“Mapping” and Grant Planning:
Incorporating Grant-Seeking Activities into your Graduate Career

Grad Grants Center
January 25, 2017
Outline

- Funding your graduate career
- How GradGrants can help
- Where to look for funding
- Incorporating grants planning
- Your career trajectory and grants
Funding your graduate career

• Is there money out there? Where?
• What stage of your career can be funded?
• Information resources
Alleviating some of the stress?

- Types of funding—coursework
  - Training fellowship (external)
    - Language (FLAS, Boren, CLS),
    - NSF, Ford
  - Scholarships
  - Departmental fellowship
  - Teaching assistantship (SAA)
  - Graduate assistantship (SAA)

- Types of funding—research, writing
  - Research expenses
  - Fieldwork expenses
  - Travel
  - Writing support
HOW HAS THE FUNDING CLIMATE AFFECTED YOUR ACADEMIC CAREER PLANS?

A student from Canada said: "It's taking a brutal toll on relationships with friends and family, this is ridiculous." It's impossible to do basic science in the U.S. anymore. The worst it's been, ever.

A professor: "Funding for basic science in the U.S. is the worst it's been, ever.

A student: "It's killing my scientific career."

Leanne Young, 2000-2008

Percentage of scientists who took a pay cut

1.2% of all scientists


Funding for basic science in the U.S.

1.0% of all scientists

Source: ACS

OK, stress a bit...
It is a competitive world, do not sweat rejection

- And if they say no.....

Some things you cannot control, and some things you can

“Every time I thought I was being rejected from something good, I was actually being re-directed to something better.”

- Dr. Steve Maraboli
How GradGrants can help

- Databases for running searches
- Resources for grant-writing
- One-on-one consultations—External funding
- Walk-In hours
  - Internal funding, database searches, general questions
- SAA Vacancies
  - Twitter page with up-to-date funding opportunities @IUGradGrants

Wells Library, East Tower, 5th floor
Our subscription and public databases

• COS Pivot
• GrantForward
• Foundation Grants to Individuals
• Grad Fund (Rutgers)
• Fellowship Finder (Illinois)

Next GGC Workshop at SSRC:
Intro to Funding Databases
February 9, 2017, 1 pm
How GradGrants can help

- Help map out a career grants trajectory
  - Gives you lead time to prepare
  - Maximizes opportunities
  - Makes us aware of agency funding interests
Consider making grant-seeking and writing an integral part of your graduate work-plan

• Go to funding agencies’ websites.
• Look at previously awarded projects
• Find work similar to yours that has been supported
• Does your project fit?
• Contact the funding agency directly: ask questions
Basic Grant Tips: We can help at each stage

- Start looking early! Incorporate grant-seeking into your graduate career!
- Try seeking small grants first...
- Search online funding databases regularly
- Know requirements specific to each grant: read the RFP
- Review funded applications as you prepare to write
Travel, Research, Writing… Language Training

- Islamic Studies Travel
- CAHI Conference Travel, CAHI Research Award
- COAS Travel
- GPSG Travel, GPSG Research
- OVPIA International Enhancement Grant, Summer Pre-dissertation Travel Grant
- COAS Dissertation Year Research Fellowships, COAS Dissertation Completion Fellowships
- UGS Grant-in-Aid for Doctoral Research

- Foreign Language Area Study (FLAS) February 1 deadlines
  - African Studies Program; Inner Asian and Uralic Studies Center; Russian and East European Institute
- Critical Language Scholarships (CLS) 14 languages included
- NSEP Boren Fellowships
- Fulbright-Hays--Group Projects Abroad Program
What do you have control over?

- Proposal fits RFP
- Well designed plan, application
- Previous grant history
- Building your qualifications
- Good graduate career trajectory
- Awareness of funding interests
- Cultivating references
Suggestion: Don’t wait till you need funding

- Application process takes a while
- Rewriting for specific RFPs is not just cutting and pasting
- Will your committee read it, do they have time? Will they provide useful commentary?
- Do you know your literature yet?
Map out your graduate career in concert with funding, and changing landscape of public funding

- Establish timelines, signposts
- Ensure sufficient lead time
- Apply to multiple opportunities, even if they potentially conflict
- Be prepared to lose funding, and find alternatives
Contact the GGC

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