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TOP STORY

Another Year, Another Chance

Even with budgets tight, funding is out there

Given talk of cuts in federal spending and belt-tightening in Harrisburg, one might think that now is *not* the time to pursue a grant for research or public service ideas. Don't be so quick to give up!

The University continues to fund CFEST travel, FTCE and TRE grants. With the new APSCUF contract, funding is renewed for faculty professional development (FPDC) grants.

Meanwhile, IPSSP has just issued its call for student research grants at level funding from last year.

And although sequestration has forced many federal agencies to cutback on the number of grants they award, creative ideas submitted via well-written proposals are still getting funded.

To stay informed about these opportunities, keep an eye on your email inbox AND, **each month in this newsletter, look at the *Calls for Proposals* column at right.**

There, you will find information and links to recent internal and external grant opportunities. Also, take advantage of online search engines described at the bottom of the newsletter to find out who is making grant funding available. Remember, we're here if you need help.

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

PASSHE Conference for Undergraduate Research in STEM

November 15-16, Slippery Rock University

The first PASSHE Conference for Undergraduate Research in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) will be held at Slippery Rock University on November 15 and 16, 2013. Please see the conference website at http://academics.sru.edu/STEM/Conference.htm for event details and registration information.

The **paper and poster abstract submission deadline** has been extended to midnight, **September 22nd**.

The conference **registration deadline** for faculty and students is **October 25, 2013.**

TIPS FOR PROPOSAL WRITING

Are you ready for Grantseeking?

And what do Principal Investigators do, anyway?

Three basic conditions should be satisfied before you commit to grantseeking. First, successful grant proposals need a brilliant idea. Do you have an idea that is new, novel, or distinctively different that satisfies the needs of the grantmaker?

Second, successful grant proposals require a passionate commitment to the proposal idea. In the vernacular, you are in a courting relationship with the grantmaker.

Third, successful proposals take time. You will need sufficient lead time for proposal planning and blocks of uninterrupted quality time for proposal development and writing.

The multiple roles of the Principal Investigator (PI), the lead project person, and the Grant Writer when developing major proposals, often involve multiple groups of people at different locations. Before beginning a major grant proposal, it is crucial that key project personnel understand their roles and responsibilities. Following are their main responsibilities.

The PI is the project leader. A PI should lead the conceptual development of the proposal that shapes the need, goals, objectives, methods, evaluation, dissemination, and budget approaches.

The PI should secure the "buy-in" of all project partners (programmatic, fiscal, and administrative), ensuring not just casual support but total commitment. This is done through regular and frequent communications.

The PI should conduct pre-proposal contact with the current program officer as well as past grant winners and reviewers.

The PI should critique critically the multiple proposal drafts, concentrating initially on content and later on mechanics and format.

The PI should ensure that timely feedback is provided throughout the proposal development process. Momentum builds as proposals are developed and progress should not be torpedoed by delayed feedback.

The PI should respond quickly to writer's requests for ideas and technical language to fill proposal gaps. The PI should monitor input from project partners to ensure quality information is received in a timely manner.

The PI is responsible for the final editorial review and submission to the grantmaker.

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TOOLS FOR GRANTSEEKERS

Tools from the Grants Resource Center & InfoEd

Funding databases available online

The chart below highlights the various tools included with University-paid subscriptions. If you have any questions, please give IPSSP a call, 717-477-1251. We pay institutional dues for access to these services. In an effort to not subsidize free and unethical use by others, we ask that you do not share this access outside of the institution. *Thank you!*

Source	Database	Description	URL	Access instructions
InfoEd "SPIN Plus"	SPIN	Funding opportunities database of national and international government AND private funding sources.	https://spin.infoedglobal.com/Home/GridResults	Use the Quick Search or Advanced Search options to look for grant opportunities; you can also review new announcements from the Federal Register and FedBizOpps.
	GENIUS	Global network and database of investigator profiles of scientific and scholarly expertise.	http://www.infoed.org/GeniusSearch/genius.asp	Use Quick Search or Advanced Search with your research topic keywords OR names of researchers to build your network and identify possible collaborators.
	SMARTS	Automated custom search based on your own profile and keyword selection.	http://www.infoed.org/genius_live/create_new.asp	Create a username and password at the website. Once IPSSP authorizes your account, login and select keywords to match your funding interests. SMARTS will run a daily match and email you relevant funding announcements.
AASCU Grants Resource Center (GRC)	Deadlines	A monthly publication available online or in pdf presenting funding opportunities sorted in broad categories with due dates 1 to 3 months out.	http://www.aascu.org/grc/	Use "supa" as the username and "member" as the password to access the publication online; Deadlines is also transmitted via email monthly as an attachment to the IPSSP newsletter.
	GrantSearch	Funding opportunities database searchable by academic subject, activity, funding sponsor, deadline month, and text.	http://www.aascu.org/grc/gs/	Use "supa" as the username and "member" as the password to access GrantSearch. Choose your key criteria from the selection lists or type a keyword in the "select text" field.
	Targeted Funding Opportunities	A funding alert emailed directly to you from GRC based on your subject and function code criteria.	http://www.ship.edu/Public_Service/Funding_Opportunities/Customized_Funding_Opportunities/	Use the subject and function codes presented at the website to identify your interests. Email your codes to IPSSP@ship.edu. We will forward your request to GRC; you should receive your alert with the next month's cycle.