STAR | STRENGTHENING ADMINISTRATION OF RESEARCH

2021 Workshop Series

- Welcome! Thank you for joining us. The workshop will begin shortly.
- Please check that you are on mute and your video is off.
- This workshop will be recorded.

2021 Workshop Series

My Research Applications & Agreements (MRA) Renewal Initiative

June 28, 2021, 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

STAR | STRENGTHENING ADMINISTRATION OF RESEARCH

DIVISION OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, RESEARCH & INNOVATION

2021 Workshop Series

Presenters:

- Robert Dirstein, Project Manager/Analyst, Information Technology Services
- Peter Schwarz-Lam, Business Process Integration Manager, Division of the Vice-President, Research & Innovation (VPRI)
- Safa Faidi, Service Engagement Coordinator, VPRI

Land Acknowledgement

"I (we) wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land."

Access Check

Access is a shared responsibility between everyone in this workshop.

- Is there anything (presenter screen, sound) that may affect your participation in this session?
- For any other general access issues, please use the Zoom chat to send a private chat message to *Alexandra Candib*

Outcomes

During this session, you will:

- Learn about the changes coming to MRA
- Know where to find more information about the MRA renewal initiative
- Learn about opportunities to become involved in this initiative

Agenda

- Evolution of U of T Research Administrative Systems
- MRA Renewal Initiative
- Renewed MRA System Demo
- Useful Resources
- Q&A

Participant Poll

Which of the following MRA roles apply to you? (results)

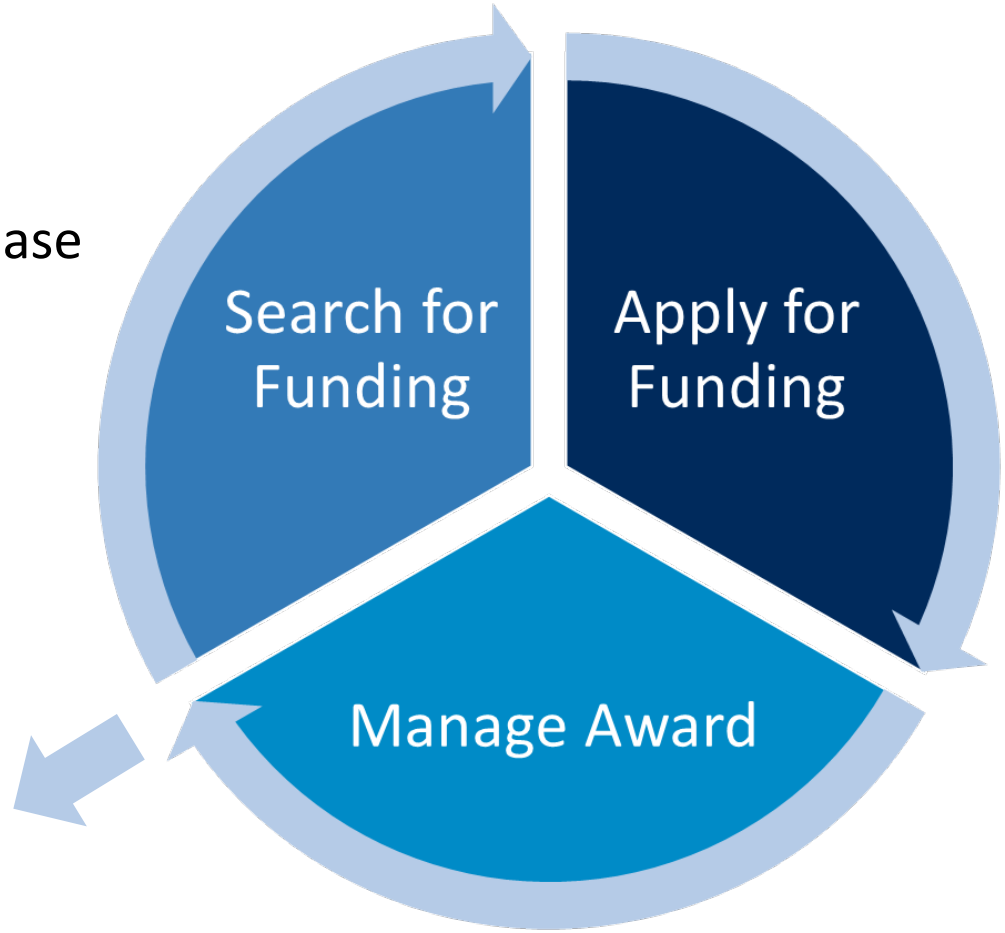
1. Principal Investigator 7%
2. Principal Investigator Assistant 18%
3. Divisional Approver 6%
4. University Approver 10%
5. Business Officer 40%
6. Other 27%
7. I don't currently use MRA 11%

Research Funding Life Cycle

Funding Opportunities Database

Pivot

Research Alerts



My Research Applications & Agreements (MRA)

SIG System

My Research Animal Protocol (MRAP)

My Research Human Protocol (MRHP)

Data Analytics

R&I Dashboards

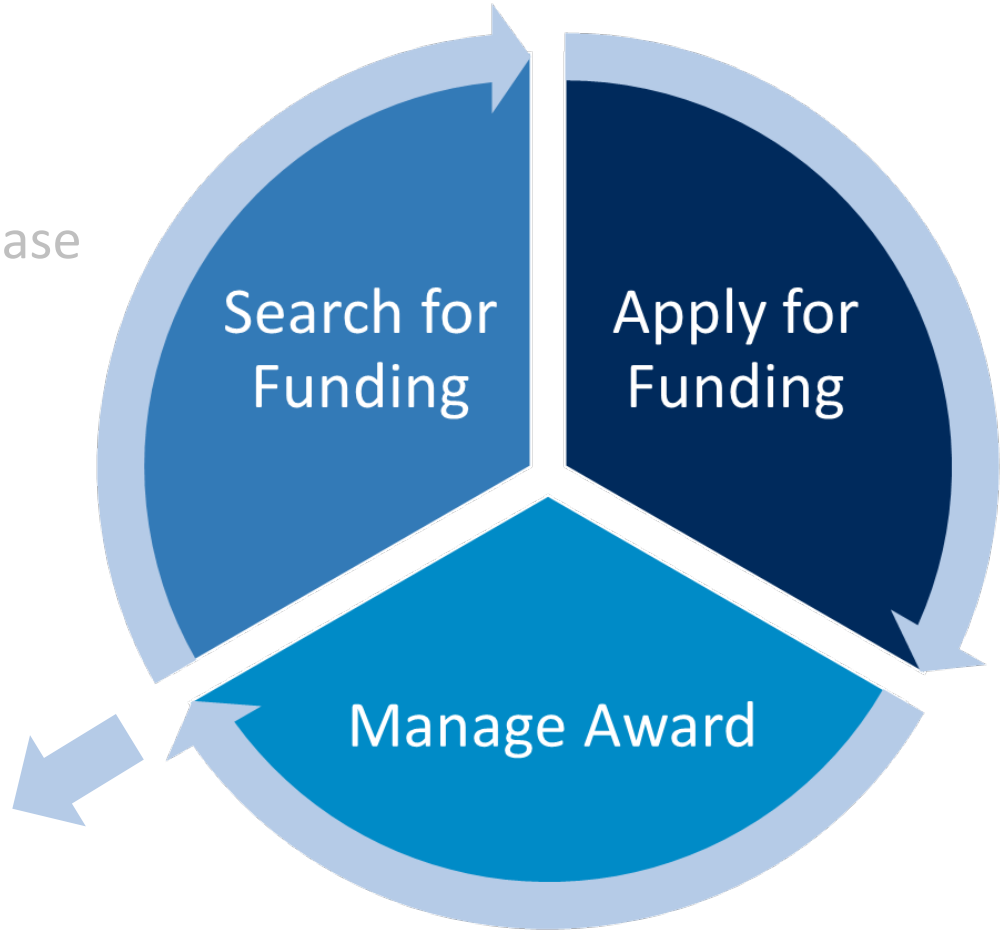
My Research On Line (MROL)

Research Funding Life Cycle

Funding Opportunities Database

Pivot

Research Alerts



My Research Applications & Agreements (MRA)

SIG System

My Research Animal Protocol (MRAP)

My Research Human Protocol (MRHP)

Data Analytics

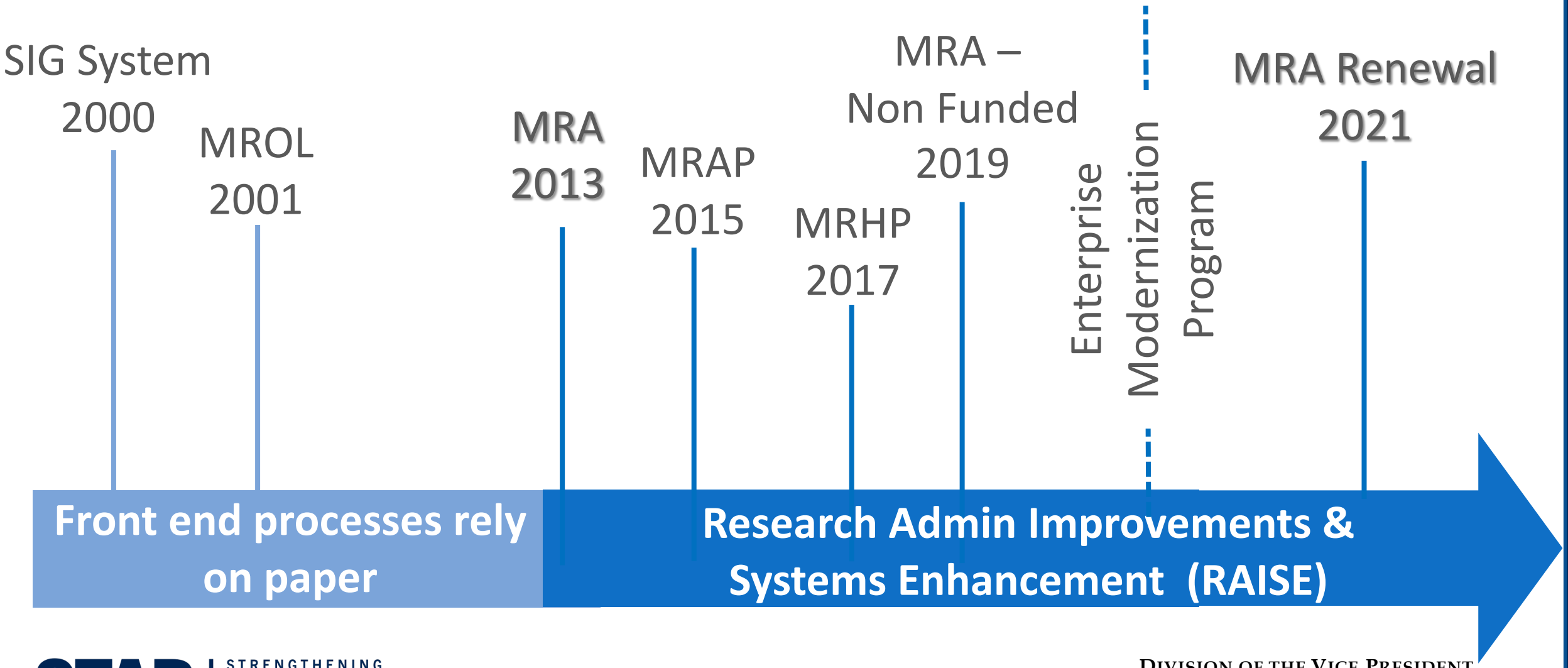
R&I Dashboards

My Research On Line (MROL)

My Research

- My Research On Line (**MROL**)
- My Research Animal Protocol (**MRAP**)
- My Research Human Protocol (**MRHP**)
- My Research Applications & Agreements (**MRA**)
  - Research Funding Applications ➡ 28,000 applications since 2013
  - Non-Funded Research Agreements ➡ 1,400 applications since 2019

The Evolution of My Research



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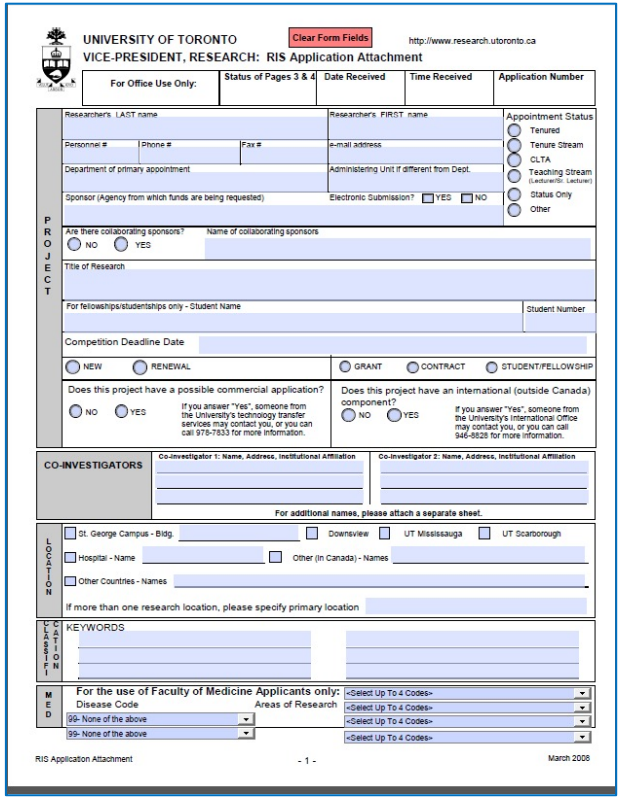
The Evolution of Funding Applications

The way we were



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
VICE-PRESIDENT, RESEARCH: RIS Application Attachment

Clear Form Fields

http://www.research.utoronto.ca

For Office Use Only:	Status of Pages 3 & 4	Date Received	Time Received	Application Number

PROJECT

Researcher's LAST name | Researcher's FIRST name | Appointment Status: Tenured, Tenure Stream, CLTA, Teaching Stream (Lecturer/Sr. Lecturer), Status Only, Other

Personnel # | Phone # | Fax # | e-mail address

Department of primary appointment | Administering Unit if different from Dept.

Sponsor (Agency from which funds are being requested) | Electronic Submission? YES NO

Are there collaborating sponsors? NO YES | Name of collaborating sponsors

Title of Research

For fellowships/studentships only - Student Name | Student Number

Competition Deadline Date

NEW RENEWAL | GRANT CONTRACT STUDENT/FELLOWSHIP

Does this project have a possible commercial application? NO YES — If you answer "Yes", someone from the University's technology transfer services may contact you, or you can call 978-7833 for more information.

Does this project have an international (outside Canada) component? NO YES — If you answer "Yes", someone from the University's International Office may contact you, or you can call 946-8826 for more information.

CO-INVESTIGATORS

Co-investigator 1: Name, Address, Institutional Affiliation | Co-investigator 2: Name, Address, Institutional Affiliation

For additional names, please attach a separate sheet.

LOCATION

St. George Campus - Bldg. | Downsview | UT Mississauga | UT Scarborough

Hospital - Name | Other (In Canada) - Names

Other Countries - Names

If more than one research location, please specify primary location

CLASSIFICATION

KEYWORDS

MED

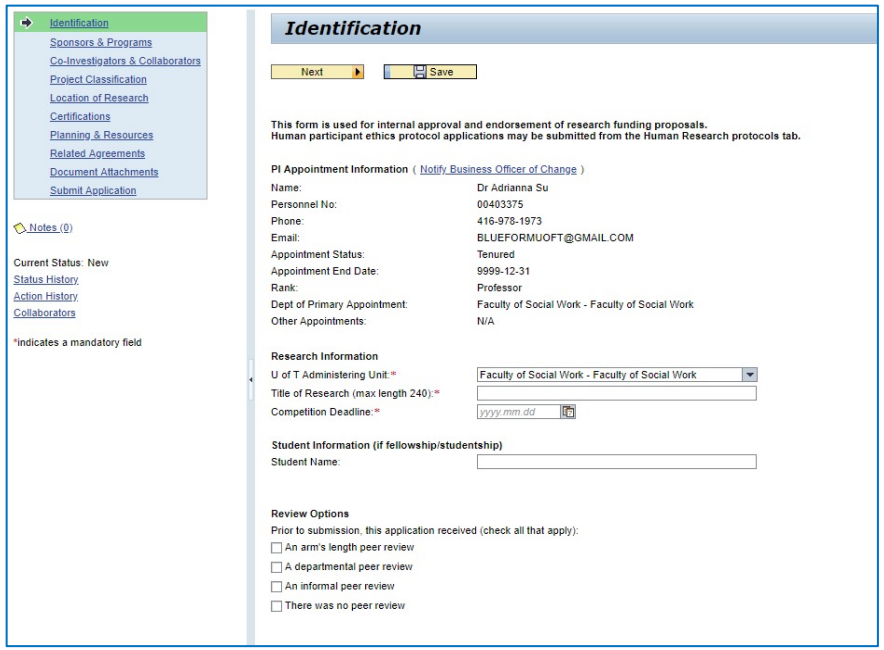
For the use of Faculty of Medicine Applicants only:

Disease Code: <Select Up To 4 Codes> | 99- None of the above | 99- None of the above

Areas of Research: <Select Up To 4 Codes> | <Select Up To 4 Codes> | <Select Up To 4 Codes>

RIS Application Attachment - 1 - March 2008

The way we are



- Identification
- Sponsors & Programs
- Co-Investigators & Collaborators
- Project Classification
- Location of Research
- Certifications
- Planning & Resources
- Related Agreements
- Document Attachments
- Submit Application

Notes (0)

Current Status: New
Status History
Action History
Collaborators

*indicates a mandatory field

Identification

Next | Save

This form is used for internal approval and endorsement of research funding proposals.
Human participant ethics protocol applications may be submitted from the Human Research protocols tab.

PI Appointment Information (Notify Business Officer of Change)

Name:	Dr Adrianna Su
Personnel No:	00403375
Phone:	416-978-1973
Email:	BLUEFORMUOFT@GMAIL.COM
Appointment Status:	Tenured
Appointment End Date:	9999-12-31
Rank:	Professor
Dept of Primary Appointment:	Faculty of Social Work - Faculty of Social Work
Other Appointments:	N/A

Research Information

U of T Administering Unit:* Faculty of Social Work - Faculty of Social Work
Title of Research (max length 240):*
Competition Deadline:* yyyy.mm.dd

Student Information (if fellowship/studentship)

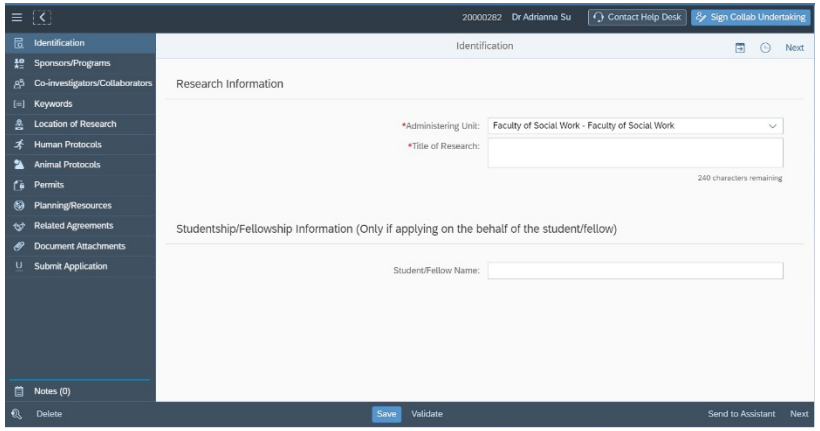
Student Name:

Review Options

Prior to submission, this application received (check all that apply):

- An arm's length peer review
- A departmental peer review
- An informal peer review
- There was no peer review

The way we will be



20000282 Dr Adrianna Su | Contact Help Desk | Sign Collab Undertaking

- Identification
- Sponsors/Programs
- Co-investigators/Collaborators
- Keywords
- Location of Research
- Human Protocols
- Animal Protocols
- Permits
- Planning/Resources
- Related Agreements
- Document Attachments
- Submit Application

Notes (0)

Identification — Next

Research Information

*Administering Unit: Faculty of Social Work - Faculty of Social Work
*Title of Research:
240 characters remaining

Studentship/Fellowship Information (Only if applying on the behalf of the student/fellow)

Student/Fellow Name:

Delete | Save | Validate | Send to Assistant | Next

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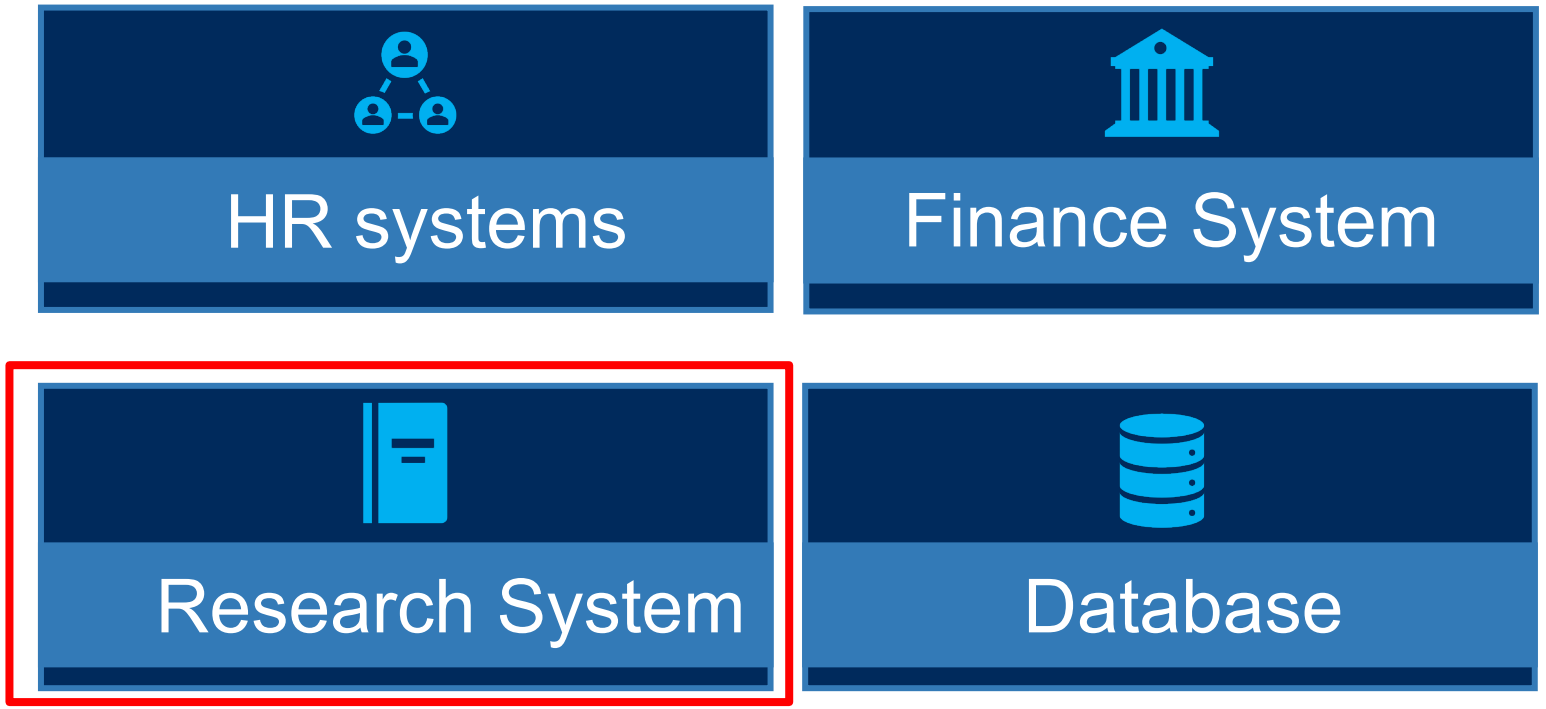
U of T Enterprise Modernization Program

- Upgrading **all systems** to the latest SAP technology to provide consistent, intuitive and streamlined user experience.



Participant Poll

I find the current MRA's… (results)

1. interface not adaptive to my screen and the double scroll bars are hard for navigation 59%
2. application error notifications unclear and easy to miss 34%
3. funding application long and time consuming 21%
4. subsections hard to navigate and confusing 43%
5. lack of mobile friendliness frustrating 21%
6. current features and functions perfect 12%

Identifying Our End-User Needs

- We consulted with key stakeholders through user consultation sessions to gather requirements for the new solution.

18 User Consultation Sessions

50+ Participants

Principal Investigators
University Approvers
Divisional Approvers
Business Officers

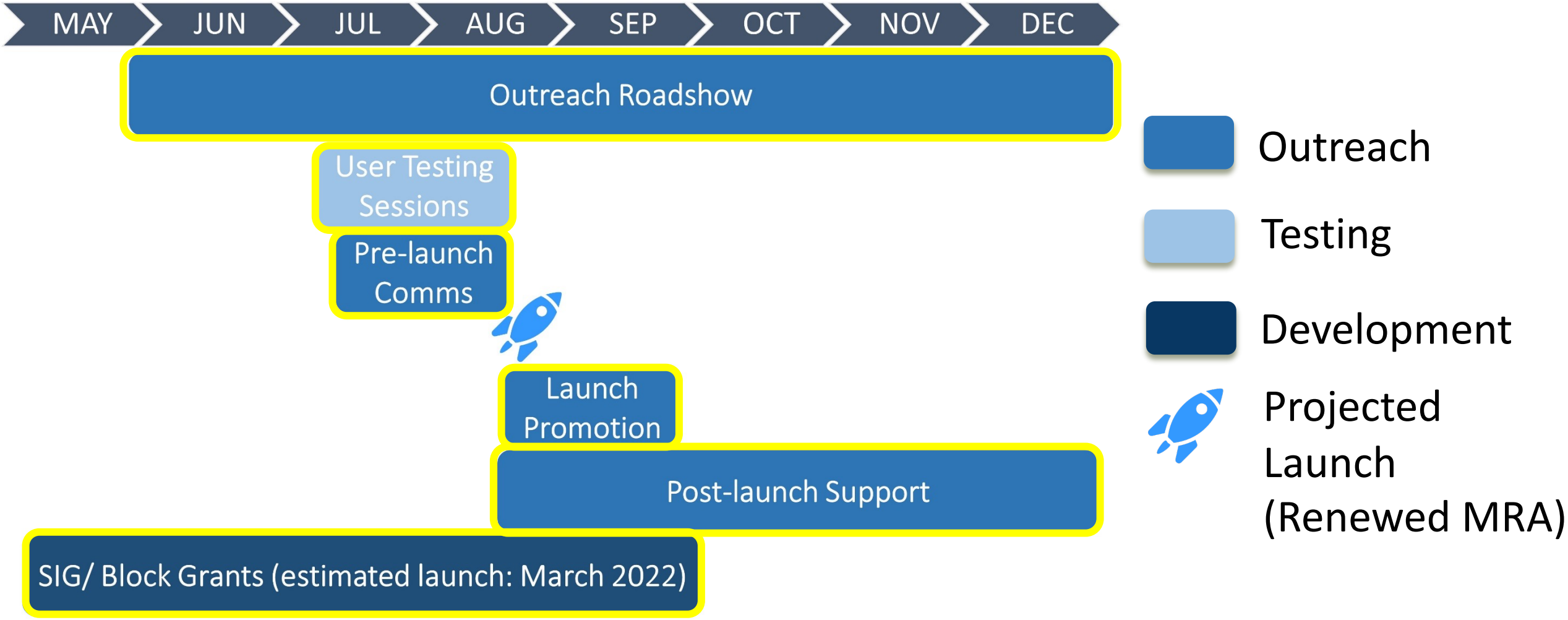
What Can End-Users Look Forward To?

- ✓ Modernized and adaptive user interface (mobile friendlier!)
- ✓ Detailed application error notifications
- ✓ Streamlined MRA form
- ✓ Improved system performance (faster response times, fewer time-outs)
- ✓ Integrated SSHRC Institutional Grants (SIG) and other block grant management tools

SIG/Block Grant Management Tools

- The current SIG system operates on outdated technology and is difficult to support
- Rolling it into MRA makes for a consistent and modernized process
- This new tool is anticipated to extend to other block grants in the future

Project Roadmap



Renewed MRA System Demo

Please refer to the video recording for the demo

After the renewed MRA goes live:

- Users can complete applications that are in progress in the old system but any new applications will have to be done in the new system
- Migration of all existing applications to the new system will take place after the launch date (stay tuned for additional details!)

Participant Poll

Which of the new MRA features we covered today do you think you'll find useful?

Please type your answer in the chat!

User Testing Opportunities

- Users were invited to participate in our testing sessions to validate the functionality of the new MRA system

13 User Testing Sessions

20+ Participants

Resources

research.utoronto.ca

Information on:

- Workshops & training opportunities
- User testing sessions
- Launch date and key launch communication

Resources

VPRI Contact

For MRA Renewal Initiative Inquiries

Safa Faidi
Service Engagement Coordinator
Portfolio Operations (PO)
(416) 946-8593
safa.faidi@utoronto.ca

For Technical Inquiries About MRA Submissions

RAISE Help Desk

Portfolio Operations (PO)
(416) 946-5000
raise@utoronto.ca

Questions?

Still Have Questions?

Contact Us:

- https://research.utoronto.ca/contact-us

Feedback, please!

Thank you for participating!