Dear Colleagues (Faculty Hosts and Department/College Administrators),

In the coming weeks you will be receiving several emails outlining new federally-mandated changes to J program regulations and how GRU plans to comply with these changes. Please carefully review this and the forthcoming emails regarding these important changes.

On October 6, 2014 federal authorities published new regulations in the 22 CFR Part 62 Exchange Visitor Program, Subpart A, General Provisions. These will become effective on January 5, 2015, except for the new insurance provisions, which will become effective on May 15, 2015.

Below are some changes to several areas of which you should be aware:

- Requirement for the Objective Measurement of English Language Proficiency for Exchange Visitors
- Requirement that the J program Responsible and Alternate Responsible Officers (IPSO) must develop “detailed knowledge of federal, state, and local laws pertaining to employment, including the Fair Labor Standards Act”
- Increases to J Program Health Insurance coverage minimums
- Additions to the SEVIS electronic record for which the J program is responsible:
  - Report email addresses for both J-1 exchange visitors and J-2 dependents
  - Report the departure from the U.S. of accompanying spouses and/or dependents IF PRIOR TO the exchange visitors’ planned departure date
  - Provide “Notice to US Department of State” “on or before the next business day” of any “serious problem or controversy”

As departmental hosts of J program Exchange Visitors it is important that you are familiar with these changes and their impact on your hosting responsibilities.

Thank you for your continuing good work on behalf of GRU.