ENCOURAGING BIOSECURITY AWARENESS AND PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT IN THE LABORATORY

William S. Mellon, Ph.D.
Professor of Pharmaceutical
Sciences and Associate Dean for
Research Policy



HOW CAN LAB LEADERS CONVEY THE IMPORTANCE OF THEIR COMMITMENT TO BIOSECURITY AND PERSONNEL RELIABILITY?

- Campus climate Biosecurity Task Force
- Credibility of RO Trust relationship with PIs
- Begins with the RO Reciprocal communication between RO –- PI -- lab personnel.
- Campus visibility of RO and AROs.
- PIs actions and expectations high expectations for research outcomes, high expectations for compliance requirements.
- When an issue arises, responsible and consistent reactions.



HOW CAN LAB LEADERS BUILD AND FOSTER STRONG WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH LAB PERSONNEL?

- PIs must lead by example.
- Strong mentor not just with science but with the SA regulations.
- Build the relationship based on earned trust.
- Encourage feedback from personnel.
- Having the ability to reward managers (needs to be addressed nationally).
- Enhance techniques with knowledgeable campus investigators.



WHAT STRATEGIES FOR MAKING CONSIDERATION OF BIOSECURITY, DUAL USE RESEARCH, AND RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT OF RESEARCH A ROUTINE PART OF DAILY LIFE IN THE LAB?

- Biosecurity/Dual Use become topics for lab meetings.
- SA refresher training from annual presentation is reenforced throughout the year.
- Make AROs available to assist.
- Encourage personnel not to work alone "after hours".
- Campus efforts in RCR training and education.
- Consistency across research compliance areas.

