



COS Funding Services Enhancements

April 2006

COS Funding Alert provides weekly updates about relevant funding information that is new or updated in COS Funding Opportunities. It enables individual researchers, research administrators, scholars and other professionals to create customized searches that alert them to new information about available funding that supports their specific interests.

While the information delivered by COS Funding Alert is pulled from the COS Funding Opportunities database, until now users had to set up the service separately from COS Funding Opportunities.

COS will soon release the latest version of COS Funding Alert, which will make it easier and more intuitive for users to build, save, track and manage alerts for funding that meets their needs:

Save COS Funding Opportunities searches as alert searches – With just a click of a button, a user can save a COS Funding Opportunities search as an alert search, rather than have to recreate a successful search that took much time to build and refine. At this time, she can also select whether she'd like to receive results in a weekly email. It's now easier to re-run a saved alert search, too.

Define up to 20 alert searches – users and liaisons who have more than one field of interest or who look for funding for multiple faculty members have asked to have more than 5 alert searches. Now they can have up to 20.

Receive weekly e-mails for the searches you select – If a user prefers to receive weekly emails for two saved alert searches, but not his other 18, she can simply go to his COS Workbench, and check the box for those two, and uncheck the box for the other 18. Of course he can see results for all of her alert searches on her COS Workbench.

Easily make changes to other preferences – A user just clicks on "Options" in the COS Funding Alert section of the COS Workbench to make changes to his keywords, activity location and other default settings—rather than clicking through several layers to make a change.

Track changes in an opportunity – Plus, we've made it easier to keep abreast of changes to any COS Funding Opportunities record by making them trackable on the COS Workbench. The user simply clicks at the top of the chosen record, and that opportunity is tracked on the user's COS Workbench until the user deletes it.

We've also made other subtle refinements here and there throughout the COS Funding Alert process, as well as making some backstage improvements for better overall performance.

A quick look:

Previous COS Funding Alert	Enhanced COS Funding Alert
Save up to 5 alert searches	Save up to 20 alert searches
Build alert searches on special Funding Alert screens	Save COS Funding Opportunities searches to run for alert emails
Track changes in an opportunity off-line	Click to track changes in an opportunity right on the workbench
Receive emails for all alert searches or none	Choose to receive weekly emails for any one of up to 20 saved alert searches
To adjust other preferences and filters, click through several layers of the COS Workbench	One click to the Options section, where all changes can be made