Strategies to Engage Faculty and Promote Research Efforts

Lori Kaser, College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
Kim Lightle, College of Education and Human Ecology
Session Objectives

• Describe best practices and strategies to engage faculty and promote scholarly activities

• Compare and contrast successful and not so successful faculty development programs and activities
FY2017 SPONSORED PROJECTS
in the COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

EXPENDITURES
Research expenditures – the funds spent on personnel, supplies and services – reflect the research activity of the college

- $41M
- 877 active grants

SUBMISSIONS AND AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROPOSALS</th>
<th>AWARDS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>488 proposals submitted</td>
<td>351 awards in FY 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$154M in funds requested</td>
<td>$44M in awards</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

- 14 Patent Filings
- 9 New Patents Issued
- 33 Invention Disclosures
- 58 New Inventors
- $173,696 Total Licensing Revenue

421 Faculty
489 Graduate Students

1,462 Staff
3,267 Undergraduate Students
Limitations

- Graduate Education Coordinator
- Post-Award function
- Data Manager
- Compliance Manager
Grant Development Support Unit

Our mission is to serve CFAES faculty researchers as they conceptualize, develop, write and submit their proposals to federal agencies and other entities to seek funding.

Our goal is to work across all disciplines to make the proposal development process as straightforward and streamlined as possible.

Pre-Award for the College Decentralized University

The GDSU has been successful in obtaining more than $89 million in new extramural funding since its inception in 2010.
Proposal Development
(Lead PI must have an FAES appointment)

- Solicitation Requirements (RFP)
- Budget Preparation (including justifications)
- Sponsored Program Officer (SPO) Budget Approval
- Templates
- Funding Mechanism/Submission (Cayuse, Fastlane, etc.)
- Editing and proofreading (time permitting)
- Collecting subaward documentation
Faculty & Staff Training

- Budget Basics
- Post Award Grant Contract Management, PI Portal Training
- Finding Funding/Grant Writing
- Data Management Plan (DMP) Tool Workshop
- SEEDS Funding
- Finding Funding
- Research Compliance
- Impact Statements

- Research Compliance and “Other”
  - Responsible Conduct of Research, Conflict of Interest, etc. “Other – NIFA Annual Report of Progress, NIFA Capacity Grant Reporting (non-financial)”
Positives

• 28% of all CFAES proposals are processed by the GDSU
• Business has increased 150% + since 2017

Limitations

• Lack of resources to work with all faculty (staffing)
• Faculty placed on a waiting list or denied services during “busy season”
• Leadership changes
PEER REVIEW : National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA)

Review of all sponsored research activity
• Organizational Structure and Staffing
• Proposal Services (Pre-award)
• Post–award (Award Management)
• Research Ethics
• Data Management
• Compliance & Risk Assessment

70 + Recommendations
Positives

• Faculty expressed a high level of pride regarding CFAES
  • Over 70 faculty interviewed during process
• Identified that college policies and procedures for research are needed
• GDSU recognized as an exceptional service to the college
• Able to address the “small hanging fruit” of the review

Limitations

• No Associate Dean of Research for three years
• Communication
• Administrative burden on PI’s is much higher in CFAES than other institutions
• Some may have lost “hope” due to lack of noticeable actions
New Faculty Onboarding

Orientation Packets
- Common Acronyms
- OSU Research Policies
- Facilities and Centers
- Responsible Research
- Conflicts of Interest
- Institutional Data Policies
- Buckeye Box

[Link](go.osu.edu/GDSUResearcherOnboarding)
Ohio State receives full AAHRPP reaccreditation
The Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protections Programs Inc. (AAHRPP) Council on Accreditation awarded Ohio State University full accreditation for five years. This important achievement reflects the university’s commitment to protecting the rights and welfare of human research participants. Maintaining AAHRPP accreditation assures research participants, researchers, sponsors, government regulators and the public that Ohio State is committed to scientifically and ethically sound research as well as continuous improvement of its HRPP program.

RCR TRAINING REQUIRED FOR ALL RESEARCH ELIGIBLE PERSONNEL
Ohio State University requires all research eligible faculty, staff, and students involved in designing, conducting or reporting of research to be trained using CITI’s Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) module. Please note that this requirement is in addition to the basic CITI training and any other RCR training that may have been completed. Research eligible faculty, staff and students are required to complete the RCR training by June 30, 2018. For more information, see the Office of Research Compliance website.

SPONSOR UPDATES
The USDA has issued its Strategic Goals for FY 2018-2022. You can find out more in the USDA Strategic Plan, or watch the Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue discuss them through a video series.

The National Institutes of Health Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare has a new website. Here, you can find information about policies, workshops, and other resources relating to animal use in research.

The Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR) has released its 2017 Annual Report: Cultivating Innovation. This report details the grants awarded, programs launched and general activities of the FFAR from January 1, 2017–December 31, 2017.

**DC DAYS 2018**
Members of CFAES and the College of Education and Human Ecology traveled to Washington, D.C. from May 7-9, 2018 for the 5th annual DC Days trip. Read more
First Tuesdays

- Provides information on OSU’s financial, physical and human resources that contribute to faculty success
- Introduces faculty to concepts in leadership and personal and professional development
- Facilitates communication and networking among faculty
- Introduces faculty to state, regional, national and international issues that can impact personal and programmatic outcomes
Positives

- Networking among new assistant professors
  - Different departments, different campuses, 88 counties
- Promotion and Tenure session, most liked!

Limitations

- Since inception (2013) attendance has dropped significantly by assistant professors
- Not enough hires to support annual cohort
- Technology changes

u.osu.edu/FirstTuesdays
D.C. Days

- Increases faculty understanding of federal agency programs
- Encourages relationships between new faculty and national program leaders
- Educates new faculty on available funding through federal sponsors
- Provides resources that make faculty more competitive
SEEDS: The OARDC Research Enhancement Competitive Grants Program

• Increases the competitiveness of scientists in extramural programs
• Encourages partnerships with industry and other stakeholders as well as international collaborations
• Promotes the development of interdisciplinary teams
• Provides undergraduate students with research experience
• Allows graduate students to take part in the grant-writing and proposal review process
The SEEDS Program has:

- Published **997** peer-reviewed scientific manuscripts, abstracts, popular press articles, bulletins and/or book chapters.
- Made more than **1,597** presentations throughout the world.
- Obtained **14** patents, **26** invention disclosures, and **6** licensing agreements.
- Funding percentage of **41 percent** for faculty proposals.
- Produced **78** doctoral dissertations and **119** master’s theses.
SEEDS
The CFAES Research Competitive Grants Program

Positives

• A return of over $10 for each dollar spent
• Unique program to land-grant universities
• Faculty and Student focused programs

Limitations

• Budget for support declining
College of Education and Human Ecology (EHE)
The Ohio State University
College of Education and Human Ecology

~ 170 faculty
3 Departments
  • Educational Studies
  • Human Sciences
  • Teaching and Learning
2 Centers
  • Crane Center for Early Childhood Research and Policy (CCEC)
  • Center on Education and Training for Employment (CETE)
Mission
The overall mission of the EHE Office of Research is to increase the research capacity of the college by providing resources, programs and direct services to faculty, research staff, postdocs and graduate students.

Guiding Principles
1. Increase the quality of proposal submissions, focusing on funding sources with full-indirect rates
2. Increase engagement with school district/community organizations
3. Develop tools to help leadership and faculty use data to make decisions about research
Mission
The overall mission of the EHE Office of Research is to *increase the research capacity* of the college by providing resources, programs and direct services to faculty, research staff, postdocs and graduate students.

Guiding Principles
1. Increase the **quality** of proposal submissions, focusing on funding sources with full-indirect rates
2. Increase the engagement with local school districts
3. Develop tools to help leadership and faculty use data to make decisions about research
~ 170 faculty
3 Departments
  • Educational Studies
  • Human Sciences
  • Teaching and Learning
2 Centers
  • Crane Center for Early Childhood Research and Policy (CCEC)
  • Center on Education and Training for Employment (CETE)
Increase the QUALITY of proposal submissions, focusing on funding sources with full-indirect rates (January 2017)

1. Segmented faculty and researchers into groups – decided to focus on those that had some grant writing experience (Budding PIs)

2. Invited this group to a meeting where successful PIs talked about NIH, IES and NSF and specific programs that aligned with the researchers in the room

3. We also talked about the issues and needs and barriers to submitting proposals

**Goal** – Provide wrap around support that would adapt to individual needs
Premise: Feedback is Crucial

**Biweekly Writing Group**

1. Started in September 2017 – anyone can attend but focused on the “Budding PIs”
2. Mixed group – doesn’t matter what the science
3. Can share any content before the meeting – feedback on anything related to grant submission

**Positives**
- Group has stayed at about 15-20 participants over the academic year
- Everybody learns from the discussion even if they aren’t familiar with the science
- PIs learn about new mechanisms and potential partners

**Limitations**
- Small group
Premise: Feedback is Crucial

Red Team Review with Incentive -- Anybody can request Red Team Review but up to 20 Budding PIs had the opportunity to receive $2000 for federal submissions (August 2017-August 2018)

1. 6 weeks before deadline, contact me with potential reviewers

2. 1 month before deadline, completed narrative or aims/research plan due

3. 2-3 weeks before deadline, PI meets with reviewers and me (sometimes I facilitate, sometimes I participate)
   - PIs have to be done in time to receive feedback on proposals
   - Quality of proposals has increased dramatically
   - 2 red team reviews have led to funding (3 in pipeline)

Limitations

- PI follow through (20 PIs signed up immediately for incentive – only three have actually done the review)
Premise: One size doesn’t fit all

Proposal checklist [and customer satisfaction surveys both preaward and postaward]

1. Checklists are sent if the PI contacts the Office of Research more than a month before deadline
2. Checklists are reviewed and guide interactions during proposal development stage

Positives
• Auto-generated out of Proposal Tracking Data Base when needed
• Allow for early detection of needs such as cost share, letters from school districts, etc.

Limitations
• Not everyone fills out checklist (since January 2018 approx. 50% return – 12/23)
• We don’t send if the PI contacts us at the last minute
Premise: One size doesn’t fit all  
go.osu.edu/ProposalDevelopment

Proposal development wiki - The wiki provides information and examples to support proposal development – including awarding-winning proposals, budgets and proposal templates.

Positives
• Repository of documents and information specific to mechanisms and college departments
• We are in control of updates
• We encourage PIs to help create the site (add content themselves or at least send us the content and we add)

Limitations
• Not everyone knows to go to the space YET
Answers to Proposal Development Questions

Who are the people who help with proposal submissions by EHE faculty/staff/students?

Do I have PI status? How hard is it to get? When do I need it?

What is the big deal about an ePA-005?

How do I sign onto NSF FastLane for the first time?

What is Cayuse and why should I care?

How do I find funding opportunities?

Do you have checklists for the required sections for federal submissions?

What is my project going to cost? How do I know what to add to my budget?

I know I need to talk to a program officer at the funding agency – what should I ask them?

I would like to have feedback on my proposal – what services do you offer?

I'm interested in foundation funding – where should I start?

Do you have examples of required sections of proposals such as biosketches, facilities, and others?

Do you have samples of award-winning proposals?

I want to do research in a K-12 school. What do I need to know?
Premise: One size doesn’t fit all

g(o.su.edu/FundingOpps

Online Library of Funding Opportunities

Curated collection of active funding opportunities which have been handpicked for faculty and researchers in EHE. Entries includes opportunities from federal, foundation and OSU sponsors. The records are browsable as well as searchable by Keyword as well as Sponsor Type, Program Type, and Topic. Opportunities are added to the online library as they are released by funding agencies.

Positives
- Free tool (Formidable Forms – WordPress plugin)
- Create metadata schema appropriate for my college PIs
- Create records – can update, delete or “expire”
- Student worker can do updates (once I add them)

Limitations
- Usage hasn’t been great – but we keep advertising
Funding Opportunities for EHE Researchers

SEEDS: The OARDC Research Enhancement Competitive Grants Program

https://grants.cfaes.ohio-state.edu/seeds

Sponsor: OSU, College of Food, Agriculture and Environmental Science

Submission Deadline: October 11, 2017

Each year, CFAES researchers are invited to participate in the SEEDS program, an internal competition for funding. Since the program was established in 1996, SEEDS has been addressing the challenges and opportunities of Ohio’s agbioscience industry. By fostering high-quality research among scientists, SEEDS enables these scientists to collect the preliminary data needed to give them a competitive edge in national programs and provides them with leverage to attract industry support.
Premise: Build Networks

Research Mixers – *purposefully* brought groups of people together around specific research opportunities (interdisciplinary)

1. Budding PIs and veteran researchers
2. Budding PIs + Center Staff + Educational Studies faculty (EHE department)
3. Let people mix and mingle – it isn’t a requirement that people “sign up”

**Positives**
- Attendees met faculty, researchers from across the college
- Attendees were exposed to funding opportunities that were new to them

**Limitations**
- Somebody has to follow up with potential teams
- Cost – need to budget for mixers
Premise: Build Networks

DC Days – take up to 10 faculty to DC to meet program officers, paid $500 towards their travel

1. Sent invitation to Budding PIs first
2. Traveled with College of Food, Ag and Environmental Science (CFAES)

Positives
• Build network with college and faculty from CFAES
• Much more comfortable talking with program officers and getting around DC
• Exposed to new funding opportunities
• Allowed PIs to meet with programs officers and talk about unfunded proposals

Limitations
• Costs money
Questions?

Lori Kaser, CRA
Grants and Contracts Administrator
Office of Research and Graduate Education
College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences
330-263-3647 Office, kaser.37@osu.edu
grants.cfaes.ohio-state.edu

Kimberly Lightle, PhD
Assistant Dean for Research
EHE Office of Research
College of Education and Human Ecology
614-688-3485 Office, lightle.16@osu.edu
ehe.osu.edu/research