



UMass ADVANCE
Collaborative Research Seed Grants

May 22, 2019

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UMassAmherst | ADVANCE Program

Today's meeting

- Brief introduction to the NSF ADVANCE Program at UMass
- Overview of the UMass ADVANCE Collaborative Research Seed Grants
- What makes a successful application?
- Q & A



Jennifer Normanly



Laurel Smith-Doerr



Julie Woods



James Allan



Sergio Breña



Buju Dasgupta



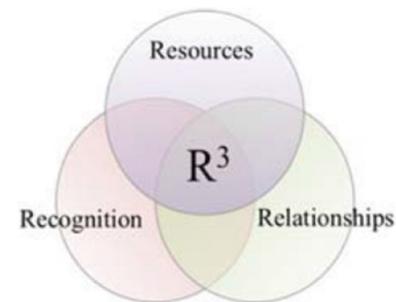
Joya Misra



Gabriela Weaver

UMass ADVANCE: Collaboration & Equity

- We focus on how to promote collaboration in three key arenas:
 - Research Collaboration
 - Inclusive Community
 - Shared Decision-Making
- R³ Model focuses on providing:
 - Resources
 - Relationships
 - Recognition



Broad Program Goals

- Recruit and retain diverse STEM faculty (gender, race/ethnicity, nationality, sexuality, and other relevant statuses).
 - Ensure that faculty feel satisfied, included, and respected.
 - Provide clear pathways to advancement to promotion, tenure, and leadership roles.
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UMass ADVANCE Collaborative Research Seed Grants

The seed grant program seeks to foster the development of innovative and equitable collaborative research projects among UMass Amherst faculty. Research Collaboration Manager will support team's search for external funding.



Seed Grant Timeline:

- RFP Announcement – May 13, 2019
- Information Workshop - May 22, 2019
- Submission Deadline - Sept. 17, 2019
- Awards Announced - October 2019

Seed Grant Terms/Benefits:

- Two or more Investigators for each proposal must be faculty members at UMass Amherst.
- All proposals should be led or co-led by a faculty member in NSF supported STEM fields in any college.
- One-year grants in the range of \$10,000-\$15,000 each.
- Support from Research Collaboration Manager

An ADVANCE Research Collaboration Seed Grant:

- Supports equitable collaborative research teams in their work toward writing a major external grant
- Demonstrates equitable and inclusive research agreements and practices
- Has collaborators all involved early and driving the science (Planning for the team is needed so no one is being pulled in at the last minute on large proposals)
- Provides appropriate recognition of collaborative research
- Provides resources and develops teams skills
- Provides a competitive advantage for larger proposals

ADVANCE Research Collaboration Seed Grants

- Grant:
 - Provides \$, time and logistics support to develop the project
 - Enables teams to:
 - Try out new ideas, collect pilot data
 - Discuss issues with new partners
 - Strategize funding targets
 - Build interdisciplinary relationships with colleagues
- Your team's commitment:
 - Plan to submit a major external grant
 - Attend at least one ADVANCE research collaboration workshop during AY 19-20
 - Plan to present a final report at an ADVANCE workshop/panel in 2020 (3 to 9 months after completing the project)

Additional Support for External Funding Opportunities

Professional staff members at ISSR:

Karen Mason

ISSR Grants, Personnel and Budgets Manager



Jessica Pearlman, Ph.D.

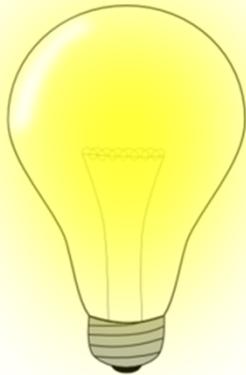
ISSR Director of Research Methods Programs



TIPS

First and Foremost

Have an exciting, important, new idea...



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Never, ever give up!



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Application Requirements Part I

- Cover sheet: Title, Names of PIs and contact information
 - 200 word abstract in non-technical language
- Proposal narrative
- 1. Proposal summary (3 page max) Brief description of research problem and specific contribution you intend to make in this area
 - Significance of the research
 - Anticipated methodological approach
 - Vision of what differentiates project from standard disciplinary research
 - Funding plan
 - Sponsor(s) to whom you anticipate you will submit for follow-on funding,
 - A well-conceptualized rationale for approaching this funder, with deadlines

Proposal Requirements Part II

2. Two-page CV for each PI and Co-PIs

- At least 2 PI's from UMass Amherst must be TT faculty or a full time lecturer in an NSF Supported STEM College (CNS, SBS, COEng, CICS).
- Competitive proposals will have a diverse team: including women faculty member(s) and/or faculty members of color.

3. Budget justification (limit \$15,000)

- No salaries for faculty permitted, graduate student support okay
- No indirect costs

Typical Flaws

- Significance not clearly stated
 - Research objectives not clear/specific
 - Follow on funding opportunities not explicit
 - Poor use of theory/existing literature
 - The use of too much jargon
- Lack of Innovation
- Methods not adequately defined
 - Methods do not match research question

Eligibility & Project Focus

- Who is eligible?
 - All Faculty at UMass may participate as part of collaborative research teams, but one of main PIs must be from colleges/departments represented by NSF Research programs:
 - Colleges: College of Engineering, College of Information & Computer Sciences, College of Natural Sciences, College of Social & Behavioral Sciences
 - Departments outside those colleges: Management (in ISOM, Linguistics in HFA).
- Collaboration should be equitable and include diverse teams
- Equity requirement can be met in two ways:
 - 1. Project content can focus on equity and diversity (optional, not required)
 - 2. Diverse team with equitable practices (required for all proposals)

A Great Proposal Needs to:

- Be Scientific
- Be Important
- Demonstrate equitable, inclusive and interdisciplinary collaboration

Collaboration across Colleges will be more competitive

You Want to Answer:

- Why does this question/problem need to be solved?
 - That is, why do we care, why do funders care?
- Why is this the right approach to answer the question?
- Why is this the team to answer the question?
- How will equity be established?
- How will collaborators be recognized?

Recognition

For Grant Recipients:

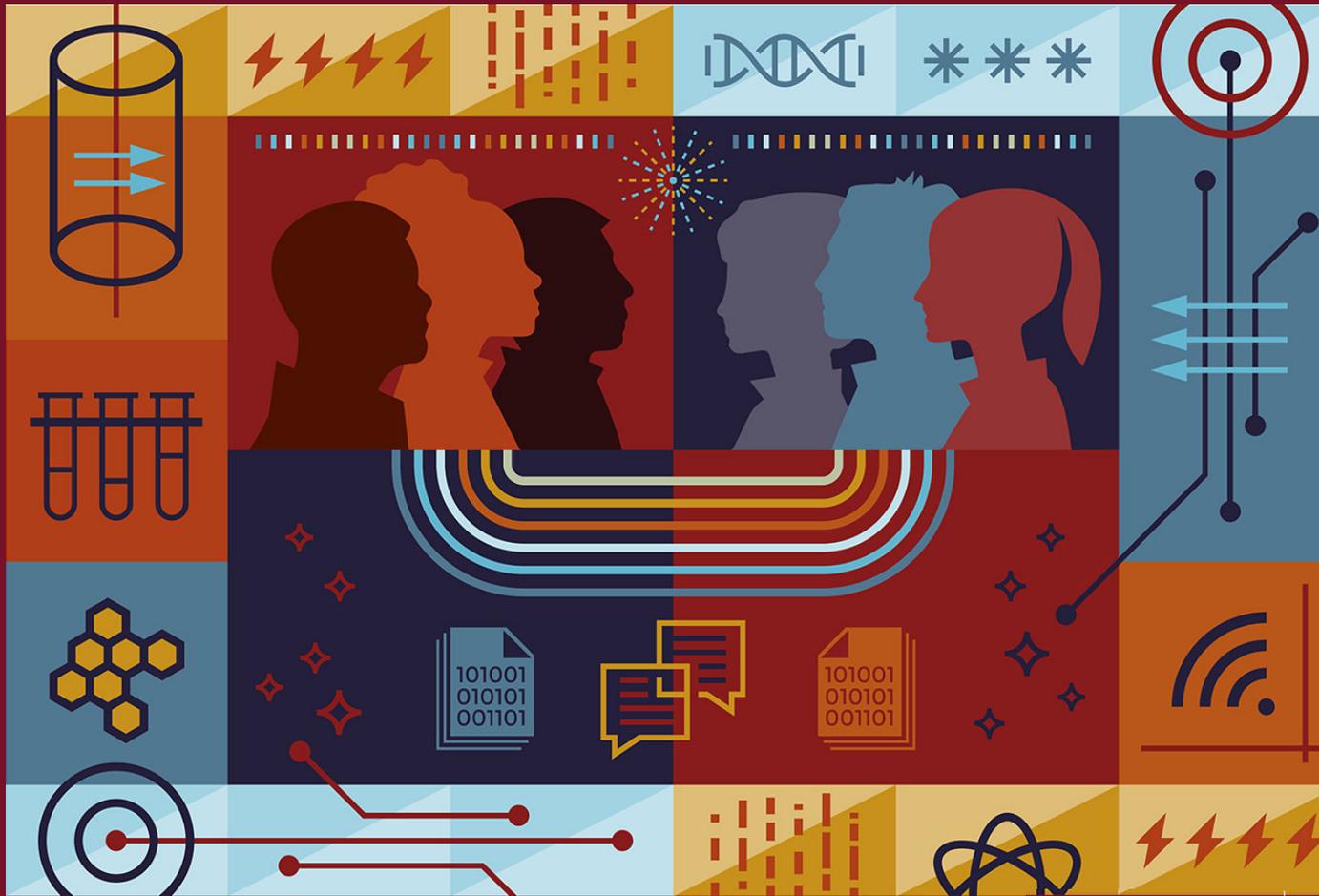
- The ADVANCE Team will notify your Department Heads, Chairs and Deans of your award for this competitive grant.
- We will discuss best practices for recognition in your field(s).
- You will receive \$10-15K in funding and logistics support from Julie Woods

For those proposals not selected:

- You will have the opportunity to receive feedback from the ADVANCE Team
- You will have the opportunity for future logistics support from Julie Woods

Best Advice

- Start preparing early
- Set up a meeting with Julie Woods (woods@umass.edu), ADVANCE Research Collaboration Coordinator
- ASK for feedback from multiple colleagues and give yourself time to incorporate feedback (starting now!)
- Revise
- Ask for feedback again
- **SUBMIT!!!**



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