

The Research Funding Game

The Search for Suitable Career Development Funding Opportunities

1/24/2022



K-Club

Sponsored by:



Department of Pediatrics



Department of Medicine

Survey Drawing



K-Club Special: Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation- Diversity in Clinical Trials Career Development Program

- Career Development opportunity for "eligible candidates who meet the NSF criteria for underrepresented populations in the U.S. Biomedical, Clinical, Behavioral, and Social Sciences Research Enterprises" (African American or Black, Hispanic or Latino, American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander) **OR** "have a demonstrated commitment to increasing diverse patient participation"
- Deadlines: March 15, 2022 (LOI); May 13, 2022 (full proposal—by invitation only)

[Application Information \(diversityinclinicaltrials.org\)](https://diversityinclinicaltrials.org)

Feb 14th K-Club



Monday
February 14
12 pm - 1 pm

**Applying for NIH Career Development Awards:
Options, interactions with NIH staff, and tips for
submitting a strong application**

*Submit your questions
ahead of time for Dr.
Radaev to address!*



Presenter:

Sergey Radaev, PhD

Program Director
National Institutes of Health (NIH)
National Cancer Institute (NCI)



<https://forms.office.com/r/JvfHwapVmj>

Today's Panelists



Jennifer Q. Kwong, PhD

Assistant Professor, Cardiology
Department of Pediatrics



Beth Stenger, MD

Assistant Professor
Hematology/Oncology/BMT - Bone Marrow
Department of Pediatrics



Samantha M. Yeligar, MS, PhD

Associate Professor of Medicine
Department of Medicine: Pulmonary, Allergy, Critical
Care and Sleep
Director of Graduate Studies for Senior Students,
Molecular & Systems Pharmacology Program

Panelist Intro



Jennifer Q. Kwong, PhD

Assistant Professor, Cardiology
Department of Pediatrics

- ✓ Educational background including postdoctoral training
- ✓ Year of first faculty appointment
- ✓ Funding obtained
 - As a predoc
 - As a postdoc
 - As a faculty member

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Samantha M. Yeligar, MS, PhD

Associate Professor of Medicine
Department of Medicine: Pulmonary,
Allergy, Critical Care and Sleep
Director of Graduate Studies for
Senior Students, Molecular & Systems
Pharmacology Program

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Viable Ways To Find Promising Funding Opportunities

- Passive finding
- Active investigative work
- Active database searches



Finding Funding Passively

E-mail alerts

- ✓ Subscribe to the PREP, What's Up?, Georgia CTSA Roundup, NIH Agencies, professional associations
- ✓ Subscribe to relevant professional society newsletters
- ✓ Create a Grant Forward and Foundation Directory profile
- ✓ NIH TOC – weekly email with all new NIH FOA's and Notices

Pediatric Research Events and Programs

Pediatric Research Alliance

EMORY • Children's • Gr

It's your "PREP" for the coming weeks!

For: March 23rd and Beyond



Georgia CTSA

Georgia Clinical & Translational Science Alliance



NIH

National Institutes of Health

Turning Discovery Into Health

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta | Emory University

Investigative Work

The best predictor of future behavior is past behavior

- READ Acknowledgements/“Supported by” sections of publications you read on similar areas of research
- LISTEN to the Acknowledgements section of scientific talks
- NETWORK:
 - Ask your colleagues and grant administrators about funders with big budgets and reasonable review and application processes
 - Seek out funding agency officials at your scientific conferences



Finding Funding – Active Searching

On-Line Databases & Resources

- Research Portfolio Online Reporting Tools (NIH RePORT: <https://report.nih.gov/>)
- Grant Forward
- Foundation Directory Online



Panelist Questions: Finding Viable Funding Ops

- ✓ How have you found viable funding opportunities?
- ✓ Do you have any good strategies or advice to offer about searching for viable funding sources?
- ✓ What strategies did you use to maximize your chances for funding success?
 - Talking with PO's
 - Researching/contacting previous grant recipients
 - Read other successful grants from the same agency/funder
 - Anything else?

Government versus Foundation vs Institutional

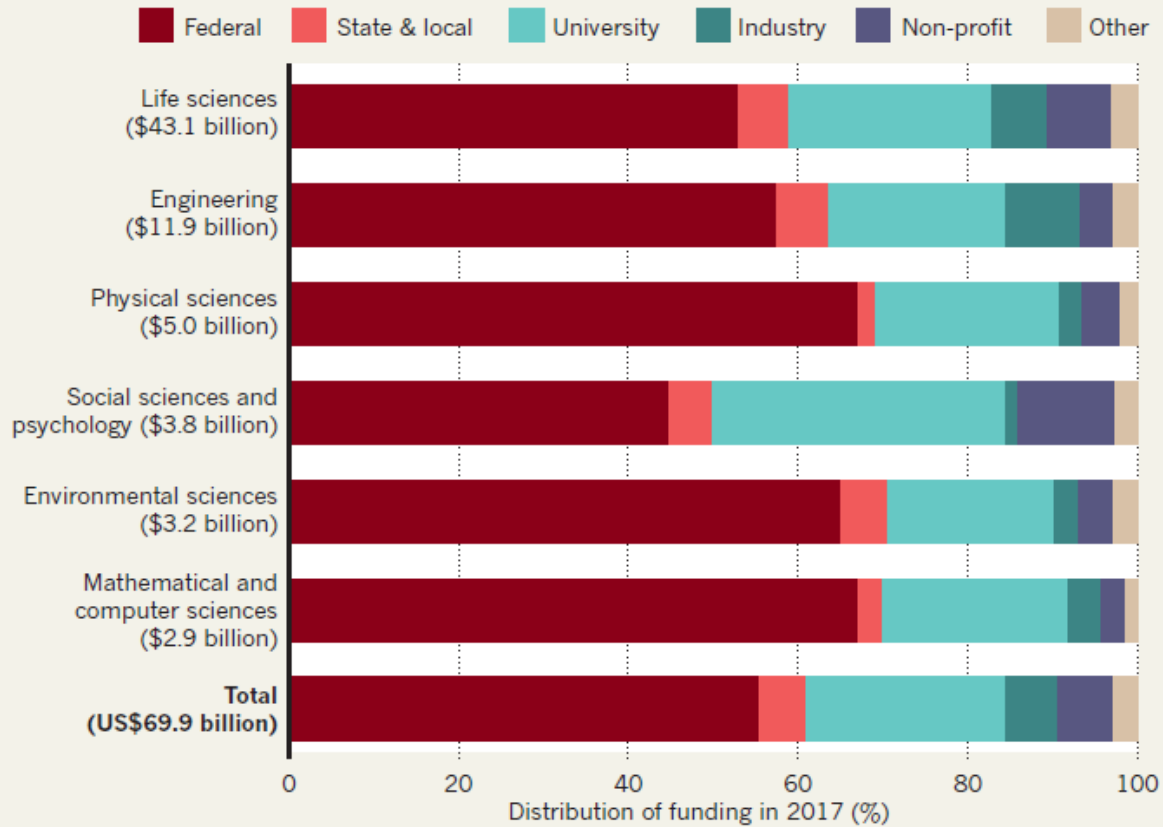
Types of Sponsors



SOM Imagine, Innovate and Impact (I³) Awards

BANKROLL BREAKDOWN

In the United States, every scientific field relies heavily on government support, and the importance of other funding sources varies.



Hunt for Hidden Research Riches. Elie Dolgin.
6 JUNE 2019 | VOL 570 | NATURE | 129

Extramural:

Government vs Foundation Funding – *Some generalities*

Government Awards

- Awards more grants with larger budgets
- Clear Guidelines and common application instructions/formats
- Stated priorities for funding & available to wide array of organizations and areas of research
- Taxpayer funded staff and resources for assistance and feedback during application phase
- Often more competitive
- Bureaucracy/red tape/hoops

Foundation Awards

- Good source for high risk/high reward grants and CDA's
- Application requirements can be less rigorous
- Many require relatively easy LOI & then accept full applications by invitation only
- Often more flexible in meeting unique needs, circumstances, and time frames
- Award dollars usually less and may be restricted (e.g. no PI salary, no indirects)
- Oftentimes applicants get no reviews/feedback making resubmissions and continuous improvement difficult

Intramural: Institutional Seed/Pilot Funds

Some generalities



- Generally less competitive
- Can be very targeted
- A good way to launch one's research funding career
- Less money
- May not receive feedback
- Budgets may be restrictive
- Can be just as much work as an extramural award

Panelist Questions: Comments on sponsor types

- ✓ Are there other pros/cons of each type of grant in your experience?
- ✓ What mix of funding sources have you had and was it strategic or just luck of the pay line?
- ✓ What general advice can you offer others in thinking about a mixed funding portfolio (including other funding sources too such as industry trials)

The Role of Career Development Awards

- Important for protecting time for research
- Typically not a ton of money, though
- Requires mentorship and mentor financial support



Panelist Questions: Role of CDA in your career

- ✓ What CDA focused grants did you have?
- ✓ What were some of the key factors that helped you compete for your CDA and/or first grant(s)?
- ✓ What were your general career goals during your CDA/first grant and did you achieve them?
- ✓ If you could go back in time, would you do anything different during that phase of being an early career researcher?

The Importance of Building Soft Skills

Grant writing

Leadership

Communication

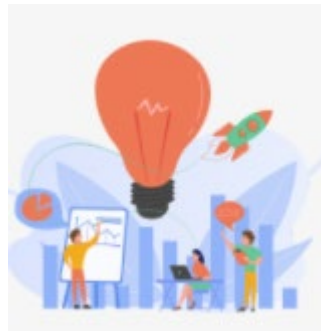
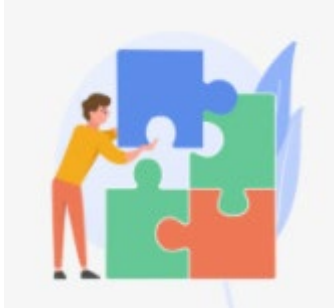
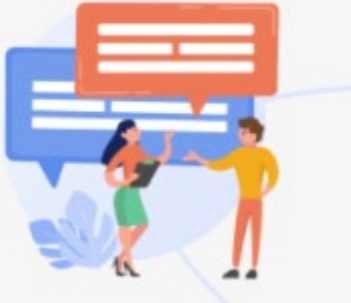
People Management

Team building

Conflict resolution

Budget/financial management

Time Management



Panelist Questions: Soft skills

- ✓ What soft skills did you find were needed both in seeking funding as well as in launching your research career?
- ✓ How did you develop your soft skills?
 - Classes/workshops
 - Mentor input
 - Role model
 - School of hard knocks
 - What else?