Signed Forms Sent to Department
- Review Finalized - Current

Source	Status	Review Group	Review End Period	Next Review Needed By	Account Name	Current Status	Due Date	Offcycle	RSC Assignment	Dept Comments Review
<b>Total</b>			Count	<b>42</b>						
▼ Review Group		<b>A</b>	Count	<b>7</b>						
19437	●	A	06/30/22	02/05/16	COMPUTER SERVICES RECHARGE CENTE	Review Documents Re		<input type="checkbox"/>		
19451	●	A	06/30/22	09/17/16	CHOLINEL METHIONE METABOLITES (forme	Analyst Starts Review		<input type="checkbox"/>		
19576	●	A	06/30/22	04/14/17	SHEPS CENTER DEPARTMENTAL RECHAR	Review Documents Re		<input type="checkbox"/>		
19624	●	A	06/30/22	07/28/19	NUTRIGENETICS & NUTRIGENOMICS (NGX	Forms Sent to Departm		<input type="checkbox"/>		
19627	●	A	06/30/22	02/15/20	NRI METABOLOMICS AND METABOLIC PHE	Review Documents Re		<input type="checkbox"/>		
19524	●	A	06/30/22	02/23/20	PHARMACY NMR FACILITY	Analyst Starts Review		<input type="checkbox"/>		
19511	●	A	06/30/22	03/01/20	BIOMARKER MASS SPECTROMETRY CORE	Analyst Starts Review		<input type="checkbox"/>		
▼ Review Group		<b>B</b>	Count	<b>14</b>						
19577	●	B	09/30/22	05/01/20	RESEARCH COMPUTING NETWORK	Forms Sent to Departm		<input type="checkbox"/>		
19529	●	B	09/30/22	10/24/20	IMS SAMPLE ANALYSIS RECHARGE	Forms Sent to Departm		<input type="checkbox"/>		
19525	●	B	09/30/22	10/25/20	Chemistry NMR Core	Forms Sent to Departm		<input type="checkbox"/>		
19461	●	B	09/30/22	11/08/20	PLANT GROWTH FACILITY	Forms Sent to Departm	10/28/22	<input type="checkbox"/>	MK Meghan Kraft	
19632	●	B	09/30/22	12/17/20	HYPERPOLARIZED XENON GAS			<input type="checkbox"/>		
19546	●	B	09/30/22	01/08/21	NC TRACS DATA & ANAL			<input type="checkbox"/>		
19568	●	B	09/30/22	01/16/21	ELECTRON MICROSCOPY FACILITY	Review Documents Re		<input type="checkbox"/>		
19601	●	B	09/30/22	01/24/21	ANALYTICAL GEOCHEMISTRY LAB	Forms Sent to Departm		<input type="checkbox"/>		
19510	●	B	09/30/22	02/11/21	ELECTRONICS	Review Documents Re		<input type="checkbox"/>	MK Meghan Kraft	
19463	●	B	09/30/22	02/13/21	HIGH THROUGHPUT PEPTIDE	Analyst Starts Review		<input type="checkbox"/>	J james_pike@unc.e	
19518	●	B	09/30/22	02/20/21	GLASS SHOP	Review Documents Re		<input type="checkbox"/>		
19634	●	B	09/30/22	02/27/21	MASS CYTOMETRY CORE			<input type="checkbox"/>		
19538	●	B	09/30/22	03/12/21	COLLAGEN ANALYSIS-YAMAUCHI			<input type="checkbox"/>		
19584	●	B	09/30/22	04/11/21	GULLEY RESEARCH LAB			<input type="checkbox"/>		
▼ Review Group		<b>C</b>	Count	<b>8</b>						
19526	●	C	12/31/22	04/30/21	ONCOLOGY PROTOCOL	Review Documents Re		<input type="checkbox"/>		
19611	●	C	12/31/22	05/13/21	SHEPS PROGRAMMING AND COMPUTING	Review Documents Re		<input type="checkbox"/>		
19516	●	C	12/31/22	07/31/21	VIRONOMICS CORE FACILITY	Review Documents Re		<input type="checkbox"/>		
19579	●	C	12/31/22	07/31/21	ANIMAL CLINIC LAB	Forms Sent to Departm		<input type="checkbox"/>		

# Financial Reporting

Creating accessible and convenient financial reporting tools

Provide real-time information and ability to analyze at multiple levels

Users: Core Directors, core staff, school/department leadership

Partnering with OVCR to create reports within Tableau



# Website

## Short-Term

- Creating webpage hosted by Office of Sponsored Programs
- Includes contact information, resources, FAQs, suggestion box

## Long-Term

- Website dedicated to all cores across UNC
- Database containing equipment and services offered by each core
- Internal and external marketing resources
- Portal to submit and track rate reviews / Smartsheet
- Job board / hiring resources



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# Additional Question

**Will there be any support for billing for Cores? One issue across all the Cores we work with is challenges in invoicing, tracking, and receiving of payments.**

Yes, the Research Core Development Team is exploring options to improve core billing, including increasing enrollment and use of iLab. Additional training and high-level central office support will be offered to cores using the iLab system. We are still working on the specific details but hope to be able to provide more information soon.





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*of* NORTH CAROLINA  
*at* CHAPEL HILL