MTAs are Moving to Phoebe!

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For RAC Forum

What is the Industry Alliances Office?

Industry Alliances Office (IAO)

-Handles **industry** sponsored research agreements

-Incoming Material Transfer Agreements from **all sponsors**

-Research related Nondisclosure Agreements (**NDA**s)

-**SBIR/STTR** (Federal grants to small businesses)

-**Membership agreements** (Industry Affiliate Programs, such as BSAC)

At a future RAC Forum, we are planning to provide an in-depth overview of IAO

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What is a Material Transfer Agreement or MTA?

- It's an agreement covering the *transfer* of "*materials*" from one organization to another
- MTAs can be as **challenging** to negotiate as sponsored research agreements
- Similar **Problematic Clauses** as sponsored research (like those discussed in a previous RAC Forum)

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What is a Material Transfer Agreement or MTA?

- MTAs often bring in materials that will be used with **other sponsored research** projects
  - Conflicting obligations
  - Additional terms and requirements
  - Intellectual property provisions
- PIs need to be aware of the terms of both their research agreements and MTAs

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Three Types of MTAs

Materials

Software

Data

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Incoming vs. Outgoing MTAs

- IPIRA handles all MTAs for campus
  - IAO- negotiates and manages all incoming MTAs
  - OTL- negotiates and manages all outgoing MTAs
  - IAO can always help to triage and advise if the PI or RAs have any questions
- Only incoming MTAs are moving to Phoebe

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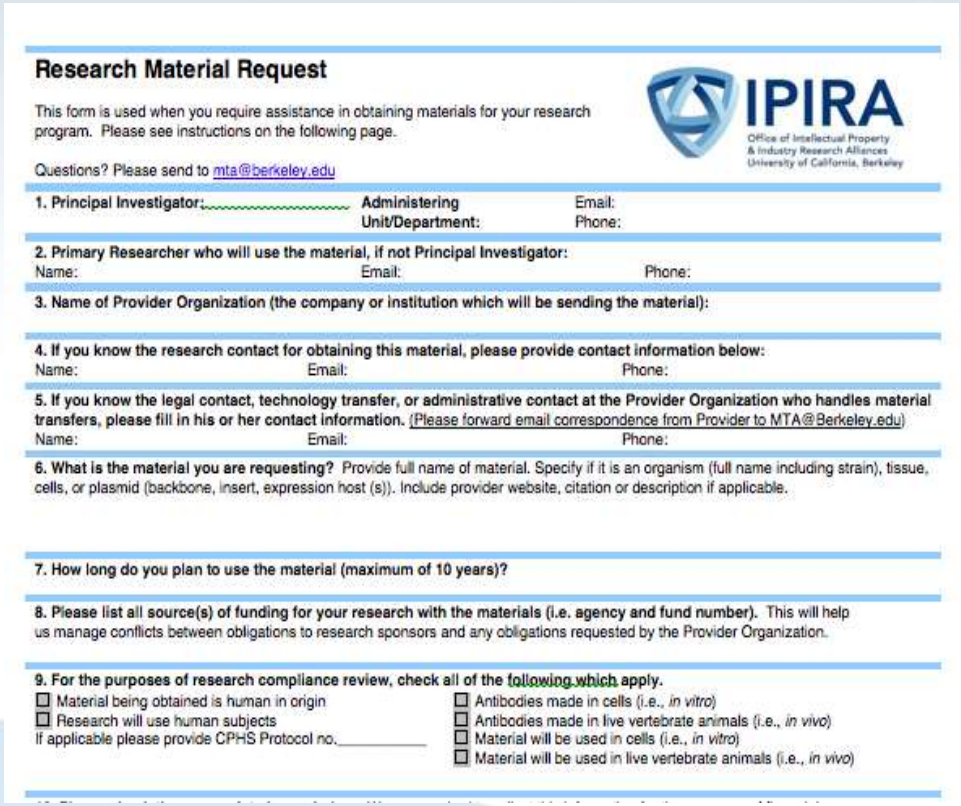
Old MTA Process



Research Material Request

This form is used when you require assistance in obtaining materials for your research program. Please see instructions on the following page.

Questions? Please send to mta@berkeley.edu

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University of California, Berkeley

1. Principal Investigator: _____ **Administering Unit/Department:** **Email:** **Phone:**

2. Primary Researcher who will use the material, if not Principal Investigator:
Name: Email: Phone:

3. Name of Provider Organization (the company or institution which will be sending the material):

4. If you know the research contact for obtaining this material, please provide contact information below:
Name: Email: Phone:

5. If you know the legal contact, technology transfer, or administrative contact at the Provider Organization who handles material transfers, please fill in his or her contact information. (Please forward email correspondence from Provider to MTA@Berkeley.edu)
Name: Email: Phone:

6. What is the material you are requesting? Provide full name of material. Specify if it is an organism (full name including strain), tissue, cells, or plasmid (backbone, insert, expression host (s)). Include provider website, citation or description if applicable.

7. How long do you plan to use the material (maximum of 10 years)?

8. Please list all source(s) of funding for your research with the materials (i.e. agency and fund number). This will help us manage conflicts between obligations to research sponsors and any obligations requested by the Provider Organization.

9. For the purposes of research compliance review, check all of the following which apply.

- ☐ Material being obtained is human in origin
- ☐ Research will use human subjects
  If applicable please provide CPHS Protocol no._____
- ☐ Antibodies made in cells (i.e., *in vitro*)
- ☐ Antibodies made in live vertebrate animals (i.e., *in vivo*)
- ☐ Material will be used in cells (i.e., *in vitro*)
- ☐ Material will be used in live vertebrate animals (i.e., *in vivo*)

- Paper form, usually completed by the lab manager, PI, or graduate student
- MTAs were entered into Coeus manually
- Migration from Coeus to Kuali Coeus

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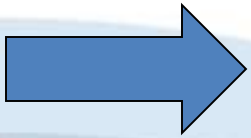
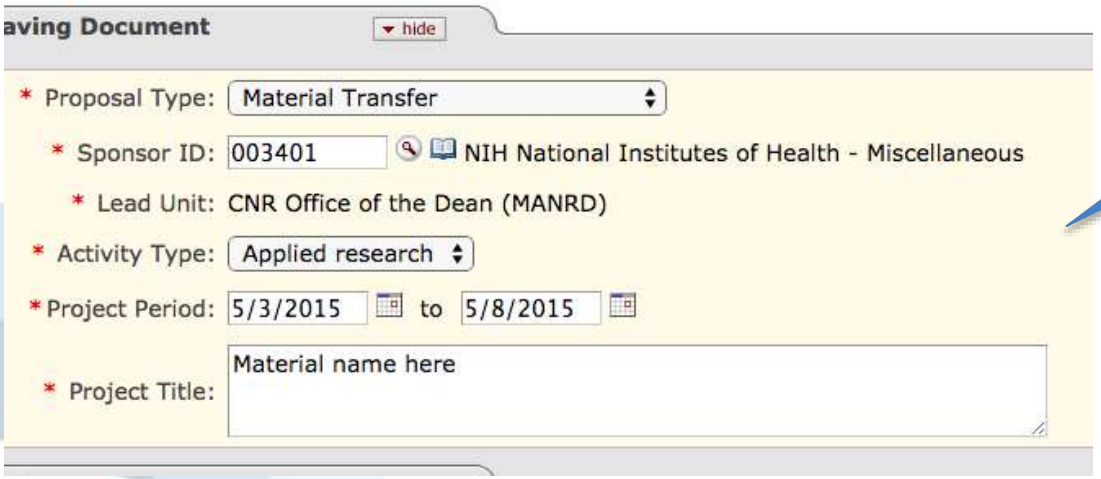
New MTA Process

- Phoebe has been rolled out on campus
- MTA module in Phoebe already exists as a proposal type, in the process of building it out
- Standardize processes and systems for pre-award research administration





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New MTA Process

- You will be able to enter MTA requests in Phoebe, just like you enter new research proposals

- New set of questions that are specific to the types of materials

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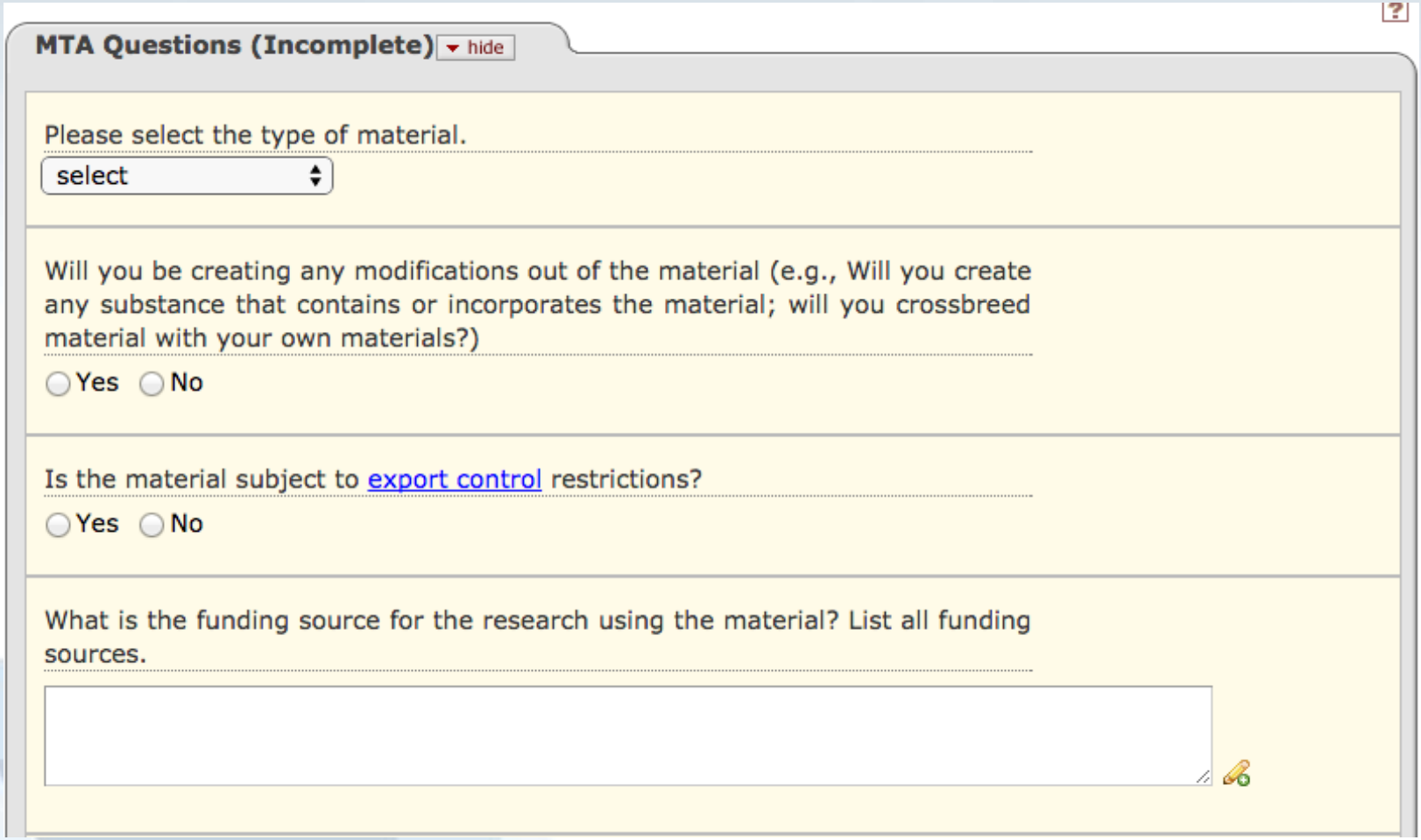
Preview of MTA Questions



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Research Materials

MTA Questions (Incomplete) hide

Please select the type of material.

Research Materials

NOTE: If yes to any of these four questions, please include ACUC information and the Animal Use Protocol (AUP) number in the special review tab.

The material was made in live animals.

Yes No

The material is custom antibodies made from animals.

Yes No

The material will be used in vertebrate animals.

Yes No

The material is a live vertebrate animal.

Yes No

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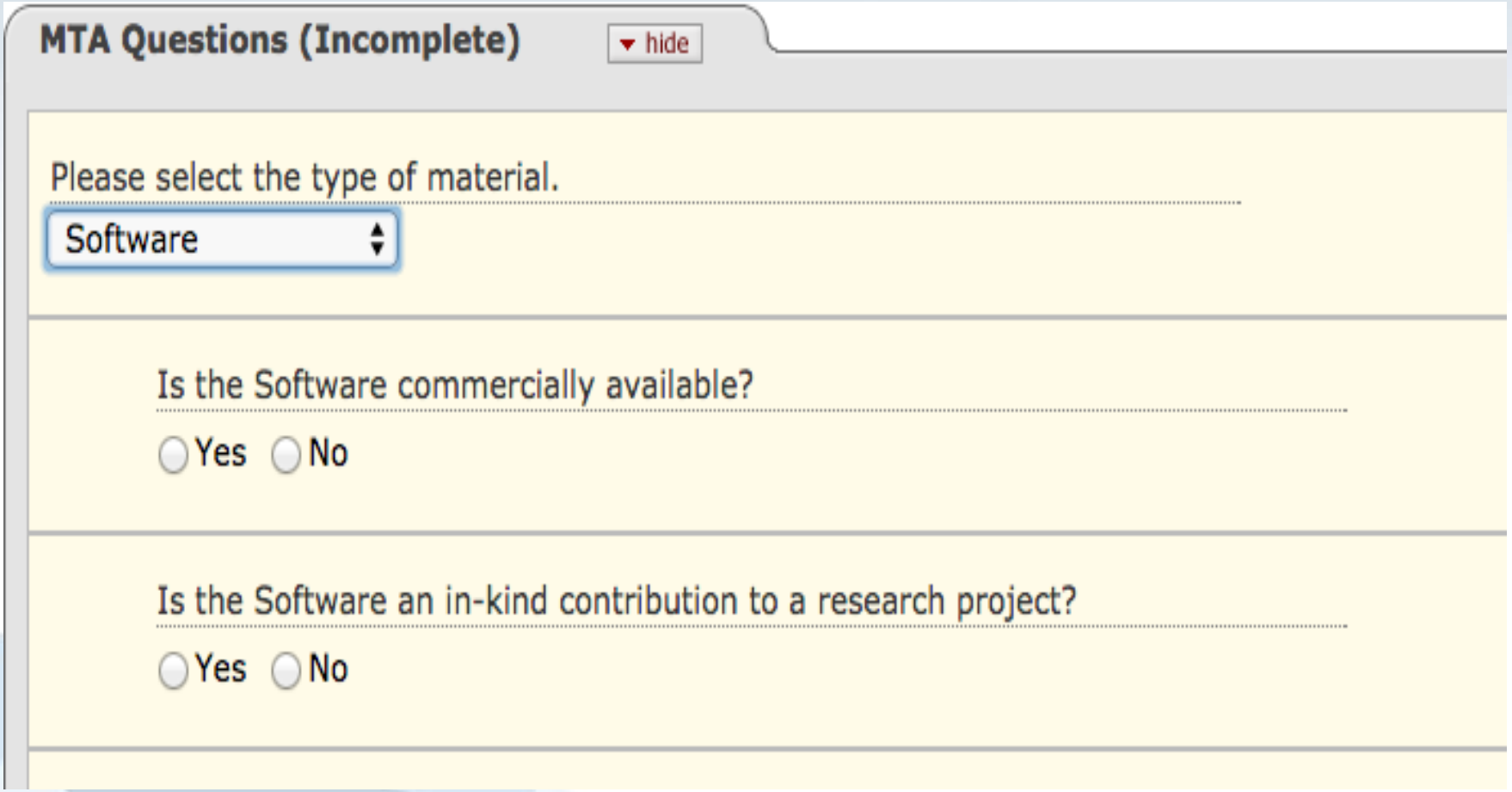
Software



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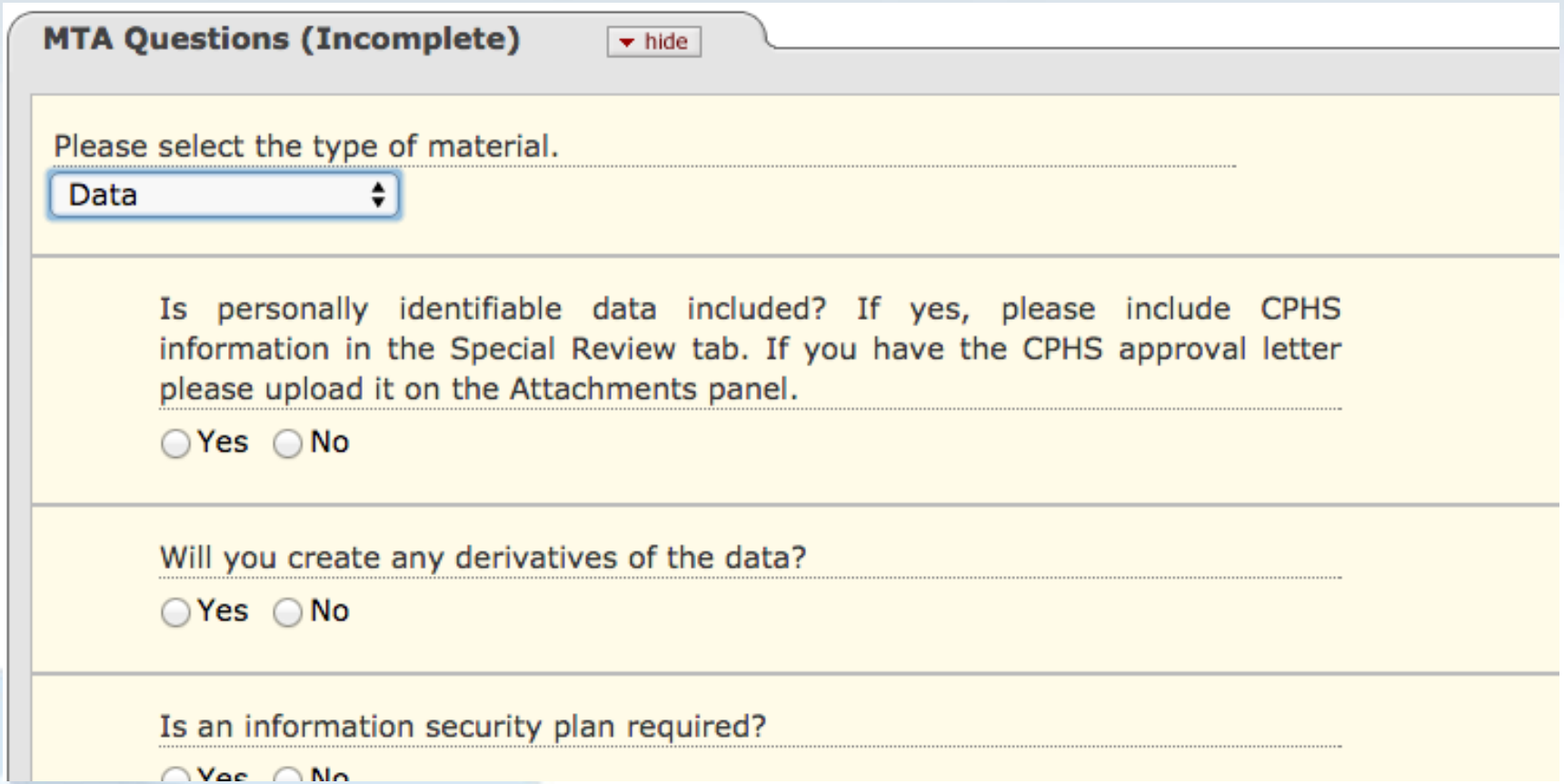
Data



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How will it work?

Phoebe Process for MTAs

- Create new record in Phoebe
- Select “Material Transfer” as type
- Add “Proposal” tab information
- Add the Material Requestor (Lab Manager, Grad Student, or PI) as Aggregator
  - Aggregator will be responsible for answering the questions
- In some cases, the RA will complete the MTA Phoebe record, much like they help with MTAs now

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How will it work?

Major differences from research proposals

- Aggregators (lab managers, grad students) will complete the rest of the tabs, specifically the **Questions** and **Special Review** tabs

- No internal routing requirements

- PI Approval only (no Chair approval)

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What does this mean for the RA?

- Creating a **new MTA record** in Phoebe represents a new role for RAs
- IAO and RAC are looking into ways to streamline certain types of MTAs
- IAO, RAC, and CSS are developing **training materials** and **guidance**

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Benefits of MTAs in Phoebe

- RAs will be aware of all **PI activity** because all records will be in Phoebe from the beginning
- Easy **tracking** and **reporting** from one system
- Opportunity for increased communications, transparency, and metrics between and among CSS, PIs, and IAO
- RAs will be aware of the existence of MTAs and will be **included** in communication about PI obligations
- Coeus will be going away sooner than later; need a new solution

Welcome to 21st Century!

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Current state of this project

- IAO is currently working with CSS and RAC:
  - Roles and responsibilities
  - FAQs
  - Instructions

- Asking for Faculty and CSS RA Input

- **Interested in helping us pilot this?** Email Kate!
  kate_lewis@berkeley.edu

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Timeline of Rollout

- Pilot in the mid-summer
- Hoping to roll out to all departments in early fall
- Like most new processes and systems, there will be a **transition period** where both formats are acceptable
  - We will communicate updates and the timeline for rollout at future RAC Forums
  - We always welcome the opportunity to gather feedback from you as we move toward full implementation!

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Timeline of Rollout

- For now, advise your PIs and departments to continue using the MTA Request Form (paper)

- Look for updates this summer!

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Questions?

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