Seeking External Funding in Education

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Today’s Topics

- Rationale for seeking external funding
- Where can you find funding?
- Resources
- Developing fundable proposal ideas
- Proposal tips
- Dealing with the aftermath
Rationale for Seeking Funding
Rationale for Seeking Funding

• Grant-seeking is increasingly an expectation of university faculty members. It is even becoming fairly commonplace in many K-12 schools districts.

• Aside from the fact that “everybody is doing it,” why should you consider seeking funding for research?
Rationale for Seeking Funding

• Grant funds can
  – Provide support for research, development, and training programs
  – Fund graduate students to work with you
  – Support travel to research/school sites
  – Support travel to professional conferences to disseminate results
  – Allow you to acquire supplies, materials, and equipment for doing your work
Rationale for Seeking Funding

• Grant funds can also
  – Generate salary savings and indirect costs (F&A) that benefit the institution, department, and, in many cases, the researcher
  – Help to support the production of publications and professional presentations
  – Enhance your academic reputation, productivity, and personal satisfaction
  – Contribute to solving meaningful problems
Where Can You Find Funding?
Where Can You Find Funding?

• Federal Agencies
  – US Department of Education
    • www.ed.gov
  – Institute for Education Sciences
    • http://ies.ed.gov
  – National Science Foundation
    • www.nsf.gov
  – Others (NIH, State, Commerce, etc.)
Where Can You Find Funding?

• Federal Agencies
  – US Department of Education
    • tends to fund educational programming in K-12
  – Institute for Education Sciences
    • tends to fund rigorous studies of proven or expected-to-be-effective educational interventions in K-12
  – National Science Foundation
    • funds a wide range of research and development projects related to STEM education; tends to favor innovative or cutting edge projects
State Agencies

• Indiana Department of Education
  – www.doe.in.us
  – Fund various K-12 programs, e.g., Math Science Partnership grants (funded by federal Title II dollars) and Tech Prep grants (funded by federal Perkins funds)

• Indiana Commission for Higher Education
  – www.in.gov/che
  – Fund programs for higher education including Improving Teacher Quality Partnerships (funded by federal Title II dollars)
Private Sources

• Foundations
  – Spencer Foundation (www.spencer.org)
  – Gates Foundation (www.gatesfoundation.org)
  – Kellogg Foundation (www.wkkf.org)
  – Lumina Foundation (www.lumininfoundation.org)
  – Toyota USA Foundation (www.toyota.com/foundation)

• Corporations
Funding Resources

• COE Education Funding Opportunities

discover.education.purdue.edu/funding/
ED Technology and Media Services for Individuals With Disabilities

ED Technology and Media Services for Individuals With Disabilities – Stepping-Up Technology Implementation
http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppid=171753

The purposes of the Technology and Media Services for Individuals with Disabilities program are to: (1) improve results for students with disabilities by promoting the development, demonstration, and use of technology; (2) support educational media services activities designed to be of educational value in the classroom for students with disabilities; and (3) provide support for captioning and video description that is appropriate for use in the classroom. Deadline: June 5, 2012.

Deadline: 6/5/2012

URL: http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppid=171753

Source: Unspecified (see detail)

Source Detail: Unspecified (see funding opportunity detail)

Categories: Disabilities, Technology

Interest: 0 people have expressed interest thus far. Be the first! I'm Interested!

Date Posted: 6/11/2012 8:14:02 AM (Accession #167)

Subscribe Need to Consult
PIVOT

• PIVOT is “the most comprehensive source of funding information available on the Web.”

• Simple, quick account setup:

  https://pivot.cos.com/register
PIVOT: Funding Search

News

BBSRC Launches FLIP Scheme See details
EFSF/Lilly European Diabetes Research Programme Funds Basic or Clinical Diabetes Research See details
European Nostra Invites Entries for the European Union Prize for Cultural Heritage See details
NIH Continues Its Small Research Grant Program See details
NAF Sponsors Translational Research on Spinocerebellar Ataxias See details

PIVOT: Funding and researcher expertise connected.
Pivot gives Research Administrators, Research Development Professionals, and their institutions the edge to bring together the right research opportunities, funding, and people quickly and easily. It provides global and local connections that strengthen research by exploring new avenues for funding and collaboration for faculty, staff researchers, and graduate students.
PIVOT: Researcher Expertise Search
Minchi Kim

Affiliation: Assistant Professor, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Purdue University
Web: http://www.edci.purdue.edu/faculty_profiles/kimindex.html

Expertise: Professor Kim's research focuses on scaffolding students' problem solving with technology-enhanced learning environments, advancing pedagogical frameworks for learning and teaching in technology-rich contexts.

Summary: Publications: 9, Last 5 Years: 4
Co-Authors: 1

Communities: Curriculum and Instruction

Degrees: PhD, Educational Psychology and Instructional Technology, University of Georgia, 2006

Funding matches: 122 funding opportunities

Contact info: minchi@purdue.edu

Publications: 9 Co-Authors: 1 Web: 1 Colleagues: 62
OVPR: Office of the Vice President for Research

- Research Development:
  www.purdue.edu/research/vpr/rschdev/index.php
Grantsmanship Events

Grantsmanship Events

A series of grantsmanship workshops are hosted throughout the year by the Office of the Vice President for Research and/or by other administrative offices and colleges across the campus. Many of these workshops are particularly useful for new faculty or those new to the research process at Purdue.

For further information and to register for an upcoming workshop, click on the titles below. Please note that registration becomes available approximately one month prior to the event, at which point the workshop title becomes a hyperlink.

Upcoming Event List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date, Time, Location, and Event Sponsor</th>
<th>Event Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 21, 2012 11:00am-1:30pm, STEW 322 OVPR &amp; SPS</td>
<td>Overview of Services of the OVPR and SPS Research Development, SPS Pre-Award Services, Post Award Services: Departmental, College, SPS, and OVPR Research Integrity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 11, 2012 11:30am-1:00pm, STEW 322 OVPR</td>
<td>NIH Overview: Institute/Center Mission and Strategies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 6, 2012 11:30am-1:00pm, STEW 322 OVPR</td>
<td>How to Write an NIH Proposal or Resubmission: Strategies, Grantsmanship, and Review Process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 16, 2012 8:30am-4:30pm, STEW 302</td>
<td>Write Winning Grants Seminar by guest presenter David Morrison</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Funding Resources

Resources to help identify funding opportunities and grantsmanship information can be found below:

Internal Funding Opportunities
- Research Equipment and Incentive Grant Programs
  Laboratory equipment is essential to the foundation and advancement of research and research intensive universities like Purdue have significant equipment needs. A portion of these needs are funded through private (foundations) and public (federal and state) sources. However, a significant need exists to augment these sources with internal funds to fill existing gaps to advance the research activities at Purdue.
  - Request for Incentive Grant Proposals
  - Laboratory Research Equipment Program
  - Non-Laboratory Research Equipment Program

- Purdue Research Foundation
  - PRF International Travel Grants
  - PRF Summer Faculty Grants
  - PRF Research Grants

- Trusts
  - Clifford Kinley Trust - Social Science
  - Shoalton Trust

- Research Award - Purdue’s Most Prestigious Award
  - The Herbcat Nyredt McCoy Award

- Global Policy Research Institute (GPR1)
  - Research Incentive Awards

External Funding Resources
- Indiana CTSI
- Indiana State Dept. of Health - Spinal Cord and Brain Injury Research Grant Program
Pre-Award Services

Pre-Award specialists perform functions of the academic business office and Sponsored Program Services, including:

• Prepare the **budget** and review the budget justification
• Develop **timeline** for all input and approvals
• Secure **subcontract** information
• Assist with **cost share** commitments and documentation
• Involve **University Contracting** Group services if needed
• Assist with sponsor **forms** and electronic **submission** systems
• Assure the **proposal meets** all sponsor **guidelines**
• Obtain appropriate academic and business office **signatures**
• Provide **Institutional approval** for proposal
Grant Proposal Support

• Identifying funding sources
• Establishing contact with program officers, corporate/foundation grants staff
• Distributing RFP / RFA, program announcements
• Organizing team meetings
• Application materials: forms, LOI guidelines
• Compliance: formatting, necessary paperwork
Developing Fundable Ideas
Developing Fundable Ideas

• Don’t pursue grants just to chase $$$. You’ll probably be unsuccessful, and you’ll waste time and focus jumping from one opportunity to another.

• Instead, pursue important problems with an eye toward what funding agencies will support.
Do you want to know THE SECRET?
THE SECRET

• There is a proven successful formula for developing grant applications
... and the good news is, this *isn’t* it:

\[
T = \frac{N}{g_0(m_0, \sigma)} \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{N_{bg} \beta(m_i)}{p(m_i)} \right], \quad (3a)
\]

\[
m_0 = -\sigma \frac{g_1(m_0, \sigma)}{g_0(m_0, \sigma)} + \frac{\bar{m} - N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left[ N_{bg} \beta(m_i)/p(m_i) \right] m_i}{1 - N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} N_{bg} \beta(m_i)/p(m_i)}.
\]  \quad (3b)

\[
\sigma^2 = \frac{g_0(m_0, \sigma)}{g_2(m_0, \sigma)} \left\{ \frac{\text{Var} + (\bar{m} - m_0)^2}{1 - N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} N_{bg} \beta(m_i)/p(m_i)} \right. \\
\left. - \frac{N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left[ N_{bg} \beta(m_i)/p(m_i) \right] (m_i - m_0)^2}{1 - N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} N_{bg} \beta(m_i)/p(m_i)} \right\}, \quad (3c)
\]
Four Steps

1. What is the problem?

The problem you are going to address must be responsive to the funding agency’s request, not a statement of what you want to do.
Four Steps

2. **What has been done** to address the problem?

Demonstrate familiarity with the literature, landmark publications, state of the research, funded grants, including those funded by the agency.
Four Steps

3. **What needs been done** to address the problem?

Identify gaps in existing research to adequately address the problem.
Four Steps

4. What gaps remain in fully addressing the problem?

Explain how you propose to address the gaps that remain in the research. What do you propose to do?
Developing Fundable Ideas

• Develop specific goals and objectives linked to the basic problem you’ve identified
• Determine action steps to achieve your goals and objectives
• Define measurable outcomes related to the goals and objectives
• Plan to evaluate those measurable outcomes
Developing Fundable Ideas

• Build partnerships and collaborations to work on the problem
• Look for opportunities to address the needs of underserved/underrepresented students
• Get partners on board early, plan together to set expectations and define roles, and document the partnership
Proposal Preparation Tips
Proposal Preparation Tips

- Apply to agencies that match the goals and objectives of your project
  - Make sure you meet eligibility requirements
  - Talk to agency program officers to determine how well your idea fits
  - Don’t limit yourself to just one program; look for opportunities to pursue multiple grants
Proposal Preparation Tips

• Work closely with the university’s pre-awards office to prepare the proposal
  – Start well in advance of deadlines
  – Develop a budget that can meet project needs without overtaxing available resources
  – Be prepared to deliver the final proposal at least 24 hours in advance of the submission deadline
Proposal Preparation Tips

• Carefully attend to and address each element of the request for proposals (RFP)
  – Precisely follow all requirements; format the document according to the exact specifications
  – Organize the proposal around the key elements of the RFP (e.g., match headings to the RFP)
  – Ensure that all attachments are completed and included
Proposal Preparation Tips

• Write clearly and concisely
  – Use short, clear sentences
  – Write in active voice
  – Avoid jargon and acronyms that reviewers may not understand
  – Proofread carefully to eliminate grammatical errors, misspellings, and other problems
  – Tell a compelling story
Proposal Preparation Tips

• Set your proposal apart
  – Look for innovative or unique ways to address the problem; funders often seek new or different approaches
  – Answer the questions “Why here?” and “Why me?” Emphasize what you and your institution bring to the table.
  – Emphasize the “big picture” implications of what you propose to do
Proposal Preparation Tips

• Create a strong evaluation plan
  – Link the evaluation to the proposal goals and objectives and specific outcomes
  – Use a logic model to illustrate how activities relate to outcomes and the evaluation
  – Consider using an external evaluator (sometimes required); make sure an external evaluator is someone with whom you can work well
Dealing with the Aftermath
Dealing with the Aftermath

• Most initial grant proposals are not funded. If your grant proposal is not funded:
  – Carefully review feedback from reviewers
  – If the feedback indicates a poor fit with the program, consider submitting the proposal to a different agency or program
  – Otherwise, use the feedback to improve the proposal and resubmit it.

• Don’t quit. Persistence pays off!
Dealing with the Aftermath

• If your grant proposal *is* funded, get prepared to do your project
  – Notify all partners and participants
  – Work with your business office to establish accounts to expend the funds
  – Initiate planning for implementation
  – Celebrate!
Seeking External Funding in Education

Questions?
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