



SPR Reporting: New Observations and Discussion

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SPR Group Exercise

- Arrange in groups according to the colors on your name badge
- Each group will have 7 minutes to discuss each scenario (6 total)
 - You choose alternate discussion leaders for each scenario
- Share-out sessions:
 - Return to your table at the midway point (after three scenarios), reconvene with your standing group to discuss the final three scenarios, then return to your table again at the end to discuss the final three.
 - One spokesperson from each group will be assigned to report on one scenario
- There will be time for general questions/discussion at the end



Personnel Scenario

For one project, in the budget description under Salaries/Wages/Benefits it states:

Salaries of the State Library staff members in the Information Services department who performed IT work for the State Library and provided support to public libraries. LSTA and matching funds were used.

How could this description have been better written to capture the use of \$190,000 in salaries?

Red Team: Spokesperson



Cohesion Scenario

A SPR project describes a reading program in the abstract and in the overall project outcomes. However, the budget covers the purchasing of circulating iPads and an Activity suggests staff were hired to offer classes. How could this project be conveyed more cohesively throughout the report?



Allowable Costs Scenario

A grant project was described as follows:

While the economy has gotten better in some states, this is not the case for us. As a result, the State Library provided licenses for trustees to access Trustee Academy online trainings from United for Libraries. The goal was to help 20 trustees become proficient advocates on behalf of libraries providing them with innovative ways to increase public funding of their libraries. Upon completion of the program, the SLAA sent participants a “vote for libraries” T-shirt.

How would you evaluate this project based on allowable cost principles? How would you suggest they correct this?

Green Team: Spokesperson

Discussion



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Personnel Scenario: Discussion

- Lists of position title(s)
- FTE data
- Specific project alignment of work
- Distinguishing between LSTA and match



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Cohesion Scenario: Discussion

- When writing reports, make sure that the abstract and project outcome information account for all report components (budget, activities, etc.)
- Resources cited in Activity abstracts and data should ideally correspond to a budget item (instructor time as in-kind match)
- Any purchases of “general purpose” materials should indicate how it was used to further the project’s goals



Allowable Costs Scenario

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Green Team: Spokesperson



Allowable Costs Scenario: Discussion

- Address Advocacy- unallowable
- Provide guidance to grantees on allowable costs. Cite 2 CFR 200 to communicate that apparel is not permitted
- Be vigilant of these risky costs at the onset of a project

Return to Scenario Groups



Communication Scenario

A STEM project involving partners in the tech world who were new to libraries didn't go as planned. Under "explain one or two lessons learned," the report states:

"We weren't able to accomplish anything because of our disappointing partners who didn't hold up their end of the deal. We regret wasting grant money and understand if you never give us any more again."

How could this report be revised?

Yellow Team: Spokesperson



SPR Framework Scenario

As part of a statewide technology mini-grants project, several recipients used the funds in vastly different ways: creating an early learning center, updating their public access computers, provide high-quality scans for digitization projects, etc. What are some of the reporting issues here?

Black Team: Spokesperson



Misplaced Information Scenario

The grant abstract said:

Grants were given to a number of libraries to assist them in providing help for users looking for job information.

In the budget area the Other Operational box said:

Workforce grants were given to 10 libraries using \$100,000 of LSTA funds and \$10,000 Match-Other funds

How should this information have been listed in the SPR report to reflect a subgrant program?

Orange Team: Spokesperson

Discussion



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Yellow Team: Spokesperson



Communication Scenario: Discussion

- Identify lessons learned in failures
- Offer advice to those thinking about implementing similar projects
- Be objective, yet specific, in the reasons a project didn't go as planned (without pointing fingers)



SPR Framework Scenario

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SPR Framework: Discussion

- Procurement vs. Acquisition: it's all about context
- Some purchases may merit multiple activities to account for the distinct data captured (i.e., scanning equipment that resulted in digitized items)
- “Reverse engineer” which activity to choose based on its mode
- Assess whether this is a valid “single-project” vs. multiple projects (intents)

Black Team: Spokesperson



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Orange Team: Spokesperson



Misplaced Information Scenario: Discussion

- The Other Operational Expenses costs box should have only indirect costs listed
- Implications when specific recipient info is not in the appropriate location: Locale
- The budget description is insufficient
- More detail regarding the match costs is necessary

Orange Team: Spokesperson

Overall Discussion and Q&A