FORWARD Lecture Series

Dr. Bevlee Watford
Securing External Funding for Educational Initiatives
April 29th, 2015

Attendance

One hundred and twenty individuals attended the lecture, and 89 completed evaluations.
- Of those who completed evaluations, five (5.6%) identified as staff, 73 (82.0%) as faculty members, six (6.7%) as administrators, one (1.1%) as a post doc, and one (1.1%) identified as a student.

Quantitative Results from the Evaluation Form

My understanding about how to secure external funding for education initiatives has increased as a result of attending this lecture.

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly Disagree	8	9.0	9.2
Disagree	13	14.6	24.1
Agree	42	47.2	72.4
Strongly Agree	22	24.7	97.7
N/A	2	2.2	100.0
Missing Data	2	2.2	
Total	89	100.0	

My understanding of sources of funding for student programs has increased as a result of attending this lecture.

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly Disagree	7	7.9	8.0
Disagree	10	11.2	19.5
Agree	45	50.6	71.3
Strongly Agree	24	27.0	98.9
N/A	1	1.1	100.0
Missing Data	2	2.2	
Total	89	100.0	

I will be able to implement new strategies to enhance my proposals for external funding as a result of my participation in this lecture.

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly Disagree	10	11.2	11.5
Disagree	29	32.6	44.8
Agree	36	40.4	86.2
Strongly Agree	9	10.1	96.6
N/A	3	3.4	100.0
Missing Data	2	2.2	
Total	89	100.0	

I would recommend this lecture to others

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly Disagree	6	6.7	7.1
Disagree	10	11.2	19.0
Agree	38	42.7	64.3
Strongly Agree	28	31.5	97.6
N/A	2	2.2	100.0
Missing Data	5	5.6	
Total	89	100.0	

How would you rate the overall quality of this lecture?

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Poor	2	2.2	2.4
Below Average	7	7.9	10.8
Average	27	30.3	43.4
Above Average	24	27.0	72.3
Excellent	23	25.8	100.0
Missing Data	6	6.7	
Total	89	100.0	

Qualitative Results from the Evaluation Form
1. What questions do you still have after attending this lecture? Please list any areas and/or topics that you would like to receive additional information about or that need further clarification.
   - All their other "science" fields outside of traditional STEM fields that are eligible for funding.
   - It's interesting but too focused on engineering.
   - I would have liked to hear other similar programs in other STEM areas outside engineering.
   - I realize time was limited, but increased subjects beyond engineering would be good.
   - How can faculty from non-NSF focused departments work and collaborate with those seeking these opportunities? Are their interdisciplinary opportunities?
   - This was a nicely put together talk but was very engineering-specific, so of limited value to non-engineering faculty.
   - Where to get the presentation.
   - How can someone like me (in humanities and social sciences) be involved in NSF-funded projects?
   - Engineering-specific learning theories? Is there really such a thing or is human learning the same for everybody?
   - Can these be in bioengineering?
   - I could have found these with a Google search.
   - Talk focused on engineering. Excellent speaking on that topic (Education in engineering). Announcement should have reflected the narrow scope of the topic. Nothing that applies to my practice/area.
   - NSF for biological sciences.
   - Funding for areas outside of engineering.
   - Apply funding for education will be limited to people with teaching/advising appointment.
   - Biological directorate.
   - I'm confused – the registration for this event made it sound much more general. But it was very focused on engineering.
   - What about non-engineering education funding?
   - Other areas in STEM field.
   - I would still like to know how to secure external funding for education initiatives outside the directorate for engineering. She uses "directorate-wide" as if she's speaking to a broad audience, but most of us are not engineers.
   - Funding for educational initiatives outside of engineering.
   - The focus was on engineering – so it was not clear whether this information would apply to other fields.
   - How does this information apply to other disciplines?
   - Are there similar funding opportunities for non-STEM fields?

2. What do you think were the most helpful or valuable aspects of the lecture you attended today?
   - Good information overall – some general info but very STEM focused.
   - Specific grant opportunities.
   - A source of information where I can go and look for research educational opportunities in my field.
   - The inside information and expertise.
   - Lesser-known program.
   - Lunch.
   - You need to be more informative.
   - Getting an overview of the kinds of funding programs at NSF.
   - I thought the speaker was engaging but for non-engineers and others it was not helpful.
   - Enjoyed the speaker – not pretentious and sense of "down to earth" humor. Refreshing.

- The idea of the supplemental option for those researchers who already have a NSF award!
- Factors go into getting external funding from a director's point of view.
- Copy of slides should be sent to everyone who attended.
- Better idea about how I can support faculty writing proposals for these.
- Interesting to learn about all of the programs. But title was misleading – education initiatives for engineering only.
- For STEM.
- Funding opportunities for undergraduate education.
- To know NSF for engineering.
- Information on S-STEM program. Learning about the structure of NSF.
- Bev's experience as both a faculty member and NSF assistant director provides an invaluable perspective.
- Funding available for education programs that we normally do.
- Not in STEM/NSF discipline, so new knowledge is hard to apply. ☹
- Information about NSF.
- Understanding different options and getting an understanding of supplements.
- How to get funds for undergraduate education.
- I gave her until 12:30 and never heard anything useful.
- Excellent presenter.
- Learned about a few programs.
- Funding opportunities.
- How to be on a panel.
- Looking for grants that may fund implementation rather than research.

3. What is one thing you will do differently as a result of attending this lecture?
   - Was not aware that this would focus so much on engineers.
   - Look at some new NSF programs.
   - Deadline email, more education proposals.
   - Research/investigate funding programs.
   - Since most of the presentation was on engineering, the title of the presentation should have stated for engineering.
   - Apply to my field – nursing.
   - Read the program description more carefully; I didn't realize it was all about engineering education.
   - I will emphasize my contribution to T-shaped skills when talking to people outside my department.
   - Encourage interested students to consider engineering.
   - Change the title to "Securing External Funding for Engineering Initiatives."
   - From the description, I thought the presentation would apply (generally) to all faculty. I wish it would have been clearer.
   - Knowing information.
   - I will search more information about NSF funding on teaching and education.
   - I will consider being a panelist.
   - Hope that other funding for other majors.
   - Look anything related crop education.
   - Speak more broadly, expand beyond engineering. Was expecting a more broad discussion – not so focused on engineering.
   - Not known at this point!
   - Explore more opportunities in NSF.
   - Very focused on engineering. Title of talk was misrepresented. Great information for engineers not very useful for others.
   - Do some independent checking on the topic.
   - Establish university-education relationships.
   - An example of a successful grant.
   - Speak to the title of my talk when invited to give lunch seminars.
   - Look up supplements to existing grants.
   - Try to submit a proposal to scalable nanotechnology program.
   - Expand search terms when looking for grants.

4. How could the FORWARD lecture series be improved to be more beneficial to you? What recommendations do you have for future lectures?
   - Specific strategies to enhance funding approval/securement.
   - This was great – more like this!
   - Seemed very specific to engineering and STEM.
   - Move beyond STEM, in this particular case.
   - NDSU – Tribal college existing collaborations/opportunities.
   - Provide more accurate description on type of education initiatives.
   - Something more interdisciplinary.
   - You need to think about your target audience before you create these educational opportunities.
   - STEM grant money for other disciplines.
   - Not so discipline specific. ☺
   - I was disappointed. This should have been a workshop for the College of Engineering.
   - The lectures are helpful most of the time.
   - This was a very engineering-specific talk that I thought would be broader.
   - This was only about engineering. Make it more broad for wider audience.
   - Not too much "pedagogical" about today's talk. But, a nice overview of some NSF programs.
   - Wonderful.
   - Focus on engineering was very exclusive. Waste of time at end of semester.
   - Specifically mention that this series is mostly for engineering faculty.
   - Any follow-up funding or programs after this special lecture – form a round table and go after the big funding!
   - Be more clear in advertising the topic.
   - More general information – not targeted to one discipline.
   - Speak to a broad audience of disciplines.
   - Have similar content for non-STEM programs.

5. Please provide any additional comments you have about today's lecture and/or the FORWARD program in general below or on the back of this page.
   - Talk was very focused on engineering – thought it would be/or should be more general focused.
   - Overall great speaker.
   - The talk did not reflect the title description. I didn't know the talk would be focused on engineering and STEM specifically.
   - The presentation just listed possible funding programs. Anyone doing this type of research already knows them. I was hoping for more specific strategies beyond this.
   - If you are going to serve salad, provide some meat or eggs to make it a full meal.
   - That long list of programs could have been on email. I expected insight beyond website information.
   - I knew this strictly for STEM people. And I'm not. The information was helpful, just wish I can use some of the information for my area. Just very envious for those who are in STEM. ☺ Thank you for the great program and lunch!
   - Why isn't FORWARD open to staff?
   - Thanks!
   - Funding for biological sciences.
   - Videotape the lecture. Resource to use later on if decide to go after the funding.
   - It was not clear from the title sent in email that the lecture was going to be focusing on engineering.
   - The lecture itself was fine, it just wasn't what I was expecting based on the title.
   - Wish the focus would have been broader than engineering or advertised for engineering and those who do research with engineers.
   - Lecture was good but not clear it is relevant to me. Key issues is it was advertised as securing external funding for educational initiatives but focus was on engineering. It would have been extraordinarily useful if she had generalized or it had been clear it was a luncheon for engineering education.
   - Good lecture but only useful to engineers.
   - Maybe no one has heard of the programs she mentions because hardly any of us are engineers. Interrupted a morning of writing education component of my NSF proposal and wish I hadn't.
   - In the future, consider bringing in multiple speakers from a variety of grant directives to benefit the broader audience. This talk was heavily geared to engineering; one component of STEM.

- Excellent speaker.
- [Participant selected 'disagree' for all quantitative questions and then noted "Only because the lecture was narrowly focused towards engineering."]

6. Questions from audience.
   - Can non-STEM people apply for panels on education?

Comments within quantitative questions:
7. I would recommend this lecture to others.
   - [Agree] STEM colleagues.
   - [N/A] Engineers.
   - [Disagree] Not in my field.
   - [Strongly agree] If they are STEM.