

Supporting Faculty Research

An overview

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“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:



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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.

Non-Technical Summary: 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.

Training Opportunities in the Singh Lab: 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.

Keywords:

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

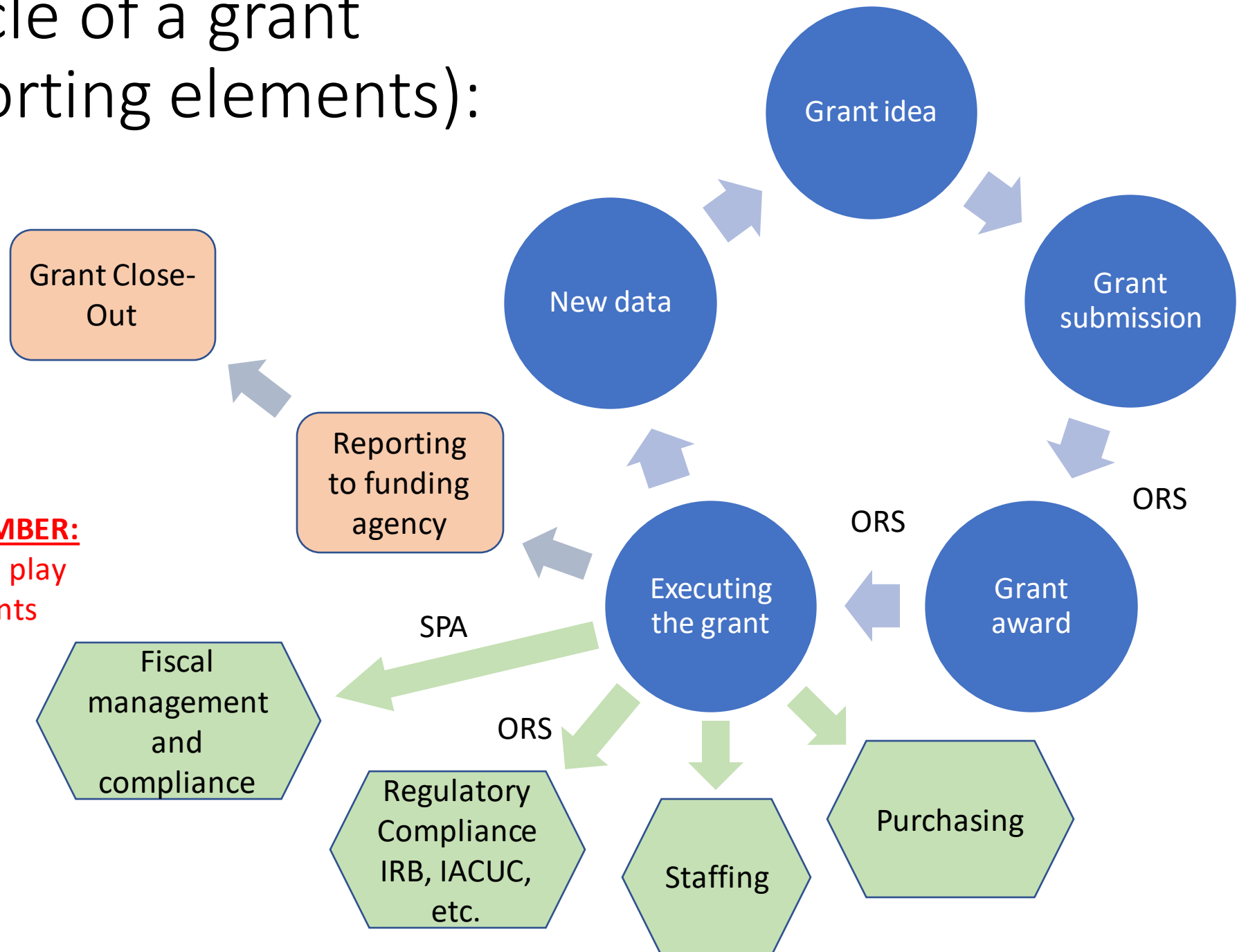


Framing today's conversation.....

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*

The life cycle of a grant (and supporting elements):



KEY POINT TO REMEMBER:
PI has a critical role to play
in ALL of these elements

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 MNSON, Dr. Karen Saban)
 - Departmental resources: Grants Administrators
 - Office of the Vice Provost for Research
 - Send request to Ms. Samantha Bynum (sbynum1@luc.edu)
 - 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 experienced* researchers
- *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
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 - Departmental resources: Grants Administrators
- Pivot website: <https://pivot.proquest.com/dashboard>
- School and Institutional Resources
 - Lakeside campuses (Lakeshore and Water Tower)
 - Jennifer Rios (jrios1@luc.edu)
 - Health Sciences Campus
 - Samantha Bynum – sbynum1@luc.edu

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 planned

- Pilot seed grants
 - General pilot/seed grant funds – plan: grow the investment at Lakeside
 - Diversity focused pilot/seed grant funds - \$150K (NEW)
 - JEDI grants: Inviting faculty to develop innovative programs of scholarly activity that address socio-economic disparities, racial/ethnic disparities, health disparities, etc.
 - “Transformative” pilot/seed grant funds - \$150K (NEW)
- Software platforms
 - Endnote – reference manager
- Faculty Development (planned)
 - Grant writing assistance
 - Grant writing workshops

Who can help submit a grant or contract.....

- Contact your departmental research administrators (if your department has one)
 - Working with Provost's office to add investment into staffing of ORS
 - Creating "local liaison" (i.e., research administrator) to work in a complementary way with the "central office" staff (i.e., grants administrators)
- Check out the website (which we're working to update and improve):
 - For Lakeside faculty: <https://www.luc.edu/ors/aboutus/>
 - For HSC faculty: https://hsd.luc.edu/research_services/
- Contact the Office of Research Services
 - If you're at HSC:
 - Grants: RESEARCHHSD@LUC.EDU
 - Contracts: CONTRACTSHSD@LUC.EDU
 - If you're either Lakeside Campuses:
 - Grants and Contracts: ORS@luc.edu

A note about Contracts.....

Examples:

- Non-disclosure Agreements
 - Data Sharing Agreements
 - Clinical Trial Agreements
 - (Non-clinical) Research Agreements
 - Service Agreements
 - Collaborative Research Agreements
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- 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 grant/contract related paperwork
 - 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 - rbeyler@luc.edu

(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 external 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 **NOT** 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 – Jennifer Rios (jrios1@luc.edu)
Health Science Campus Faculty – Samantha Bynum
bynum1@luc.edu*

Welcome to
Loyola University
Chicago!!!