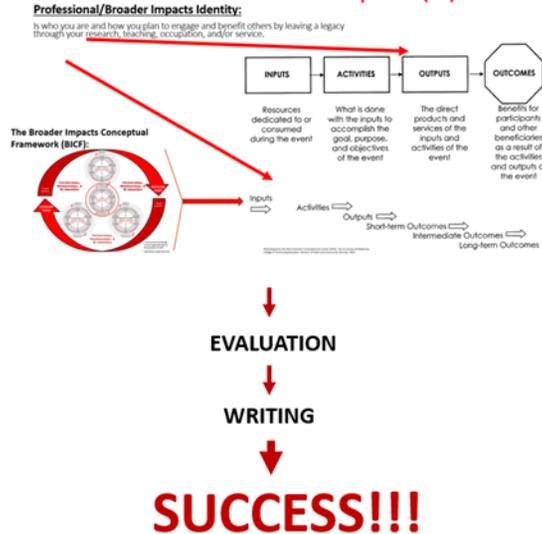


# BIR Highlights:

The [Office of the Vice President for Research](#) (OVPR) at the University of Oklahoma (OU) seeks to continuously innovate in order to better support faculty in achieving and surpassing their goals. “Think Big and Aspire” to help others be the best they can be is a VPR motto. The [Broader Impacts in Research \(BIR\) organization](#) was established as part of this initiative and thus seeks **to help all faculty** to be more impactful and successful in their professional endeavors. To achieve this, BIR employs the [research-based scholarly definition of broader impacts](#) [1], [2], [3], [4].

For NSF proposals, BIR uses this definition to assist faculty in addressing the **Five Basic Structures of Broader Impacts (BI)**. Through these five structures, BIR helps faculty to determine a [suitable evaluation plan](#). These structures are also used to allow faculty to develop a way to easily write their NSF broader impacts in a clear and concise fashion.

## The Five Structures of Broader Impacts (BI):



Two major aims of BIR are to help faculty achieve their proposal goals and evaluate if we are successful. BIR officially started January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014. Since that time BIR has utilized the OVPR Electronic Proposal Info-sheet ([EPI](#)) to help assess its’ efforts. **Table 1** provides the percentages of faculty who received NSF BI assistance, out of the number of faculty who submitted NSF proposals ([called Faculty Submits](#)). Data for 2017 provided until October 31<sup>st</sup>.

	Meetings and Phone Calls	Proposal Help Through Emails	Faculty Submits
2014	9.57%	2.13%	188
2015	10.65%	4.14%	169
2016	19.90%	8.68%	196
2017	11.57%	33.06%	121

Table 1. Faculty receiving BIR BI assistance

Next in **Table 2**, BIR provides the awarded NSF funding rate (FR) of those who received BIR BI assistance compared to the average NSF awarded funding rate for the University ([UFR](#)), specifically the Norman and Tulsa campuses. The 2017 complete data set is not yet available.  $Fsms^{FR\%}$  = funding rate from BIR help through meetings and phone calls;  $Smsp^{FR\%}$  = funding rate from proposal help through emails.

	$Fsms^{FR\%}$	$Smsp^{FR\%}$	University NSF Funding Rate
2014	22.20%	0	11.70%
2015	33.30%	28.57%	15.10%
2016	28.21%	29.41%	21.94%

Table 2. Percentage of faculty awarded NSF proposals who received assistance from BIR compared to the University NSF Funding Rate

In **Figure 1** below we provide the funding rates from those who received BIR assistance through meetings and phone calls ( $Fsms^{FR\%}$ ), proposal help through email ( $Smsp^{FR\%}$ ), the University NSF Funding Rate (UFR), and the NSF Competitive Awards Funding Rate ([CAFR](#)) and Research Grant Proposals Funding Rate ([RGPFER](#)) from the NSF Funding Profile Statistics document 2014-2016. The 2017 NSF funding profile is not yet available.

In addition, BIR also sends an email (with 15 items implemented in late 2015) to those who submit a NSF EPI. This email provides information over broader impacts for NSF proposals. The funding rates for who received this email is also included in the figure, it is labelled “ $Tmsp^{FR\%}$ ”. **Note: to show all colored bars the zeros (0s) represented in the figure have been changed to .01.**



Figure 1. Funding rate comparison from 2014 – 2016

**CONCLUSION:** Faculty who let BIR review their NSF BI were 10.50% (in 2014), 15.84% (in 2015), and 6.87% (in 2016) more likely to obtain funding than their peers. Faculty receiving assistance also averaged a [YOY](#) higher – (4% compared to CAFR) and (6% compared to RGPFER) award funding rate.