## Supporting Faculty Research

## An Overview

Meharvan Singh, PhD Vice Provost for Research, Loyola University Chicago Vice Dean of Research, Stritch School of Medicine Professor, Department of Cell and Molecular Physiology "Its our privilege, not our prerogative to conduct research"

Corollaries:

- 1) The privilege is endowed by the public's perception of a need to do research in that particular area
- 2) With such privilege comes significant responsibility

## The good news.....

- There are people and support units in place to help
- My request to you.....
  - Please take the responsibility of reaching out when:
    - You're unsure (about policy, practice/procedure, law (as it relates to research), etc.)
    - Need assistance

### WE'RE HERE TO HELP!



## The three pillars of the office of the VPR

#### Promote Awareness

- Examples:
  - "Press Book"
  - Funding opportunities
  - Rules, Regulations & Best Practices in research

### • (Define areas of) Investment

- Support our faculty's competitiveness
  - Seed/Pilot grants
- The "infrastructure"

#### • Develop/Promote Mentoring Programs

- For faculty and campus leaders
  - "the granting process"
  - Roles and responsibilities
    - best practices
    - compliance

### Example of an entry in the Press Book:

#### Press Book example:



Meharvan (Sonny) Singh, PhD Vice Provost for Research, Loyola University Chicago Vice Dean of Research, Stritch School of Medicine Professor, Dept. of Cell and Molecular Physiology Loyola University Chicago

Technical Summary of Research Activities: Our laboratory is interested in understanding how gonadal hormones, particularly estrogens, progestins and androgens, regulate brain function and influence the trajectory of brain aging or the development of age-associated neurodegenerative diseases. More specifically, we investigate the cellular and molecular mechanisms by which these hormones regulate the survival of brain cells (neurons and glia). Using cellular, molecular, biochemical and morphometric (microscopy) tools, the goal is to advance our understanding of how hormones function in the adult and aging brain so that we may be in a better position to identify safer and more effective therapeutic strategies for the prevention of age-related disorders like Alzheimer's disease and certain brain cancers (like glioblastoma multiforme). In addition, this research aims to identify biomarkers that predict disease risk as well as the success of a hormone-based intervention, and support the development and application of precision (personalized) medicine.

<u>Non-Technical Summary</u>: Our laboratory is interested in understanding how hormones, particularly estrogen, progesterone and testosterone, regulate brain function, in both health and disease states. Using complementary methods that allow the exploration of which elements of the brain cell's machinery, including DNA and RNA, are altered, we expect to advance our understanding of how hormones function in the adult and aging brain, and why men and women differ in their risks for various brain disorders that include Alzheimer's disease, stroke and cancer. We expect that the knowledge gained will help lead to safer and more effective treatments for the prevention of such age-related disorders. In addition, our research will yield insight into how we might use the measurement of certain proteins in blood to gauge the risk for a particular disease, in addition to predicting the effectiveness of a hormone in treating brain dysfunction.

<u>Training Opportunities in the Singh Lab:</u> Students, fellows or residents who join Dr. Singh's lab can expect to receive training in experimental methods in cellular and molecular neuroscience, in addition to developing heightened knowledge/expertise within the broader area of estrogen, progesterone and/or androgen function in the adult and aging brain.

## Leadership (President, Provost, Deans) Marketing/Communications Development/Advancement

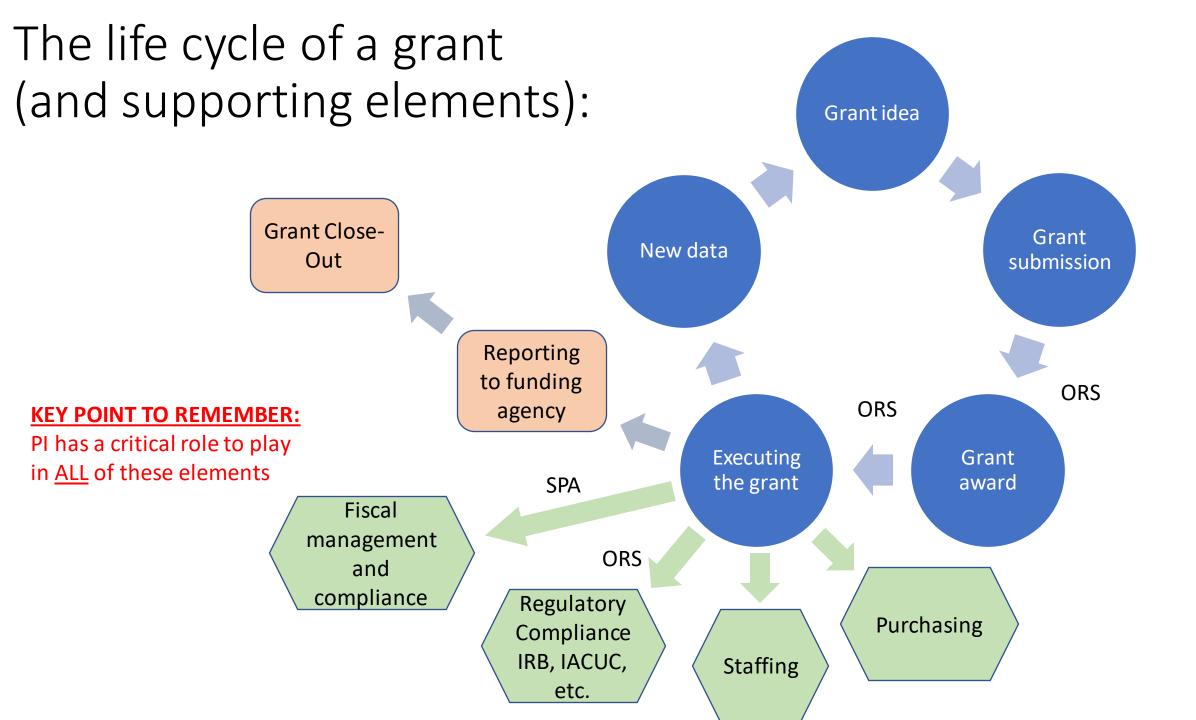
Faculty

#### Keywords: Estrogen, progesterone, hormone therapy, Alzheimer's disease, stroke, brain aging

Framing today's conversation.....

## Who should I contact if I have a research-related question?

- For Grants
- For Contracts
- For disclosure of Intellectual Property
- For disclosure of Conflicts of Interest



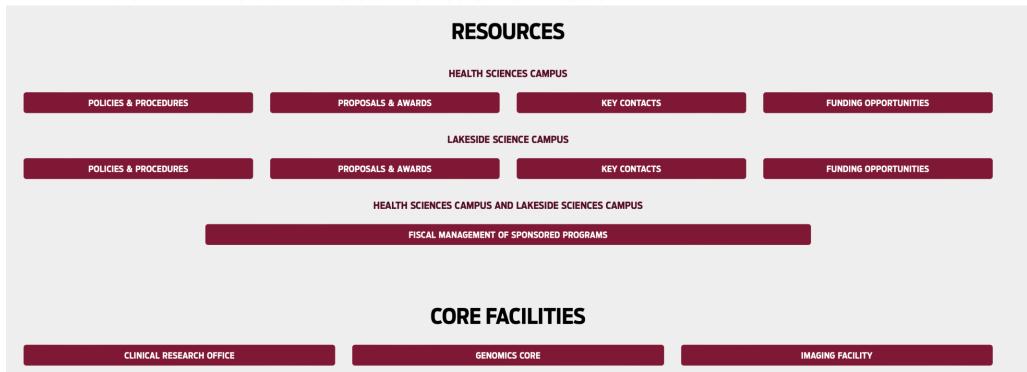
### **PREVIEWING THE NEW RESEARCH WEBSITE**

#### **NAVIGATING RESEARCH**

HELPING YOU MANAGE THE LIFECYCLE OF A PROJECT



\* Office of Research Services (ORS) on the Health Sciences Campus (HSC) or Lakeside Campus (LSC) can assist you with preparing, reviewing and submitting your proposal.



# I want to get feedback on a "mature" draft of my grant. Who can I go to?

- Local resources:
  - Colleagues
  - Dean-designated "leads" for grants/research support (e.g., Associate Dean of Grants in CAS, Dr. Dan Killelea, Associate Dean of Research in SSW – Dr. Michael Dentato; Associate Dean of Research in MNSON - Dr. Karen Saban; Associate Dean for School of Education – Dr. Pamela Fenning; Vice Dean of Research, SSOM - Dr. M. Singh)
  - Departmental resources: Grants Administrators
- Office of the Vice Provost for Research
  - Send request to Ms. Samantha Bynum (<u>sbynum1@luc.edu</u>)
  - Internal Grant Review Program get your grant to us 30 days in advance of its due date and we will solicit independent, formal feedback from <u>experienced</u>\* researchers
    - <a href="https://luc.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1847997">https://luc.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1847997</a> (you will need to login to InfoReady)
  - \*Experienced: those who have served on regional or national grant review panels

# If I have a grant idea but don't know where to "shop" my grant?

- Local resources:
  - Colleagues
  - Dean-designated "leads" for grants/research support Departmental
  - Resources: Grants Administrators
- Pivot website: <a href="https://pivot.proquest.com/dashboard">https://pivot.proquest.com/dashboard</a>
- School and Institutional Resources
  - Lakeside campuses (Lakeshore and Water Tower)
    - Claudia Orellana (corellana1@luc.edu)
  - Health Sciences Campus
    - Samantha Bynum <u>sbynum1@luc.edu</u>

# Capitalize on BOTH internal and external sources of funding

- Internal:
  - Pilot/Seed grants
  - Should serve to build a sustainable program of scholarly activity
    - Not the "one-and-done" kind of scholarly projects
- External:
  - Various sources
    - Federal NIH, NSF, NEA
    - State Illinois State Board of Education
    - Local county/municipality funding mechanism
    - Private foundation The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
    - Private not-for-profit The American Heart Association

## Examples of investments

- Pilot seed grants
- Software platforms
  - Endnote reference manager
  - LabArchives
- Faculty Development (planned)
  - Grant writing assistance
  - Grant writing workshops

## Who can <u>submit</u> a grant or negotiate a research-related contract.....

- A member of ORS/Contracts
- A member of Community Foundation Relations (CFR)
  - Collaboration with ORS required
- Your departmental research administrators (if your department has one) can assist
- Check out the website (which we're working to update and improve):
  - For Lakeside faculty: <a href="https://www.luc.edu/ors/aboutus/">https://www.luc.edu/ors/aboutus/</a>
  - For HSC faculty: <a href="https://hsd.luc.edu/research\_services/">https://hsd.luc.edu/research\_services/</a>
- Contact the Office of Research Services
  - If you're at HSC:
    - Grants: <u>RESEARCHHSD@LUC.EDU</u>
    - Contracts: <u>CONTRACTSHSD@LUC.EDU</u>
  - If you're either Lakeside Campuses:
    - Grants and Contracts: <u>ORS@luc.edu</u>

### A note about Contracts......

Examples:

- Non-disclosure Agreements
- Data Sharing Agreements
- Clinical Trial Agreements
- (Non-clinical) Research Agreements
- Service Agreements
- Collaborative Research Agreements

- Do you need help with:
  - Reviewing and negotiating research-related contracts?
  - Obtaining a research-related contract template?

## Some Dos and Don'ts:

- DO GIVE YOURSELF TIME TO PLAN FOR A SUCCESSFUL GRANT/CONTRACT SUBMISSION
  - SEEK ASSISTANCE FROM LOCAL AND INSTITUTIONAL RESOURCES
  - TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN LEARNING ABOUT THE "RULES"
    - When in doubt, please reach out
    - Plan ahead (*last minute submissions to the ORS may not be submitted*)
- DO NOT SUBMIT ANY GRANTS INDEPENDENTLY
  - Always contact ORS for review
  - Only the designated Institutional Official can sign off on research-related grant/contract paperwork (e.g., NDAs, DUAs/DSAs/DTAs, Research-related service agreements, CTAs, etc., etc.)
    - LUC's Institutional Official is: Meharvan Singh, PhD (Vice Provost for Research)

## "Technology Transfer"

### What does this office do?

- Reviews and negotiates Material Transfer Agreements
- Assists faculty, students, and residents with disclosing inventions for potential patent protection
- Negotiates partnering/licensing arrangements with other research institutions and commercial interests.
- Technology Transfer Committee, composed of faculty members from basic and clinical science with established research portfolios, to review Invention Disclosures and make recommendations about the protection of intellectual property

## Noteworthy considerations:

- BEFORE YOU PUBLISH OR PUBLICLY PRESENT, DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING POTENTIALLY NOVEL AND INNOVATIVE?
  - How do you know?
- ARE YOU SHARING OR RECEIVING BIOMEDICAL MATERIALS WITH OTHER RESEARCHERS?
- Rachel Drucker, Technology Transfer and Contracts Administrator -<u>rbeyler@luc.edu</u>

## (Financial and Research) Conflict of Interest

- What is it?
  - A financial **conflict of interest** exists when an investigator's significant financial **interest** could directly and significantly affect the design, conduct, or reporting of the PHS-funded research.
    - Significant financial interest: defined in dollar terms as > \$5,000 (in 12 month period, from such <u>external</u> sources that include but are not limited to: honoraria, gift, consulting fee, royalty, intellectual property right, or paid authorship

### • "When in doubt, disclose"

- Disclosure is <u>NOT</u> admission of fault. Rather, it is merely an effort to allow an independent committee (Conflict of Interest in Research Committee – CIRC) to make a determination if there is a perceived or real conflict of interest.
  - Even if such a determination is made, that doesn't imply wrong-doing. Rather, it allows for the institution to help the investigator manage the conflict of interest.

## When in doubt....

**Contact the Office of the Vice Provost for Research:** 

Lakeside Campuses Faculty – Claudia Orellano corellana1@luc.edu

Health Science Campus Faculty – Samantha Bynum <u>bynum1@luc.edu</u> Welcome to Loyola University Chicago!!!