



Documenting Outputs and Outcomes: Tracking EPSCoR Impacts on Research Capacity

**Dr. Jennifer M. Schopf
Program Officer
OD/OIA/EPSCoR**

May 17, 2011



Think Bigger

We seek solutions.

We don't seek—

dare I say this?—

just scientific papers anymore.

Steven Chu
Nobel Laureate
US Secretary of Energy

UC Berkeley energy conference, March 2007



Outputs and Outcomes

- Consequences and effects of receiving the awards
- End results and products
 - Publications, course dev't, graduated students
 - Additional students in STEM pipeline
 - Educating the public to identify invasive species
 - Creating tools for use by policy makers
- Try to be creative and think about the bigger picture



What is Impact?

- Consequence, effect, impression, influence, reaction, repercussion, result, significance, thrust, weight
- More than just a head count or publication list
- This should answer
 - so what
 - what difference does this make
 - what will change now that that occurred
 - how will this extend beyond the project participants



How do we use this information

- Communication to rest of NSF and NSB
- Responses to questions from Congress, OSTP, and others
 - EICC reporting
- Longitudinal study of awards



All Reports

- Succinct, and to the point
- Only talk about this reporting cycle
 - Annual report full 12 months
 - Final report can include some overview as well
- Written so that anyone in the project can understand
- Address any PTCs and reviewer concerns (incl rsv)
- Discuss strategic plans (if appropriate)
- Talk about the evaluation process and feedback loop
 - And results of any evaluation in the last year
- Discuss succession/transition planning

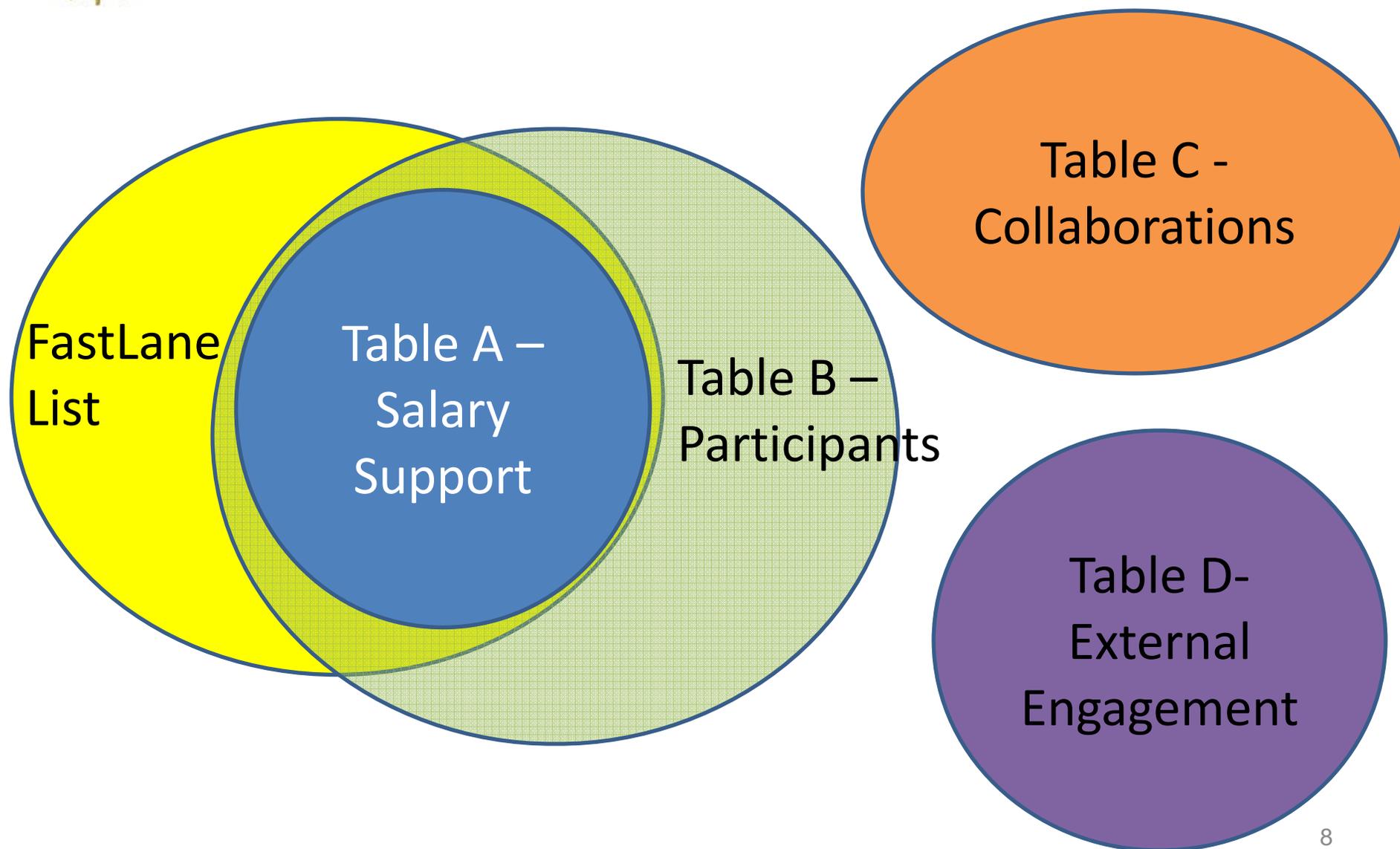


Track-1 Reporting Templates

- Updated for January 2011
 - Increased notes, explanations, examples
- Think about the cross links
 - Example 1:
 - Template A reports salary including other grants
 - Template E reports outputs, including external funding
 - Example 2:
 - Template E lists publication numbers
 - Report includes a list of publications



Track-1 Templates: Who's Who





Other Reporting Guidelines

- Track-2
 - Be sure to address both overall project goals as well as your jurisdiction specific work
- C2
 - Be sure to address all award facets in addition to the networking ones



Obligated Funds

- **Obligated Funds** have a contract or purchase order in place
 - Eg faculty salary, or equipment with a PO out
 - We do not use the word "encumbered" – each institution defines this differently
- If you expect to have more than 20% of your funds unobligated at the end of the reporting period **for any award** you must submit spending plan and timeline for the expenditure of those funds , including details of how the money will be spent
- At the end of the reporting period, if there are more than 20% of the funds left unobligated
 - SRO must prepare a request for carryover, including timeline
 - Requires NSF EPSCoR approval
 - It is not automatic



Timing

- Annual reports are due 90 days before the award date anniversary
- Final reports are due on the project anniversary, and overdue 90 days after



Overall- Think Impact

- We had a meeting on date.
 - We had 150 people meet to discuss X, which has resulted in Y collaborations and Z differences to the project
 - Stakeholders from A and B weighed in on project objectives, and because of this, we have altered our timelines to make sure we address C in the next year
- 10 students participated in summer REUs
 - X students changed to STEM majors
 - Y students decided to go to grad school
 - Z students continued work during the year
- Think about significant results



Questions?

- Jennifer Schopf
- jms@nsf.gov