



# Team Eclectic Crü

Emerging Ethical Considerations  
for Public-Private Partnerships

# 2017 LITeS Team: Eclectic Crü



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# Disclosures

This presentation was prepared without:

- Federal funding
- Private industry support
- Gifts or donations from private donors
- Use of personal funds of team members
- Harm to animals



# Defining the Problem

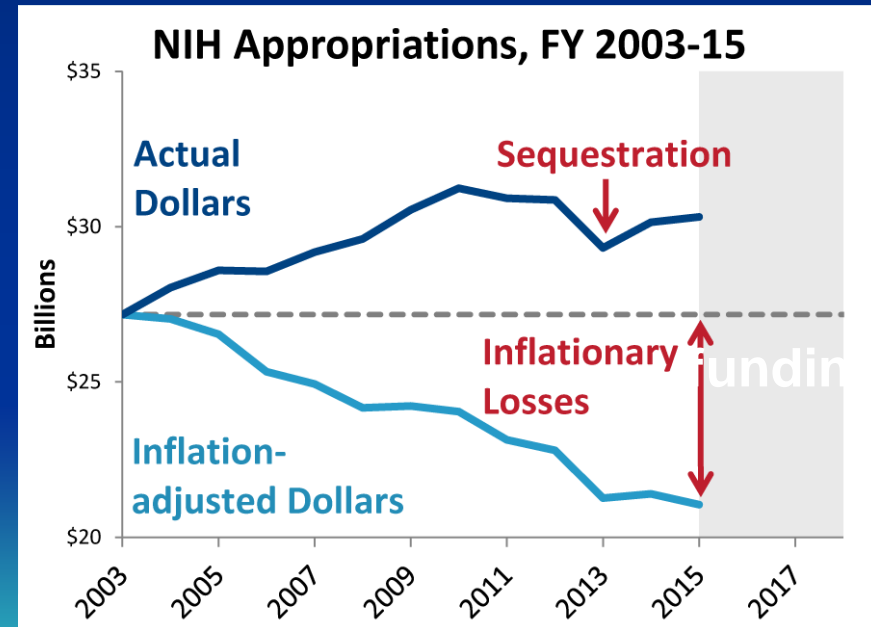
U.S. biological and medical research fell for >10 years

From FY 2003-15, the NIH lost 22% of capacity to fund research due to budget cuts, sequestration, and inflationary losses.

Reduced funding capacity=

- Fewer grants
- Fewer new discoveries
- Talented scientists leaving research

Deeper cuts in biomed research proposed by current administration.



# Filling the Gap

## Benefits:

- Additional resources
- Technology transfer
- Facilitate discovery
- Evidence based treatment

## Concerns:

- Conflict of interest
- Introduction of bias
- Loss of transparency
- Intellectual property
- Other ethical issues



# The current “navigation”

- [See video](#)



# Our LITES Task

## Recommendations:

- guide University-Private interactions
- ensure transparency
- minimize bias/conflicts in research
- maximize patient care and community interactions



# Priorities

- How to protect needs/interests of faculty?
- How to educate/support/guide faculty?





# Is CU Innovations the “answer”?

CU Innovations:

- great infrastructure

**BUT**

- no oversight of philanthropy or corporate gifts



# Way Forward

- Committee to review for \$\$\$ donations?
- “Navigator” as direct resource for faculty
- Education – bottom up and top down



# Proposal by Center for Bioethics

- Working toward developing a campus policy on external support (“gifts”)
- Report being developed by: Matthew Wynia, Steve Lowenstein, Alison Lakin, Steve Zweck-Bronner, Scott Arthur



# Proposed policy: 3 goals

- 1) Ensure integrity of university faculty and staff
- 2) Protect academic freedom of university faculty and staff
- 3) Support receipt of external gifts fully consistent with core values and mission



# Prospective Institutional Integrity Review Committee (PIIRC)

***Proposed mission:*** “protect the institutional integrity of the university and support the work of faculty members who seek to achieve positive, productive partnerships with external individuals or organizations by ensuring robust ethical review and an appropriate level of risk management planning for all gifts received by the university.”



- Recommendations for accepting, modifying or rejecting proposed corporate gifts
- Communicate with the Office of Research Compliance
- Risk mitigation steps: e.g. training and education to faculty, staff, other involved parties, develop plans for periodic monitoring of use of funds



# Issues to consider

- **Size of gift:** <\$100k (no PIIRC; formal approval from supervisor)
  - \$100k - \$1,000,000: PIIRC recommendation
  - >\$1,000,000: same and Chancellor approval
- **Source of gift** (health-related products, negative publicity, other large gifts, etc.)
- **Risk:** need for a risk mitigation plan



# Proposed educational approach

Disclosure as routine part of institutional culture

- Standard disclosure as slide 1 of all lectures

Faculty as role models to trainees by demonstrating understanding of and adherence to COI/disclosure policy





# Proposed educational approach

- Fundamental education should be required; higher level education easily available
- Navigator support for additional education to ensure adherence



# Take-home

Provide a comprehensive navigation service to protect interests and scholarship of faculty

Minimize risk to faculty and University

Provide education that creates culture of ethics, not merely compliance



- establish mechanisms to ensure adequate prospective ethical review of proposed gifts
- standard checklists
- local review by relevant faculty leadership
- review by PIIRC or other delegated entity
- suggest management plans to mitigate risks

