

Report on Research Compliance Volume 15, Number 1. January 31, 2018 After Failure of GSI, NIH's 2nd Try Also Didn't Go As Hoped

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Remember that time when NIH officials said they were going to impose a cap on investigators' awards and everyone got upset? Or when, in the words of NIH Director Francis Collins, the grant support index (GSI) proposal faced a "blistering attack [and] had to get revised?"

And remember when agency leaders then promised that the directors of NIH's institute and centers (ICs) would review their portfolios with the idea of making more awards before the end of fiscal year (FY) 2017 to certain investigators?

Calling this an early iteration of the Next Generation Researchers Initiative (NGRI), they vowed to target investigators who:

- ◆ were "early stage" and had "applications that score in the top 25 percent"
- ◆ were "mid-career investigators with ≤ 10 years as a principal investigator" by "extending the payline for those about to lose all NIH funding" and "identifying rising stars who are seeking support for their second RPG [research project grant], but just missed the payline." Collins had said this would apply to those who "missed the payline but scored within the 25th percentile."

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