Finding and winning research funding

BCOE new faculty orientation
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Overview

- Finding the opportunities
- Preparing winning proposals
  - Process
  - Resources and tips
- Awards

Finding the money

- Grants.gov (www.grants.gov)
  - Daily announcement. You can subscribe free. Mitch checks daily and sends summaries.
- Fed Biz Opps (www.fbo.gov)
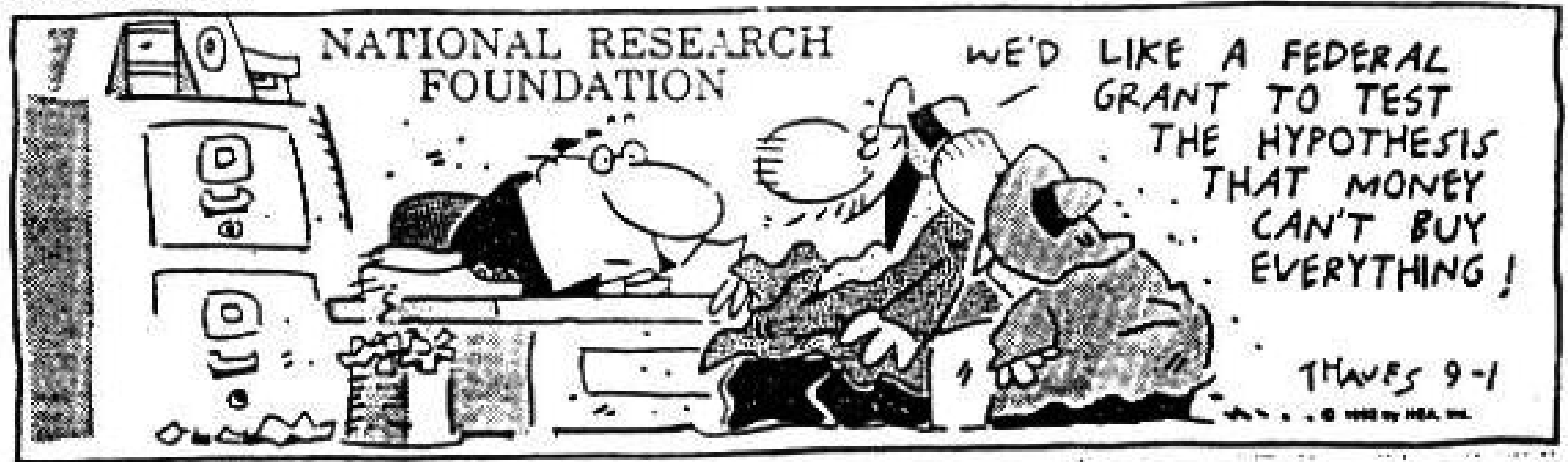 - Contracts, not grants: way more chaff than wheat.

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Finding the money

- UCR search engines
  - Office of Research:
    - >http://or.ucr.edu
      - >Research Development
        - >Funding search engines
        - IRIS and SPIN are good.
        - GRAPES is good for graduate students and postdocs.
  - UCR intranet site: Mitch's summaries

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Finding the money

- Agency-specific sites
  - NSF: www.nsf.gov/publications/obtain.jsp
  - NIH: grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/index.htm
  - USDA: www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/funding.cfm
  - NASA, DOE, others...

Winning Proposals

Winning Proposals

- Process
  - Most proposals are submitted by the University, not by the PI.
  - Start early! Typically we need the budget, title, and partial summary 3-5 days before submission to initiate campus approval.
  - Allow more time if
    - We are a subawardee.
    - We have subawardees.
    - Cost sharing is involved.
    - Teaching release time is involved.
    - Construction is involved.

Winning Proposals

- Approval
  - Campus approval is handled through the E-CAF system. This is easy to learn.
  - The Office of Research handles final submission. Typically, the BCOE grants office packages everything for submission.
  - In almost all cases, the PI does not have the authority to submit a formal proposal. You do, of course, have the freedom to discuss ideas with sponsors, and usually to submit concept papers or pre-proposals.

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Winning Proposals

- Resources and tips
  - Past winning proposals
  - Colleagues who have been peer-reviewers.
  - Library of proposal boilerplate:
    - www.engr.ucr.edu/~mitch
      - User name: info
      - Password: openup. [note that the period is part of the password]
  - Graphic artists (fee)

Winning Proposals

- ## Other resources
  - Every April, we have a meeting for NSF CAREER proposals. Last year's winners talk to this year's proposers about what worked for them.
  - Every September, we have a workshop for NSF Graduate Fellowships.
  - I will always help with editing, writing, and formatting.

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Awards

- Rebudgeting
  - At the time of award
  - Later: Look up the rules in PAMIS (http://pamis.ucr.edu)
- Setting up your account
  - Pre-award authorization if needed
- Renewals and revisions

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Questions?