Research Development: Schwarzman College of Computing (SCC)
Administrators Monthly Meeting January 9, 2025

The Research Development Team

Susan Gomes
Director of Research Development
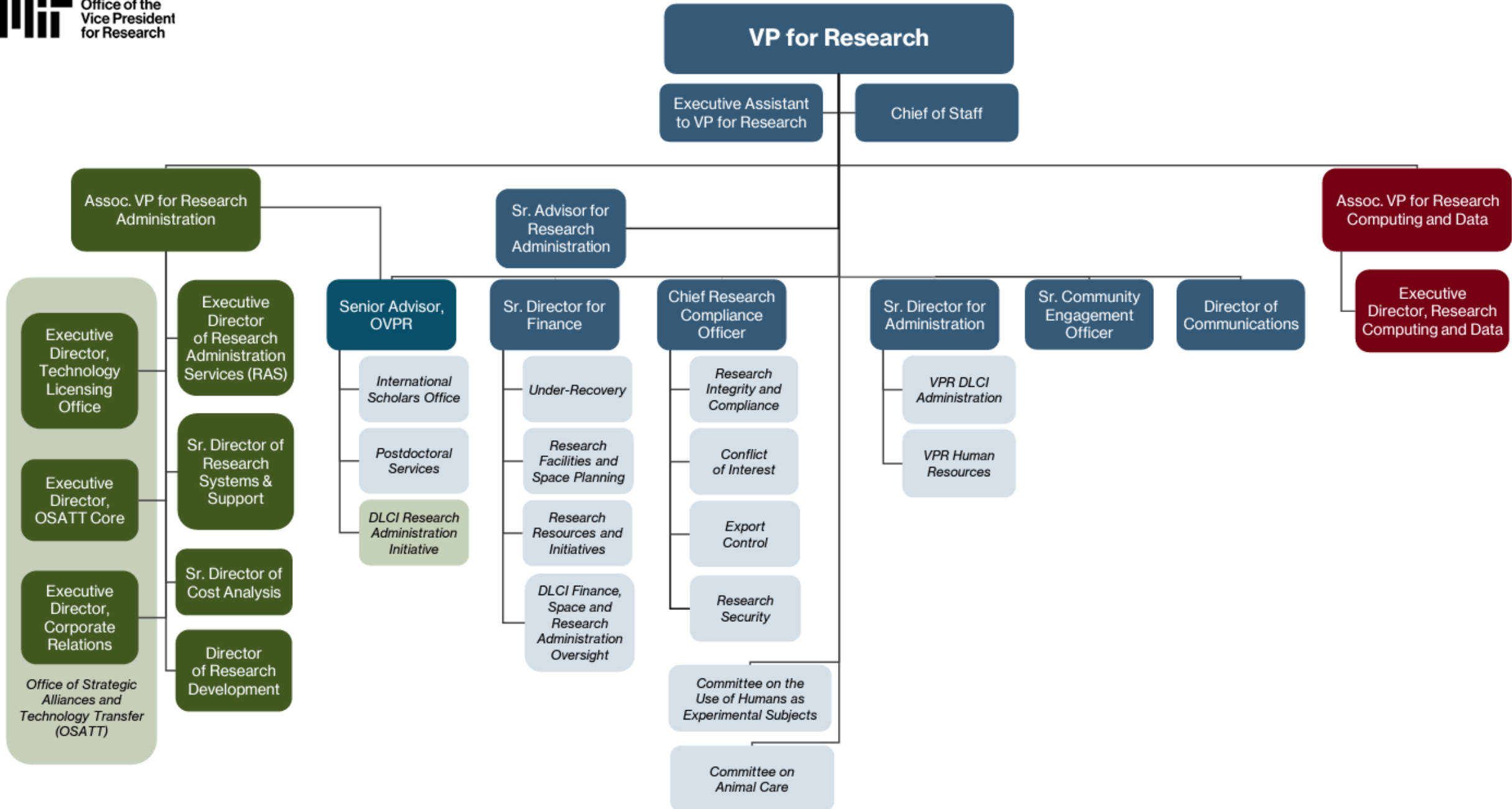sogomes@mit.edu

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VP for Research

Executive Assistant to VP for Research

Chief of Staff

Assoc. VP for Research Administration

Sr. Advisor for Research Administration

Assoc. VP for Research Computing and Data

Office of Strategic Alliances and Technology Transfer (OSATT)

Executive Director, Technology Licensing Office

Executive Director, OSATT Core

Executive Director, Corporate Relations

Executive Director of Research Administration Services (RAS)

Sr. Director of Research Systems & Support

Sr. Director of Cost Analysis

Director of Research Development

Senior Advisor, OVPR

- *International Scholars Office*
- *Postdoctoral Services*
- *DLCI Research Administration Initiative*

Sr. Director for Finance

- *Under-Recovery*
- *Research Facilities and Space Planning*
- *Research Resources and Initiatives*
- *DLCI Finance, Space and Research Administration Oversight*

Chief Research Compliance Officer

- *Research Integrity and Compliance*
- *Conflict of Interest*
- *Export Control*
- *Research Security*
- *Committee on the Use of Humans as Experimental Subjects*
- *Committee on Animal Care*

Sr. Director for Administration

- *VPR DLCI Administration*
- *VPR Human Resources*

Sr. Community Engagement Officer

Director of Communications

Executive Director, Research Computing and Data

Last Updated October 1, 2024

Agenda

- Introduction to Research Development

- Limited Submission Process

- Large-scale Proposal Support

- General Grantsmanship Resources

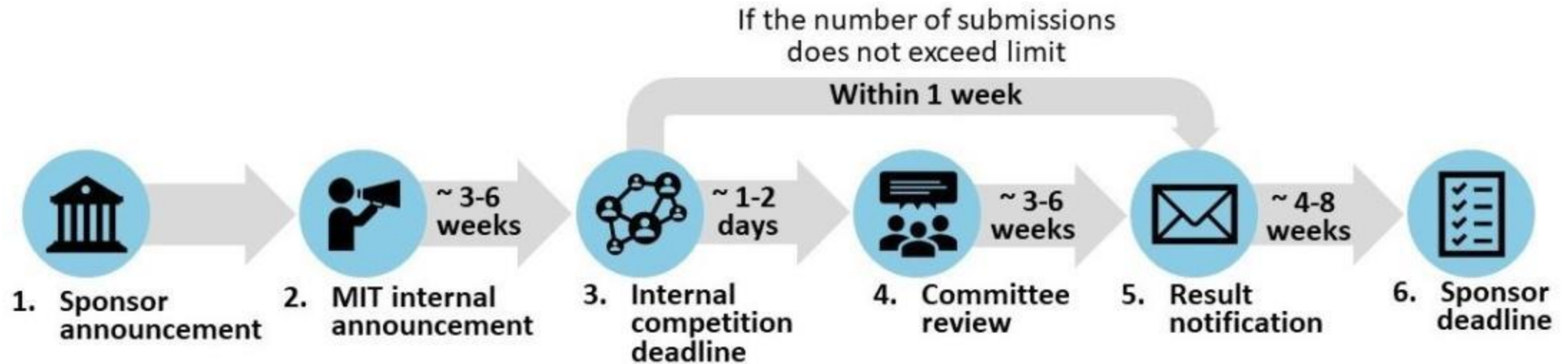# Agenda

- **Introduction to Research Development**
- Limited Submission Process
- Large-scale Proposal Support
- General Grantsmanship Resources

What is Research Development?

- **Research Development** encompasses a set of strategic, catalytic, and capacity-building activities that advance research, especially in higher education.

- **Research Development and Research Administration are distinct yet complementary disciplines**. While Research Administration focuses on the operational and administrative aspects of proposal preparation and ensures compliance with institutional and funding agency policies, **Research Development focuses on enhancing the quality, impact, and competitiveness of the research proposal**.

Limited submissions

Large-scale proposal support

Early-career programming

General grantsmanship resources

Research Development: (Pre)Pre-Award Phase

Key players at this stage:
- PI
- DLCI Administrators
- Research Development
- OSATT Catalysts – industry sponsored agreements
- OFR – foundation sponsored agreements

| **Proposal Development & Preparation** | → | **Proposal Routing & Approval** | → | **Proposal Approval and Submission to Sponsor** | → | **Award Review, Negotiation, Hold Resolution & Account Setup** | → | **Award Management** | → | **Award Closeout** |
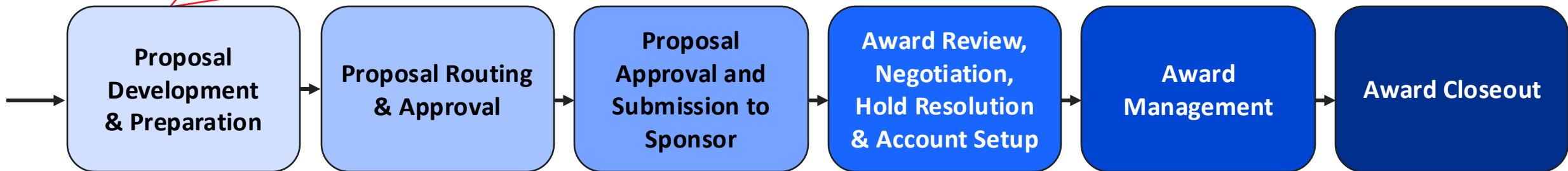
More information regarding the award lifecycle

Agenda

- Introduction to Research Development
- **Limited Submission Process**
- Large-scale Proposal Support
- General Grantsmanship Resources

Tannu Singh, Program Manager
Limited Submissions and Internal Funding

Limited Submission Opportunities

- [Limited submissions](#) are funding opportunities where the sponsor restricts the number of applications that may be submitted by MIT.

- Research Development, on behalf of the OVPR, hosts internal competitions to select which applicants may move forward in the submission process.

- **Listings and Submission Portal: https://mitfunding.infoready4.com/**

Limited Submission Process

If the number of submissions does not exceed limit

Within 1 week

1. Sponsor announcement

~ 3-6 weeks

2. MIT internal announcement

~ 1-2 days

3. Internal competition deadline

~ 3-6 weeks

4. Committee review

~ 4-8 weeks

5. Result notification

6. Sponsor deadline

- Please note: The timeline is for reference only. Actual timelines depend on sponsor deadlines and proposal complexity. Expedited timelines may be used to accommodate short turnarounds set by sponsors, while internal processes for large-scale projects may start earlier to allow sufficient preparation time.

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Karen Wang, Ph.D.
Senior Research Development Officer

Large-scale Proposal Support
Proposal Development Support

How we define large-scale proposals

Characteristics of large-scale proposals

Project duration	Variable, spanning several years to 10+ years
Award amount	Several million to tens of millions of dollars in total
Partners	Multiple partners (e.g., vendors, contractors, or subaward institutions) with associated needs for contract negotiation, intellectual property negotiation, diverse cost share requirements, and pre- and post-award budgeting challenges
Discipline	Multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary, or transdisciplinary; requires the integration of knowledge to solve an overarching problem
Scope	Addresses complex scientific problems based on national grand challenges or agency strategic plans
Impact	Research must be transformational instead of incremental and may not fit in established models or theories; can be high risk, high reward; results in new approaches or methodology; may have the potential for new technologies development and commercialization
Synergy	Must possess and communicate a shared vision; must demonstrate that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts; must demonstrate the value added by the proposed team structure
Development complexity	More complex to plan and develop; involves coordination between more institutions and team members; requires more non-disciplinary components (e.g., tech transfer plans, workforce development plans, education and outreach plans, management plans, evaluation plans)

Types of support for large-scale proposals

Strategic Insight

- Funding program analysis
- Sponsor analysis

Project Management

- Create checklist and timeline, support PI assign roles and responsibilities, track progress
- Help navigate internal processes
- Coordinate expert reviews

Content Development

- Identify broader impact resources
- Consultation for non-technical components

Document Review/Editing

- Review for responsiveness to solicitation/past reviewer comments
- Edit for flow, clarity, voice and consistency
- Proofread

Level of Support

- The services offered to each team will be determined on a case-by-case basis after an initial conversation with the PI. These will vary depending on PI/DCLI needs, proposal requirements, our team's staff availability, and timing.

- We encourage PIs seeking support and administrators to reach out to us **as early as possible**

- While we primarily support large-scale proposals at this time, all researchers (faculty, research scientists, postdocs, students, etc.) are encouraged to explore our online resources.

Case Study: NSF Materials Research and Science Engineering Centers (MRSEC)

- **Apr – May 2024** Developed a Call for Proposals to help select Interdisciplinary Research Groups (IRG's) to participate in the proposal

- **Aug – Sep 2024** Supported and facilitated retreats to catalyze the formation of IRG's and team; Connected PI with Lloyd Munjanja who will lead effort to develop MRSEC Outreach and Education Strategy

- **Dec 2024** Organized and managed a day long on-campus meeting to facilitate external reviews for IRG groups

- **Jan 2025** NSF publishes new solicitation for 2025 MRSEC

- **2025 (ongoing)** Recommend resources that would strengthen the proposal and facilitate the procurement of resources (e.g., scientific editing, external reviews for IRG proposal selection and preliminary proposal)

- **2025 (ongoing)** Project management support for preliminary proposal (In progress)

FY 24-25 Task Force on Large Scale Proposal Development

- Identify existing support structures for large-scale proposals and gaps
- Identify the major pain points and barriers to large-scale proposal development (pre-award and post-award)
- Collect data on best practices and resource allocation for large-scale proposal development from peer institutions, including return on investment
- Solicit feedback from MIT stakeholders on the structures, resources, and types of support that would facilitate large-scale, complex proposal development

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Research development resources

[Research Development landing page](#)

Resources for finding funding opportunities

Annual Calendar of Limited Submissions

MIT Funding Opps Listserv

Pivot tutorial
Pivot webpage
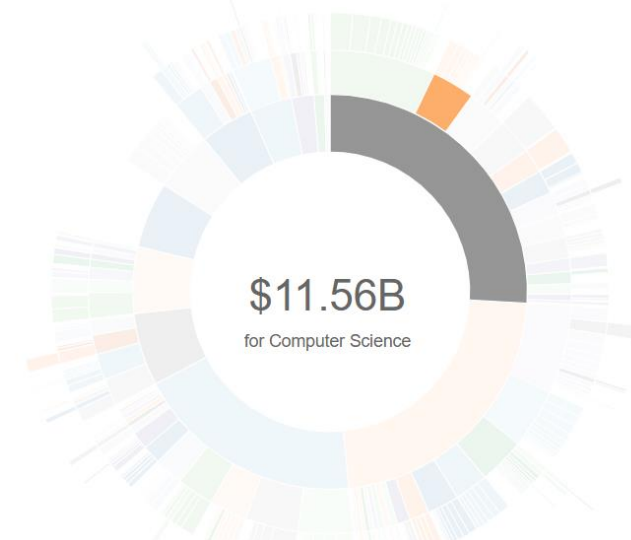
Foundation Directory Online

[Foundation Directory Online](#)

Resources for writing proposals – general tips

Research Development & Grant Writing Newsletter

Research Development subscribes to **Research Development & Grant Writing News**, a newsletter from Academic Research Funding Strategies, LLC, that covers topics in finding funding and proposal development. Browse recent issues below.

Research Development & Grant Writing News	
Issue	**Highlights**
December 2024 [PDF]	December 2024 • Select List of Humanities, HSS, and Arts Opportunities & News • Does Your Humanities Proposal Have Inside and Outside Appeal? • Funding: Artificial Intelligence & the Future of Work • Changes to EPA Notices of Funding Opportunity • NSF Funding for AI Education, Training and Broadening Participation • NIH's New Science of Science Scholars Program Pilot • In Proposals, Less is Often More
November 2024 [PDF]	November 2024 • Select List of Humanities, HSS, and Arts Opportunities & News • NIH Replication to Enhance Research Impact Initiative

Research Development & Grant Writing Newsletter

Issue for December 15, 2024

Our Co-Publisher & Editors

Mike Cronan

Mike Cronan, PE, has 23 years of experience developing and writing successful team proposals at Texas A&M University. He was named a Texas A&M University System Regents Fellow (2001-2010) for developing and writing A&M System-wide grants funded at over $100 million by NSF and other funding agencies. He developed and directed two research development and grant writing offices, one for Texas A&M's VPR and the other for the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (15 research divisions state-wide), including the Texas A&M College of Engineering.

Lucy Deckard

Lucy Deckard (BS/MS Materials) worked in research development and grant writing at Texas A&M University and across the A&M System for nine years. She directed A&M's New Faculty Research Initiative (2004-09), helping junior faculty System-wide jumpstart their research careers with federal agency funding. She served as associate director of two research development and grant writing offices. She founded ARFS in 2010.

Katherine E. Kelly

Katherine E. Kelly, Ph.D., a retired English professor from Texas A&M University, is the author of several books and numerous articles supported by research grants and served as a contributing editor for an academic journal for five years. She provides ARFS clients editorial services on proposals, journal articles, and manuscripts and presents seminars on grant writing and funding in the humanities.

About Us

Research Development & Grant Writing News © has been published monthly since 2010 for faculty and research professionals by Academic Research Funding Strategies, LLC

Co-Publishers

Mike Cronan & Lucy Deckard

Humanities Editor

Katherine E. Kelly

Newsletter Design

Emily Creasy, head of ELC Design, is our graphics partner. In addition to redesigning our newsletter, she provides graphics services on proposals, presentations, books and papers. Subscribe Online

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Resources for writing proposals – societal impacts

[NSF Broader Impacts](#)

- [Broader Impacts statement guidance](#) developed by the School of Science (applicable to all PIs)
- [Advancing Research Impacts in Society](#)
  - [Broader Impacts Toolkit](#)
  - [Current State of Broader Impacts Report](#)
  - [Evolution of Broader Impacts Report](#)
  - [Broader Impacts Guiding Principles](#)

[DOE PIER Plan](#)

I. Project Specific Activities and Strategies to Promote Equity and Inclusion

Introductory Paragraph

Including, but not limited to:

- Statement that your PIER plan will outline the specific activities and strategies that you will incorporate to enhance the scientific and technical merit of your project by promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Statement that your PIER plan activities and strategies are tailored to the proposed research project and aligned with Institute-wide and/or departmental and local resources.

Composition of the Project Team (aligns with review criteria 1 and 2)

Including, but not limited to: Information and/or specific strategies and resources you will leverage to enhance the participation and/or recruitment of individuals from underrepresented backgrounds, individuals from groups historically underrepresented in the research area, or from underrepresented communities.

- – Examples
  - MIT or other resources that you will leverage to recruit or host underrepresented students (undergraduate or graduate) in your lab.
  - Information about how you will partner with individuals from institutions historically under-represented in Federal research, such as
    - minority serving institutions or non-R1 institutions of higher education (listed in the DOE's Institution Designations)
    - institutions of higher education in EPSCoR states

ARIS
dvancing Research Impact in Society

About | Summits | What are Broader Impacts? | Professional Development | Fellowships | Awards | Resources | Memberships | Jobs | Contact A

Seven Organizations Selected for ORIC Cohort

Posted On: 06-27-2024

Posted In: News

The Center for Advancing Research Impact in Society (ARIS) is pleased to announce the selection of the 2024 Cohort of its Program to Enhance Organizational Research Impact Capacity (ORIC). The seven organizations that will form the signature program's fifth cohort are: Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Mote Marine Laboratory, Pennsylvania State University, Texas Tech University, University of Minnesota, University of Utah and Utah State University.

"The mission of the ORIC program is to empower institutions to enhance their internal infrastructure for research impact support," said Susan Renoe, ARIS Executive Director. "By boosting effective BI support at the institutional level, we amplify the benefits of research on society and its impact."

Early-career resources

[Early Career Funding Guide](#)

Finding Funding

I would like to...	Available resources	For additional help contact:
Find early career awards	Identify and receive grantsmanship advice on prestigious early career awards. **Early Career Award List**	Research Development
Receive notices of limited submission funding opportunities and prestigious early career awards that require an internal competition Receive a monthly digest of foundation sponsored funding opportunities	**MIT Fund Ops Listserv:** sign up to receive notices of early career and other limited submissions opportunities as well as a monthly digest of foundation funding opportunities that are not limited submissions	Research Development
View a calendar of recurring limited submission funding opportunities	**Limited Submissions Annual Calendar**	Research Development

Industry Funding and Moving Research to the Marketplace

I would like to...	Available resources	For additional help contact:
Connect with potential industry partners and get support for your startup	MIT **Corporate Relations** facilitates engagement between corporations, MIT, and MIT-connected startups through two integrated programs, the MIT Industrial Liaison Program (ILP) and MIT Startup Exchange.	MIT Industrial Liaison Program (ILP) MIT Startup Exchange
Explore sponsored research and collaboration opportunities with industry and other non-federal sponsors and collaborators, or get help developing an opportunity in this area	**Office of Strategic Alliances and Technology Transfer (OSATT):** OSATT Core works with MIT researchers and non-federal sponsors to help develop mutually-beneficial research projects for collaboration and sponsorship, negotiate sponsored research and collaboration agreements, and support ongoing research engagements, particularly master research agreements. Catalysts serve as a first point of contact for MIT PIs engaging with industry, to help align expectations early in the negotiation process, and then as a navigator through MIT's administrative processes.	OSATT Core

Source:https://research.mit.edu/research-development/early-career-funding-guide

We welcome your feedback!

1. What improvements or changes would you like to see in our limited submissions process?

2. What is your role, if any, do you or your team play in helping faculty to identify funding opportunities?

3. How are you supporting proposal development efforts for faculty? Are you providing support for non-technical components like broader impact plans, managements plans, etc.

4. Are you aware of the finding funding tools PIVOT or Foundation Directory Online? Are your faculty aware of these tools? What are strategies to increase awareness of these tools?

5. Others?

Thank You!

Please send your questions and feedback to Researchdev@mit.edu