**A DRAFTING EXERCISE FOR NSF PRPOSALS—INTELLECTUAL MERIT AND BROADER IMPACTS**

***This exercise is designed to help NSF grant applicants develop clear intellectual merit and broader impacts statements. The questions below were adapted from the NSF Grant Proposal Guide. Try to write a few sentences in response to each question. Your answers can then be condensed, clarified, and edited for later inclusion in your Project Summary and Project Narrative.***

***The GPG notes that these considerations are suggestions, and not all of them will apply to every project.***

**Intellectual Merit**

How important is the proposed activity to advancing knowledge and understanding within its own field or across different fields?

How well qualified is the proposer (individual or team) to conduct the project?

To what extent does the proposed activity suggest and explore creative, original, or potentially transformative concepts?

How well conceived and organized is the proposed activity?

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**Broader Impacts**

How well does the activity advance discovery and understanding while promoting teaching, training, and learning? (key phrase to use: “integration of research and education”)

How well does the proposed activity broaden the participation of underrepresented groups (e.g., gender, ethnicity, disability, geographic, etc.)?

To what extent will it enhance the infrastructure for research and education, such as facilities, instrumentation, networks, and partnerships?

Will the results be disseminated broadly to enhance scientific and technological understanding?

What may be the benefits of the proposed activity to society?