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Funding Hacks for Researchers



Speakers

Richard Wilder

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Monik C. Jiménez

Harvard Medical School

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Moderator: Christian DeFeo



Product Marketing Manager – Social Mendeley

- Christian earned a PhD in Creative Writing at the University of Southampton in 2010.
- He returned to a career in technology, presently working as Product Marketing Manager Social for Mendeley.
- Christian is presently studying for a second PhD in Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering at Loughborough University.

Visit Mendeley Funding www.mendeley.com/funding

Richard Wilder

Associate General Counsel

Legal | Global Health Program
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, DC



- At the Gates Foundation, Richard has responsibility for providing legal support in a range of projects for the development and delivery of drugs, vaccines and diagnostics in the developing world.
- He was previously Associate General Counsel for Intellectual Property Policy at Microsoft Corporation where he was responsible for defining and driving the company-wide policy in all areas of intellectual property. And prior to that he was a partner in a global law firm, where he specialized in international law. There, he represented countries and companies in international trade disputes in particular those involving intellectual property. He also practiced in the field public health including on access to existing medicines and the development of new ones, with particular focus on developing country needs. In this connection, he has advised the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria, the World Health Organization, the Medicines for Malaria Venture, the Global Alliance for TB Drug Development, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.
- Richard is a former Director of the Global Intellectual Property Issues Division of the World Intellectual Property Organization a specialized agency of the United Nations in Geneva. While there he had responsibility for diverse issues, including public health, genetic resources, traditional knowledge and human rights.
- He has taught law including currently as adjunct professor of law at Georgetown Law School and previously at the University of Malaya, Malaysia. He speaks and writes often in the field of global health, international and intellectual property law.
- Mr. Wilder has an engineering degree from the University of Washington, Seattle, Washington and practiced as a power generation engineer for several years primarily in the developing world. He has a law degree (Juris Doctorate) from the School of Law of the University of New Hampshire.

Monik C. Jiménez

Instructor of Medicine
Harvard Medical School
Associate Epidemiologist
Department of Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital



- Monik received both her Master's and Doctoral degrees from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and a Certificate in Oral Epidemiology from Harvard School of Dental Medicine.
- Her current NIH-funded research is focused on understanding the how socioeconomic and psychosocial factors may impact risk of stroke differentially by sex and race/ethnicity.
- She has also worked extensively in exploring connections between oral and cardiovascular diseases and disparities in oral health by race/ethnicity.
- Monik served as a key collaborator and contributed to the development of the "Puerto Rican Elderly Dental Health Study," the first representative dental survey of older Puerto Rican adults living in the San Juan metropolitan area.
- In 2015, she was awarded the Brigham and Women's Hospital Minority Faculty Career Development Award to support her research and career advancement.

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation: What We Do











We Focus Strategies That Answer These Questions



Investment Vehicles to Pursue Strategies Include:

Grants, Contracts, and Program-Related Investments (PRIs)

How We Work – Grant Making



Concept Development. Program officers consult with foundation colleagues, researchers, policymakers, and other partners in the field and develop ideas that support foundation priorities

Pre-Proposal. A variety of ways to explore and refine concepts, with the help of organizations in the field, including direct solicitation, discussion, and request for proposal (RFP) to determine what to invest in and with whom

Investment Development. Process of working with prospective grantee to develop a proposal, budget, and a results framework and tracker. We also complete our due diligence, confirm the applicant organization's tax status, determine how to structure the investment, and assess risk.

Management and Close. Close communication to understand progress and challenges of ongoing work and agree on necessary changes

How We Work – Global Access

Primary Goal is . . .

 to conduct and manage foundation funded projects and the resulting products, services, processes, technologies, materials, software, data or other innovations (collectively, "Funded Developments") in a manner that ensures "Global Access."

Global Access Requires that . . .

- the knowledge and information (including data) gained from the projects be promptly and broadly disseminated, and
- the Funded Developments be made available and accessible at an affordable price (i) to people most in need within developing countries or (ii) in support of the U.S. educational system and public libraries, as applicable to the funded projects.

The Gates Foundation Open Access Policy

- Publications Are Discoverable and Accessible Online. Publications will be deposited in a specified repository(s) with proper tagging of metadata.
- Publication Will Be On "Open Access" Terms. All publications shall be published under the <u>Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 Generic License</u> (CC BY 4.0) or an equivalent license.
- Foundation Will Pay Necessary Fees. The foundation would pay reasonable fees required by a publisher to effect publication on these terms.
- Publications Will Be Accessible and Open Immediately. All publications shall be available immediately upon their publication, without any embargo period (after the transition ending January 1, 2017).
- Data Underlying Published Research Results Will Be Accessible and Open Immediately. (also after the transition ending January 1, 2017).

Rationale for Open Access Policy

- transparency and cooperation
- reproducibility of research
- cost-efficiency and preventing redundancies
- acceleration of discovery and innovation
- saving lives through more efficient and effective public health programs

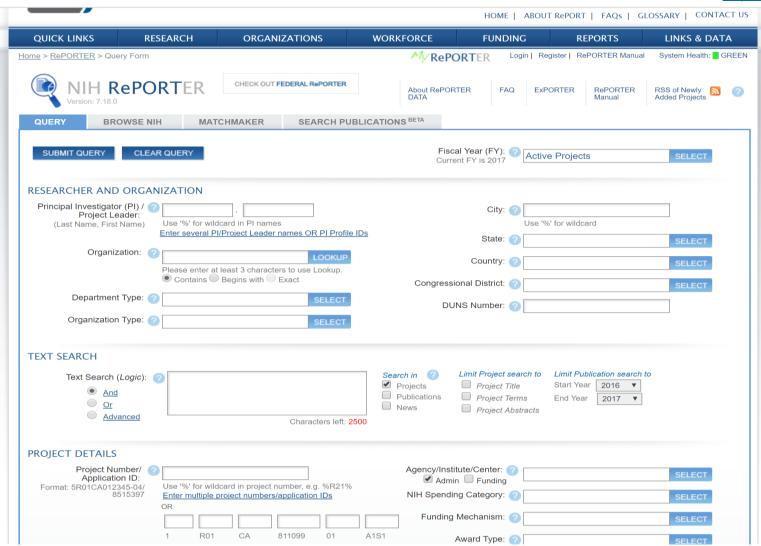
Increasing number of funders seeking to grantees to provide some type and degree of open access to information, data and publications arising from funding. For example – Open Research Funders Group (http://www.orfg.org/)

Overview

- How to search for NIH resources
- Mechanisms by career stage (Pre-doc, Post doc and Jr Faculty awards)
- Key tips and considerations

NIH RePorter: Search all currently funded NIH awards

https://report.nih.gov/



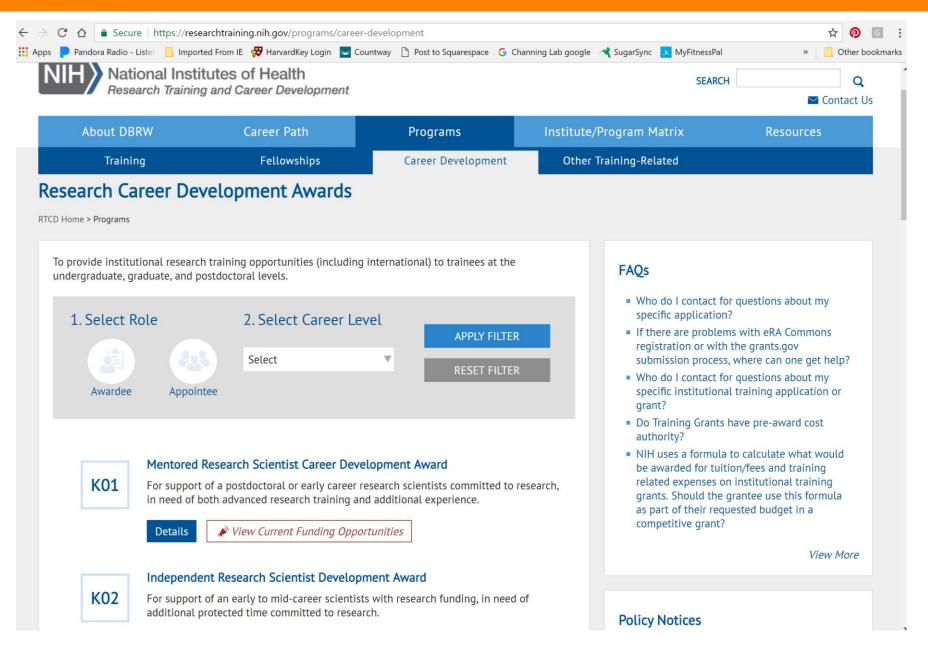
Searching for NIH Resources

- Research Training kiosk (NIH) website links to all PA and RFAs
 - PA: Program Announcement
 - Identifies areas of increased priority and/or emphasis on particular funding mechanisms for a specific area of science
 - Usually accepted on <u>standard receipt (postmarked) dates</u> on an ongoing basis
 - Remains active for three years from date of release unless stated
 Special Types
 - PAR: A PA with special receipt, referral and/or review considerations
 - PAS: A PA that includes specific set-aside funds

Searching for NIH Resources

- Research Training kiosk on NIH website provides links to all PA and RFAs
- PA: Program Announcement
- RFA: Request for Application
 - Identifies a more narrowly defined area for which ≥1NIH institutes have set aside funds for awarding grants
 - Usually has a single receipt (received on or before) date specified in the RFA announcement
 - Usually reviewed by a Scientific Review Group convened by the issuing awarding component

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Post-doctoral mechanisms

- F99/00: Individual Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Fellow Transition Award
- F32: Ruth L. Kirschstein Postdoctoral Individual National Research Service Award

Jr Faculty mechanisms

- K01: Mentored Research Scientist Career Development Award
- K08: Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award
- K23: Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award
- K99/00: Pathway to Independence Award

Administrative Supplements

- Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research
- Provide support from high school to Jr faculty
- · Limitation: You are the trainee, you do not hold the grant yourself.

Defining under-represented minority (URM) status

- 1. **Racial and ethnic groups** underrepresented in biomedical research (http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/showpub.cfm?TopID=2&SubID=27):
 - Blacks or African Americans
 - Hispanics or Latinos
 - American Indians or Alaska Natives
 - Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders
- 2. Individuals with disabilities:
 - •Those with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities
 - Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended
 - http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/wmpd/2013/pdf/tab7-5_updated_2014_10.pdf
- 3. Individuals from **disadvantaged backgrounds**:
 - Individuals who come from a family with an annual income below established low-income thresholds (http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/index.shtml).
 - Individuals who come from impoverished educational environments (rural or inner-city)

Timing & Choosing the right mechanism

START EARLY

- Consider your funding timeline and expect at least two submissions
- Considering projects → shaping aims → forging collaborations, acquiring cohort approvals
- Would you be a competitive candidate?
- Length of funding
- Amount of award & percent effort
- How is evaluated
 - Is it a mentored grant?
- Success rate
- Pay line (NIH grants)
- Faculty requirements (specific to postdocs)
- NIH: each institute uses specific mechanisms uniquely read the fine print
 - Read all parts of the application AND application instructions
 - Don't rely on departmental staff to know the instructions for your application

Key tips and considerations

- Understand level of funding: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-16-047.html#
- Do not rely solely on NIH mechanisms, explore other options
- Discuss with program officer
- Don't expect your department to know the details of submission or specific application requirements
 - Read the fine print: some require verification of URM status
- For career development awards:
 - Identify an appropriate mentor
 - Strong institutional support is key
 - Training plan matters, do not only focus only on the science
- Get several examples of winning applications

Research Plan - Specific Aims

Identify your research question

- Can be brutal & frustrating
- Normal to go through many early drafts of aims of various questions before deciding on final project

Rewrite, rewrite, rewrite

- Aims must be reviewed by as many people as possible (scientists / nonscientists)
- Aims may change slightly as project develops

Research plan - Collaborations

- Outside collaborations can be extremely advantageous
 - Strengthen your network outside of your institution
- Secondary data analysis or ancillary studies
 - Committee proposal approval may take ≥months
 - Budget for data use costs
- Obtain letters of support from all collaborators
- Primary data collection may strengthen your application
 - Talk with your program officer
 - Give plenty of time to develop proposals/budget with outside investigators

Career Development: Career Development Awards

- Brainstorm short and long-term career goals (2, 5, 10 years)
- How does past training help you to be successful for the proposed project?
- How will the proposed project help you achieve your career objectives?
- Highlight importance of additional training

Personal Statements: Career Development Awards

- Why are you an excellent candidate?
 - Give the reviewer a clear vision of your journey
 - It's OK if you've worked in various areas
 - Provide a narrative of how your previous work connects to where you are going
 - Highlight how your unique experiences frame your perspective as a scientist

Mentoring team – Career Development Awards

- Identify your primary mentor
- What makes a strong primary mentor
 - Well funded and history of funding
 - Solid track record of mentoring postdocs and Jr. faculty
 - Those who look good on paper VS those who can actually mentor
 - Reviewers want to see clearly defined meeting plans for regularly scheduled meetings (spell it out!)
 - Commitment to your advancement
 - Considerations: may influence the data you use, bridge funding available, other collaborations, etc.
- What makes a strong mentoring team
 - Balance of expertise
 - Regularly scheduled meetings with structured plan for training

Summary Statement

- Don't take anything personally
- Read it, walk away then read it again a few days later
- All criticisms can be used to improve your application
- If something wasn't clear to a reviewer then it wasn't clear... period!
 - Make your grant user friendly!
 - Use tables, graphs, color, figures
 - Bold key phrases, or take away points





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Thank you