Appendix B – GSS NFR Debriefing Survey Questions

As part of the methodological research on the Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering (GSS), NSF is interested in learning more information about how the institutions define and identify doctorate-holding nonfaculty researchers (NFRs), other than postdocs. We have a few questions that we would like to ask you about the NFR data you reported to GSS.

A1. Does your organizational unit have a commonly used definition for doctorate-holding nonfaculty researchers, other than postdocs?
   __Yes (go to A2) __No

A2. [IF YES] What is the definition?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

A3. Please see the job titles below and provide additional job titles for the research staff employed in your organizational unit. Check the job title used to identify NFRs and provide any additional criteria used to report NFRs by each applicable job title.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job title</th>
<th>Check if this job title applies to NFRs</th>
<th>Comments or Additional criteria Used</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A4a Research scientist (any level – Principal, Senior, Full, Associate, Assistant)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A4b Research associate (any level)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A4c Research assistant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A4d Visiting scholar or fellow</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A4e Postdoctoral fellow or researcher</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A4f Instructor (any level)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A4g Research investigator</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A4h Other research staff – specify job title:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A5. How did you determine who is to include in your count as a NFR (a nonfaculty doctorate-holding researcher, other than a postdoc)?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
A6. Below is a table showing how you reported NFRs for your organizational unit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Doctoral degree type</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of nonfaculty researchers with a professional degree (such as MD, DVM, DO, or DDS)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of nonfaculty researchers with a doctoral degree (such as PhD, ScD, DEng)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of nonfaculty researchers with both a professional degree and a doctoral degree (such as MD-PhD, DVM-PhD)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of nonfaculty researchers with doctoral degree type unknown</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total nonfaculty researchers (sum rows A-D)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Did you have any difficulty in reporting doctoral degree type for the NFRs?
   __Yes (go to A6b)  __No (go to A6c)

b. [IF YES] What were the difficulties involved in reporting NFRs’ doctoral degree type?
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

c. Was it clear that the only professional degrees to be reported in the first doctoral type category were the doctorate-level professional degrees?
   __Yes  __No

[IF 2010 NFR # GTE (2009 NFR # * 1.15), GO TO SECTION B; OR ELSE GO TO SECTION C]

B1. It appears that the number of NFRs at your institution has increased significantly in the past few years. Your institution reported:
   <2009 NFR #> NFRs in 2009
   <2010 NFR #> NFRs in 2010
   <2011 NFR #> NFRs in 2011
   <2012 NFR #> NFRs in 2012

Has the definition and/or process you use to identify NFRs changed in the past few years?
   __Yes (go to B2)  __No (go to B3)

B2. [IF YES] Can you please explain what has changed? Please check all that apply.
   __B2a. More units were added that employ NFRs [ONLY FOR COORDINATORS]
   __B2b. NFR identification process was changed, e.g., pulling information from a central database
   __B2c. Institution adopted new definitions for NFRs
   __B2d. Other changes – please specify __________________________________________
B3. Can you explain the relatively large increase in the number of NFRs your institution reported in 2010 from 2009?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

[IF 2010 NFR # IS GT 2010 POSTDOC #, GO TO SECTION C; OR ELSE GO TO SECTION D]

C1. In 2010, you reported: <2010 NFR #> NFRs compared to <2010 POSTDOC #> postdocs. Is it possible that your institution may have included some postdocs in the number of NFRs in 2010?

   ___Yes  ___No

C1a. [IF YES] What are some of the difficulties your institution may have in reporting postdocs separately from NFRs?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

C1b. [IF NO] Can you provide any information that may help explain the higher number of NFRs than postdocs at your institution?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

[IF ZERO NFRS REPORTED, GO TO SECTION D]

D. Your school reported data on postdocs, but did not report other nonfaculty doctorate-holding researchers.

D1. Do you know whether your school has other nonfaculty doctorate-holding researchers (NFRs)?

   ___Yes (go to D2)  ___No (go to D3)

D2. [IF YES] Why were you unable to report the NFRs?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

D3. [IF SCHOOL HAS GTE 40 POSTDOCS] Most schools that report postdocs also report having NFRs. Although your institution reported <2010 POSTDOC #> postdocs in 2010, you did not report any NFRs. Can you provide any information that might be helpful to explain the differences?

______________________________________________________________________________

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______________________________________________________________________________