Office of Research Development

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Mission

The Office of Research Development promotes, stimulates and advances the diverse research enterprise across Northwestern University through:

• Facilitating collaborations and interdisciplinary programs
• Supporting the pursuit of funding opportunities
• Promoting the submission of outstanding proposals
• Guiding early career investigators
Constituents and Stakeholders

- Deans, Faculty, Researchers, Research Administrators, Post-docs, Graduate and Undergraduate Students
- Federal Funding Agencies
- Office of Foundation Relations
- Office of Government Relations
- Office of Corporate Engagement
- Office for Sponsored Research
- Partners: Affiliates, Industry, Academic and Non-Academic Institutions
Facilitating Collaborations and Interdisciplinary Programs

- Anticipate and respond to new federally funded initiatives
- Investigator initiated programs
- Guide, connect and facilitate Team Science
- Coordinate preliminary meetings/workshops to form teams/collaborations and develop “white papers”
- Support throughout the evolution of University Research Centers
  - Support and advise new URCs from the inception of ideas
  - Facilitate proposals for external funding (new and existing URCs)
Developing Large Interdisciplinary Proposals Programmatic Support

- Develop “Writer Outline”
- Guide the conceptual development and writing of: vision, administrative core, management plan, broader impact, education, outreach, postdoc mentoring plan, data management plan, data sharing plan, etc
- Advise on budget development
- Letters of support
- Sponsor’s summary statements
- Resubmission
Developing Large Interdisciplinary Proposals Project Management Support

- Generate time-line/roles and responsibilities framework
- Coordinate video/audio conference meetings (PIs, administrators)
- Prepare meeting agenda
- Provide meeting minutes
- Liaise with local RA, OSR, external partners, internal resources, local and external grant writers,
- Manage internal and/or external review
- Coordinate site visits
Facilitating Interdisciplinary Programs

**NU-Interdisciplinary Program 1-2-3**

- A new seed-funding platform to cultivate investigator-initiated visionary "Big Ideas"
- 3-tiers, non-sequential that address different needs in the continuum of developing visionary science at Northwestern, from the inception of an idea to securing external funding
- NU-Interdisciplinary Program 1-2-3 supports
  - Ideas (I1)
  - Innovative Initiatives (I2)
  - Innovative Initiatives Incubator (I3)
NU-Interdisciplinary Program 1-2-3

• Focus on:
  o Interdisciplinary team (at least 2 schools and 3 departments)
  o Innovation
  o Societal impact

• In addition to funds, the program provides project management, assistance in identifying funding opportunities, proposal development and Team-Science guidance
NU-Interdisciplinary Program 1-2-3

- **I1**: $1,000 for a workshop; rolling submission
- **I2**: $15,000 for expenses pertinent to the submission of a large proposal; rolling submission
- **I3**: $120,000/year for up to 2 years for promoting effective team assembly, developing track record of collaboration, generating preliminary data and submitting a large/center proposal to an external sponsor (June 10, 2016)
- [http://www.research.northwestern.edu/interdisciplinary123/](http://www.research.northwestern.edu/interdisciplinary123/)

- FSM Seed Funding to initiate new Multi-Investigator Program: [http://www.feinberg.northwestern.edu/research/services/for-researchers/seed-grants.html](http://www.feinberg.northwestern.edu/research/services/for-researchers/seed-grants.html)
Pursuit of Funding Opportunities

- Anticipate, monitor, identify and disseminate funding opportunities and related information to targeted investigators
  - Large biomedical and physical sciences federal grants
  - Social Sciences and Humanities grants
  - “Limited Submission” funding opportunities
  - Disseminate Foundation and Corporate funding opportunities
  - Cleared Concepts - NIH
  - Notice of Intent to Publish a FOA – NIH
  - Dear Colleague Letters – NSF
  - Information of new federal funding initiatives in collaboration with OGR
Pursuit of Funding Opportunities (Cont’ed)

- Provides free access and guidance on using funding opportunities data bases:
  - SciVal Funding
    - [www.funding.scival.com](http://www.funding.scival.com)
  - COS Pivot
    - [pivot.cos.com/funding_main](http://pivot.cos.com/funding_main)

- Federal agencies websites search and set up alerts:
  - [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)
  - [nsf.gov/funding](http://nsf.gov/funding)
  - DoE, DoD, USDA, NASA, NOAA, NEH…
Promote the Submission of Outstanding Proposals

• Personalized service to faculty from all disciplines (smaller scale proposals, single investigator, etc)
  o Clarify and confirm sponsor’s expectations and guidelines
  o Enhance faculty communications with program officers
  o Advise on strategic approaches to developing a proposal

• Outreach
  o “ORD Presents” workshops (NSF MRI, Limited Submissions, NIH P30..)
  o Organize federal agencies grant writing workshops
  o Bring program officers to Northwestern
  o Provide institutional subscription to research development and grant writing resources
  o “Science of Team Science”

• Manage the Institutional Limited Submissions Process
Limited Submission

- Funding opportunities that the number of applications submitted from any given institution is limited by the sponsor.

- ORD manages the institutional process for selecting Northwestern nominees for Federal, Foundations and Corporations funding opportunities.

- Northwestern has established a transparent, efficient and effective process for selecting successful nominees.

http://www.research.northwestern.edu/ord/funding/limited-submissions/
Northwestern’s Limited Submission (LS) Process

- Identification of LS funding opportunities
- Dissemination of LS announcements
- LOIs
- Internal proposals
- Review
- Notification
- Nomination
Limited Submission: Dissemination of Announcements

- Targeted and inclusive dissemination
- Subject: LIMITED FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: ….
- Summary of opportunity and eligibility criteria
- Link to the sponsor’s website
- Key dates: LOI, internal proposal submission, notification, sponsor deadline
- Instructions: LOI form, internal proposal components, upload information
- All announcements and their status are posted on ORD’s website
- You can opt-in to receive all announcements
Limited Submission: LOIs

• Submission of the LOI by the deadline is **required**, but no binding
• Based on institutional interest:
  o First come, first served
  o Applicants are authorized by ORD to submit a proposal to sponsor
  o A competition is required, all applicants are invited to submit internal proposals
Limited Submission: Review Process

- The Limited Submission Advisory Committee is charged with selecting the most nationally competitive applicants
- Senior faculty from FSM, WCAS, McC, SESP and SoC
- Humanities ad hoc panel is invited as necessary
- Ex officio and ad hoc reviewers are invited as appropriate
- Panel review (video-conference between campuses)
- Selection is requires approval by the VPR
Limited Submission: Notification

• All candidates are notified by email by the stated deadline

• Feedback is provided to all applicants

• Nominees are invited to work with the Office of Foundation Relations on Foundation proposals

• OSR GO is notified
Limited Submission: Outcomes

- Packard Science and Engineering Fellows
  National awardee each year 2007-11, 2013
  (of an annual total of 16 fellows from 50 Universities)

- Pew Biomedical Scholars
  (of an annual total of 21 scholars nationally)
Guiding Early Career Investigators

- Reach out to new faculty, present at new faculty orientations
- Consult and perform customized funding opportunities search, recommend collaborators
- Develop a strategy of applying to prestigious fellowships
- Grant Writer’s Groups for NIH “R” and “K” awards
  - Rick McGee, Associate Dean for Faculty Recruitment and Professional Development, FSM
- R01 and K awards peer review in FSM
  - [http://www.feinberg.northwestern.edu/fao/faculty/development-resources/grant-proposal-review.html](http://www.feinberg.northwestern.edu/fao/faculty/development-resources/grant-proposal-review.html)
- NSF CAREER consultations
- Coming up: resources for early career investigators on ORD’s website
ORD Website

www.research.northwestern.edu/ord/

Under construction
ORD Locations

633 Clark Street
North Tower, Room 2-543, Evanston
(847) 491-1074

750 N. Lake Shore Drive
Rubloff, Room 711, Chicago
(312) 503-4134
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Questions?