

Dr. Janet Twomey
Developing a Research Program: Short Term and Long Term Strategies
October 30th, 2014

Attendance

Fifty-four individuals attended the training and 37 completed evaluations.

- Seventeen (45.9%) participants identified as assistant professors, 11 (29.7) as associate professors, two (5.4%) as full professors, two (5.4%) as professors of practice, one (2.7%) as staff, one (2.7%) as a grant coordinator, one (2.7%) as a lecturer, one (2.7%) as a full professor and administrator, and one (2.7%) as a researcher/lecturer.

Quantitative Results from the Evaluation Form

My understanding of the steps and processes to obtain funding to support my research has increased as a result of attending this workshop.

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Disagree	8	21.6	21.6
Agree	16	43.2	64.9
Strongly Agree	13	35.1	100.0
Total	37	100.0	

I will be able to implement new strategies to accomplish my short term research goals as a result of my participation in this workshop.

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Disagree	5	13.5	13.5
2.50	2	5.4	18.9
Agree	15	40.5	59.5
Strongly Agree	14	37.8	97.3
N/A	1	2.7	100.0
Total	37	100.0	

I will be able to implement new strategies to accomplish my long term research goals as a result of my participation in this workshop.

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Disagree	6	16.2	16.2
2.50	1	2.7	18.9
Agree	16	43.2	62.2
Strongly Agree	13	35.1	97.3
N/A	1	2.7	100.0
Total	37	100.0	

I would recommend this workshop to others.

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Disagree	8	21.6	21.6
2.50	1	2.7	24.3
Agree	10	27.0	51.4
Strongly Agree	18	48.6	100.0
Total	37	100.0	

How would you rate the overall quality of this workshop?

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Below Average	4	10.8	11.4
Average	10	27.0	40.0
Above Average	10	27.0	68.6
Excellent	11	29.7	100.0
Missing Data	2	5.4	
Total	37	100.0	

Qualitative Results from the Evaluation Form

1. What questions do you still have after attending this workshop? Please let any areas and/or topics that you would like to receive additional information on or that need further clarification.
 - I would have liked more emphasis on the qualities/habits of successful researchers. How should I be spending my time? How do I set goals? How do I determine if my plan is realistic?
 - Proposal development and examples of different disciplines.
 - When collaborating is there an issue or concerns of “lead” person or entity?

2. What do you think were the most helpful or valuable aspects of the workshop you attended today?
 - Description of what long term and five year programs look like.
 - Ideas about proposal writing.
 - Practicality of dos/don'ts.
 - More details.
 - Very good recommendations.
 - Shared experience!
 - Tips about diversifying sources of funding.
 - I did not find the workshop helpful, and I am the target audience that Dr. Twomey stated her talk was directed to.
 - General overview of process.
 - Practical tips and anecdotes.
 - Helpful tips about proposal writing and researching funding sources.
 - She presented specific strategies we could implement. Also I appreciated.
 - The presentations were good. It is possible.
 - Elements of a good research proposal.
 - Steps for writing a successful grant.
 - Program officers.
 - Provided a good outline to process.

3. What is one thing you will do differently as a result of attending this workshop?
 - Unsure.
 - Talk to program officer.
 - Conversation with program officers – more listen.
 - Not much.
 - None.
 - Focus on diversifying funding into state level. Recommit to getting more papers and proposals submitted.
 - Talking to the program officer.
 - Consider submitting more proposals per year.
 - Nothing.
 - Think about long term goals; not yet a tenured faculty member, but interested in overview of process.
 - [Try to] start earlier.
 - Make sure that I address the four critical questions in my proposals.
 - One to one [illegible] proposal objective to tasks.
 - More planning rather than just start following directions without reflection.
 - Start writing proposals early and submit one week before time...
 - I will think more carefully about how my research projects fit with my longer term career goals.
 - Think more about identifying the boundaries of a research area.

4. How could the workshop be improved to be more beneficial to you?
 - I wish the title had reflected that it was all about funding.
 - Spend less time on how to write a proposal.
 - Better information on how to really develop a research program.
 - Clinical research not basic research not a good fit for my focus.
 - The magic formula that works every time.
 - Writing more proposal.

- How do you look past the next grant to create a broader longer-term vision?
 - Go over NDSU-specific detail.
 - Send the slides ahead and focus on discussions and idea exchange.
 - It would have been more helpful to have more information on structuring/writing proposals rather than planning. Also, seemed to have limited relevance to social and behavioral research.
 - Develop workshop to be appropriate to faculty who have some knowledge – even as a junior faculty member I already have this basic knowledge.
 - It ran a little long.
 - Can we have a copy of slides?
 - Presentations...should be made available...
 - Maybe split up levels and have separate presentations for different levels.
 - More on program officers. Who at NDSU can faculty discuss these with?
5. Please provide any additional comments you have about today's workshop and/or the FORWARD program in general below or on the back of this page.
- I am in a field that doesn't have lots of funding – especially NSF.
 - Please don't advertise workshops just to faculty.
 - This workshop is so basic it is better targeted to graduate students.
 - Verbal tic: "Okay?" "Alright?" too frequent.
 - This is the best one so far...
 - It would have been nice to have a handout.
 - Thank you!

Questions from audience:

- If a project description has a 15 page limit, should I send in my really good 10 page one or should I make it longer?
- You talked about changing your research focus over your career but then said that it is important to be focused. Is the change a positive or negative when applying for funding?