

Strategies to Support and Expand External Funding for Social Science Research

CAHSSA Leadership Meeting
March 2, 2023

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California Alliance for Hispanic-Serving Social Science Advancement (CAHSSA) Overview

Collaboration between UCSB, UCI, CSU CI, and CSU CO to build and broaden grant-seeking in the social sciences within the UC and CSU systems (NSF Build & Broaden grant award)

- Webinars (recorded and available on CAHSSA website)
- Mentored Writing Groups for Individual Proposals (ongoing)
- Mentored Writing Retreat for Collaborative Proposals (April 2023)
- Research
 - UC and CSU social science faculty survey (completed)
 - Analysis of formal review feedback on social sciences NSF proposals (in preparation)
- Social Science Leadership Seminar Series
 - November 10, 2022
 - March 2, 2023
 - TBD

Agenda

- Erika Wright, Cal Poly Humboldt
 - Best Practices for Engaging Faculty in the Social Sciences
- Bill Maurer, UC Irvine
 - Advancing Social Science Research: Strategies to Expand External Funding
- Moderated Questions & Discussion



Cal Poly Humboldt Sponsored Programs Foundation

Erika Wright, Research Development Lead

Challenges



Retention,
Tenure and
Promotion
Process



High
teaching,
advising &
emotional
support loads



Feeling that
grants are
additional
work that
they don't
get paid for



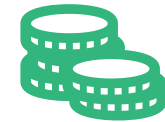
Intimidation
& lack of
experience



Belief that
there are no
grants for
them



If a grant is
not necessary
to do their
research -
why bother?



Match
funding poses
a significant
challenge



Junior faculty
often
mention
being actively
discouraged
against
research

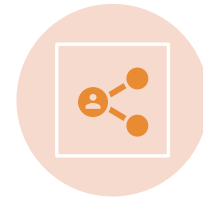
Campus Wide Strategies



Outreach & education



Incentives



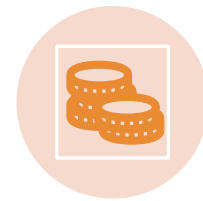
Pivot: curated lists & support coordinators



Supportive Administration



Award announcements



PI Celebration & Million Dollar Club



Created a match fund



Support & Visibility

Arts & Social Science Specific Strategies

Lori/Dan



Supportive Dean



Grant writing workshops



Publicize the work that the CSU does



Increased Internal grant opportunities



Making strategic connections with other faculty



Interdisciplinary work & Curriculum Development

Advancing Social Science Research: Strategies to Expand External Funding

CAHSSA Academic Research Leaders Event
March 2, 2023

Context

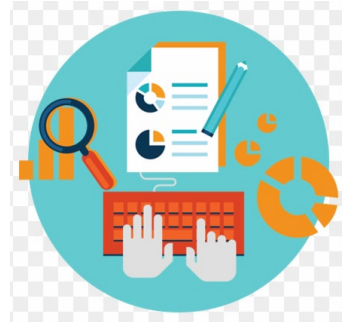
- Challenge: Low level of grant activity
 - Low incentive; underdeveloped skill in proposal writing
- Goals:
 - Increase grant activity across school (quantity and quality)
 - Enhance capacity to go after large, collaborative opportunities
 - Effect long-term cultural change
- Action: Hired a Research Development Director at school level in Sept 2018

Strategies



Outreach

- * Dept visits
- * Curated funding opps
- * Targeted communication
- * New Faculty Orientation
- * One-on-one Research Coaching



Concierge Support

- * Finding funding
- * Project conceptualization
- * Proposal development, submission and re-vision
- * Research program planning



Convenings

- * Facilitated discussions around themes and/or funding RFPs



Training

- * Workshops
- * Grant Proposal Writing Institute

Office of Faculty Development and Diversity

- Research/teaching coaching
- Faculty Development Institute (required of new faculty, open to all)
- Writing in Color and Changemakers series
- (equity.socsci.uci.edu)

Grant Proposal Writing Institute

- 6 2-hour session program February-June – 2020 pilot (10 participants); 2022 (15 participants, 2 sections)
- Combination of instruction and instructor/peer workshopping of draft proposals
- Incentives:
 - Stipend/research funds (\$500-1000) to a) complete program, and b) to submit a proposal within one year;
 - Seed funds to support pilot research
- Most impactful for increasing grant activity at scale and for effecting cultural change

Outcomes

- Most Impactful Programs: Concierge (Individualized) Support and Proposal Writing Institute
- 8/10 participants in 2020 cohort submitted 28 proposals in 2 years after Institute, 9 (32%) of these were funded for >\$650K
- 9/15 2022 participants have submitted proposals to date
- Overall, 2018-present, 35% increase in number of faculty submitting proposals over 2013-2018
- In 2022 – First time teams received internal OR seed funds (2 of 4 proposals funded)
- Several large collaborative proposals submitted or are in progress

Takeaways

- Value of investing resources in Research Development
- Value of having an RD person in communication/collaboration with other RDs across the campus – larger, collaborative grants, scoping out more opportunities (Mercury SSRC, e.g.)
- Make full use your Research Development person!

Questions & Discussion

Please type your questions/discussion topics into the chat!

Presenters:

Erika Wright, Cal Poly Humboldt

Bill Maurer, UC Irvine

CAHSSA team:

Leslie Ponciano, CSU Chancellor's Office

Holly Hapke, UC Irvine

Barbara Walker, UC Santa Barbara

Billy Wagner, CSU Channel Islands & SSRIC

