GRANT WRITING TIPS AND TRICKS

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PLANNING
When the grant is just a twinkle in your eye...

- Review funding priorities and solicitations
  - Notice of Special Interest (NOSI)
  - Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO aka FOA)
    - Program Announcement (PA)
    - Request for Applications (RFA)
- Have an idea?
  - Brainstorm with potential collaborators
  - Draft Aims and pitch them to the Program Officer (listed at bottom of RFA)
    - ASK: “Does this align with funding priorities?”
- Reach out to pre-awards office
  - Itemize your scavenger hunt
ACTUALLY WRITING THE THING
(BLOOD SWEAT TEARS)

- Budget your time (6-8 weeks or more)
  - Scavenger hunt takes the longest
  - Develop a draft budget
  - GCAT needs it 7 days in advance to submit on time
- Schedule writing blocks into your calendar
  - Carve out quiet protected time to write
  - Let your family and friends know you will need TLC
- READ THE FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT CAREFULLY
- If possible, look for opportunities for internal peer reviews and feedback
Your grant will be assigned to a study section (or a special emphasis panel)

After potential conflicts of interest removed, the Scientific Review Officer will assign R1, R2, R3

Each of these initial reviewers will give your grant scores for:
  - Significance, Innovation, Approach,
    Investigator, Environment --> OVERALL IMPACT
  - Consider: Human subjects protection, Budget

Ranked based on average impact, agenda set

Review, discussion, impact scores (COMMONS), Summary Statement
POSSIBLE OUTCOMES-->NEXT STEPS

HOORAY! You got a really good score!!
1. CELEBRATE
2. Review the summary statement
3. Meet with the PO to discuss next steps
4. Prepare for the JIT

Hmmm...Your score may be "on the bubble"
1. CELEBRATE
2. Review the summary statement
3. Meet with the PO
4. Prepare response to summary statement?

Your application was not discussed
1. HAVE A GOOD CRY
2. Review the summary statement
3. Meet with the PO
4. Prepare for a re- or new submission