FINDING EXTERNAL FUNDING FOR GRAD STUDENTS

ABOUT THE GIC
Our purpose at the GIC is to improve the lives of the citizens of Wisconsin – within and beyond the university classroom – by promoting research, advancing learning, and encouraging nonprofit efforts through instruction and access to information relating to grants, philanthropy, and charitable giving.

- Library Collection (not a research service)
- Specialized and drop-in workshops (see Workshops & Seminars online)
- Print and online resources related to finding funding, writing proposals, and managing nonprofits.
  - Graduate students, Post docs, Early career researchers, Nonprofits

ACCESS
- Memorial Library 262D/E (2nd floor near the reference desk)
- We are open to the public all hours that Memorial Library is open
- No appointment is necessary to use the collection
  - If you would like personalized assistance, please set up an appointment

WHAT IS A GRANT?
- An award for which there is no expectation of repayment or services to be performed
- A Gift of money (or something worth money) to be used for “charitable purposes.”
- Not all funders read/follow the official definitions of grant types
  - Can you use the money as you need to use it?
- Common grant types:
  - Fellowships
  - Travel
  - Research

WHO GIVES GRANTS?
- Educational Institutions
- Foundations
  - Mostly to nonprofits, but many can give to individuals
- Businesses
  - Support research/events that affect their community or market value
- Government Sponsored
  - Look into all levels
  - Federal: $603 billion in grants for FY 2014
- Associations and Societies
  - Rotary Club
  - Professional Associations
CREATE A PERSONAL FUNDING PLAN

• Individual
  o Level of study completed
  o Demographic characteristics and citizenship/residency
  o Long-term goals
  o Geographic location
  o Type(s) of funding needed
    ▪ Study
    ▪ Research
    ▪ Travel
    ▪ Conference Attendance
  ▪ Fiscal sponsorship an option?
    ▪ [http://grantspace.org](http://grantspace.org) and search for fiscal sponsorship for more information
    ▪ Visit the office of Research and Sponsored Programs for department contacts [http://www.rsp.wisc.edu](http://www.rsp.wisc.edu)

• Organization
  o Type of organization
  o Population served
  o Geographic location
  o Type(s) of funding needed
    ▪ Research
    ▪ Long-term projects
    ▪ Equipment
    ▪ Curriculum or Conference Development

NOTES:
FINDING POTENTIAL FUNDING PARTNERS

- Research common interests
  - Topic/subject and geographic location
  - Population groups
  - Technology or technique used
  - Future applications
  - Outcomes, both immediate and long-term

- Where to search
  - Subject and population-specific print directories
  - Subscription and free databases
    - COS Pivot
    - RSP Funding for Graduate Students
    - Foundation Grants to Individuals
  - Request for proposal sites
  - Journals and the research of others
  - Local and association newsletters
  - Word of mouth/listerves

- Check the funders’ track records
  - Foundation giving
    - Tax returns: 990PF and 990
    - Foundation Directory Online Free: www.foundationcenter.org
    - Guidestar: www.guidestar.org
  - Governmental giving
    - USA Spending: http://usaspending.gov
    - Individual agency websites

NOTES:
GENERAL SEARCH TIPS/APPLICATION PROCESS

• Have a firm funding plan
  o What do you need the money for?
  o Subject areas and population served?
  o Geographic location (your background and your project/study)?
• Research grantmakers to match your profile to their interests
• Are you eligible?
• Follow their guidelines
• Proofread and edit your proposal
  o Contact the UW Writing Center: http://writing.wisc.edu
• Consider pre-proposal contact
• Complete the application in full
• Follow-up with your prospects
• Allow plenty of time!

NOTES: