

# DIMENSIONS of DISCOVERY

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH » Spring 2012, Vol. 3 Issue 3

<https://dev.www.purdue.edu/research/vpr/publications/docs/dimensions/spring2012.pdf>

## OVPR Creates Research Quality Assurance Unit

The Office of the Vice President for Research has established the Research Quality Assurance Unit (RQAU) within the Research Integrity and Regulatory Affairs area. Designed to review and monitor Purdue's research administration and research regulatory compliance practices and provide leadership when conducting comprehensive reviews of the university's compliance activities, the RQAU will coordinate education and training of principal investigators, project staff, and departmental and business office staff regarding compliance with federal and state regulation and Purdue policies relating to research.

"The RQAU will not assume the duties of the operational regulatory or business areas, and all ongoing compliance and sponsored program support activities will continue in their existing reporting structures," says **Mike Szczepanski**, who leads the office. "Rather, the new unit's role will be to monitor these efforts and assess University-wide performance."

Szczepanski previously worked as the quality assurance monitor for Financial Management and held other positions in Sponsored Program Services (SPS) and Business Services Computing. His office is Young Hall 749. Contact him at 496-6653 or [mikes@purdue.edu](mailto:mikes@purdue.edu).

Working with him are **Tom Wright** and **Randy Bryant**. Wright brings knowledge from his previous position in SPS as the senior operations manager for Financial Compliance & Audit. Wright's office is Young Hall 744. Contact him at 494-1047 or [tbwright@purdue.edu](mailto:tbwright@purdue.edu).

Bryant comes to the OVPR from SPS, where he was the training coordinator. Previously he worked on the OnePurdue implementation. Bryant's office is Young Hall 747. Contact him at 494-8715 or [rbryant@purdue.edu](mailto:rbryant@purdue.edu).

The RQAU was formed in late 2011 and will be comprised of five to six staff with knowledge in financial, sponsored program management and research regulatory areas. "Over the past several years, the number, size and complexity of sponsored projects awarded to Purdue researchers (faculty) have increased many fold," says Szczepanski. "This presents increasing challenges to Purdue faculty, OVPR regula-

tory staff and Sponsored Programs Services staff in their responsibilities to assure compliance with applicable federal, state, and University policies and regulations."

For more information or to request assistance, contact Szczepanski at [mikes@purdue.edu](mailto:mikes@purdue.edu). ■