

## **SIP Questions/Answers raised during the June 2015 AU SPAN Meeting**

**Q:** Can a Frequently Asked Questions page be made available online?

**A:** Amanda Malone, Special Assistant to the Provost for Budget Management, can answer questions about the existing policy and new implementation guidelines. The policy and guidelines are available at [http://www.auburn.edu/academic/provost/announcements/Scholarship\\_Incentive\\_Program.html](http://www.auburn.edu/academic/provost/announcements/Scholarship_Incentive_Program.html)

**Q:** Can investigators change their percent allocation each year of a multi-year project?

**A:** Yes. However, changes for faculty allocations will not be processed unless the change involves new, resigned, terminated or retired investigators or includes a modification to the awarded amount or scope of work that impacts an Investigator's effort on a project.

**Q:** What should unit-level implementation guidelines include?

**A:** College/school/unit-level implementation guidelines must include the minimum elements outlined in the FY15 implementation guidelines. Each college/school/unit can include other criteria as needed. Any internal revenue/cost sharing agreements (i.e. salary savings agreements, indirect cost recovery agreements) that would reduce the SIP payment amount should be included in the college/school/unit-level guidelines.

**Q:** How will the SIP award eligibility criteria be determined for sponsors without a specific award amount or with an estimated contract ceiling (such as a payment-upon-services-rendered agreement or a task order contract)?

**A:** The amount invoiced and paid by the end of the fiscal year for services-rendered agreements or the amount of each individual task order awarded under a task order contract will determine the eligibility and payment percentages for each investigator. Allocation credit to each investigator may reduce the SIP payment percentage for each participating investigator.

**Q:** If an investigator has a \$1M sponsored project and charges 2% of his/her time to the project, is he/she eligible for a SIP payment equal to 20% of his/her annual salary?

**A:** No. Assuming both faculty and sponsored project eligibility guidelines are met, the SIP payment will not exceed the amount of salary savings generated or 20% of his/her annual salary, whichever is lower. In this example, the SIP payment will not exceed 2% of his/her annual salary.