

Funding Fridays Series Spring 2026

Grants funding can be critical to faculty careers, but difficult to pull off on your own given limited time. Join the Office of Research & Graduate Education and your peers in a flexible, 8-session workshop series that will motivate, inform and support your writing of grants for submission.

Stop by each session for collaborative learning that will help you stay on track for your goals or hop in for only the sessions you need. ***Fridays from 1 to 2:30 PM.***

February 13: ***Finding Funding that Fits my Research***, with Martina Nieswandt (VP for Research, OOR); Molly McCarty (Office of Sponsored Project Services – Pre-Award, OOR)

February 27: ***A Timeline to Success: Planning Your Proposal-Writing Process***, with Martina Nieswandt (VPR)

At the beginning stages of proposal writing, it is crucial to create an organized and realistic timeline to ensure that you are making consistent progress toward meeting your deadline and planning for the many details and supplements a grant requires. This workshop will help you plan your work by creating a timeline with set dates and deliverables.

March 6: ***Framing is Everything: Making Your Research Questions Fundable***, with Martina Nieswandt (VPR); **and TBD**

In this workshop we will discuss why framing matters including common mistakes to avoid, explore characteristics of fundable research questions using examples of successfully awarded proposals, and identify how well-constructed research questions linking aims and methods.

March 20: ***Budgeting 101: Creating a Realistic Budget***, with Megan Faulkner (Office of Sponsored Project Services – Pre-Award, OOR)

April 3: ***Research Design: Matching Methods to Research Questions***, with Martina Nieswandt (VPR, OOR); **and TBD**

This workshop will focus on successfully pairing methods to research questions. Research design is critical for successful proposal development, as it indicates to reviewers that the researcher has an effective plan to answer their questions or address their specific aims.

April 17: ***So What? Significance and Broader Impacts***, with **TBD** and Martina Nieswandt (VPR, OOR)

This workshop will help you to craft compelling statements of significance and broader impacts statements ensuring your work resonates with reviewers and aligns with funding agencies priorities. Case study review and a drafting exercise with peer feedback will equip you with the tools to clearly articulate

why your work matters and how it contribute to broader societal, educational, or policy outcomes.

May 1: ***Data Management Plans and Supporting Documents*** (e.g., Current & Pending, BioSketch), with Megan Faulkner (Office of Sponsored Project Services – Pre-Award, OOR) and Andrew Greenman (Leatherby Libraries).

May 8: ***You Did It, Get Ready to Submit It!*** with Martina Nieswandt (VPR, OOR), **and TBD**

This week, we focus on the final stages of organizing, editing, and polishing your research proposal. The goal of this final workshop is to leave you feeling capable of submitting your proposal on time.