**GRA Project Extension Policy**

The Georgia Research Alliance is focused on maintaining our high output for projects funded under our Phase I and Phase II grants. Because GRA focuses on translational research, funding is deployed according to the proposed budgets and timelines that are approved under each proposal. We certainly understand that both administrative and scientific or technical delays may occur; however, our funding is to augment basic grant funding and should help projects maintain momentum and speed akin to industry projects. As such, extensions should not be considered at “no-cost,” but rather a lost opportunity for those funds to be made available to other projects.

As such, GRA adheres to the following Project Extension request guidelines:

1. Any proposed project extension requests should have an appropriate justification for the extension, such as procurement or sourcing delays, unspent funds to be reallocated toward future work or additional work under the same phase, and administrative or award setup delays.
2. The request should come from the university representative and should include a revised budget and timeline to reflect the delays or reallocations in line with the proposed extension.
3. Extensions will be reviewed by the GRA team on a case-by-case basis in our standard proposal queue, and as such should provide ample time to review or meet with the teams prior to project expiration.
4. Any project extension request of longer than 6 months after expiration will require an update meeting with the GRA team. Any second extension (or subsequent) request will require a similar meeting.
5. If extensions are approved, project teams will be expected to continue to submit semi-annual reports to GRA while any funds remain unspent.

As outlined in our faculty engagement letters and award letters, if a project expires without an extension being approved, GRA requires the return of unspent funds.