Training in Grantsmanship for Rehabilitation Research

OVERVIEW

The upcoming intensive grant writing workshop (TIGRR) builds upon the successful model used by the Enhancing Rehabilitation Research in the South (ERRIS) workshops that resulted in many junior investigators receiving NIH and NIDRR level research funding.

The centerpiece of the TIGRR Workshop is the one-on-one mentorship that maximizes the chance for success. TIGRR participants are not “attendees” that pay a fee and show up, they are Mentees selected by our review committee; from the many applications we receive each year, and this is what makes TIGRR so distinctive! The selected mentees will come prepared to complete at least the specific aims for a grant proposal for submission to the NIH or other funding agency.

This 4-1/2 day workshop provides the expertise and support to be successful at the national level in obtaining research grant support. The target audience for this workshop includes junior and mid-level faculty in all rehabilitation research disciplines who are on the cusp of success in NIH-funded or similar research but could benefit from expert mentorship in grant development including choosing best funding source and type of grant from that source.

We bring together a nationally recognized group of mentors and consultants as faculty, including representatives of federal funding agencies. The workshop provides guidance in grant writing, clinical trial design, biostatistics, informatics, collaboration, grantsmanship, budgeting, and career development through lectures and individual consultation.

We will pay particular attention to following up with mentees and their home institution mentorship team after the workshop to maximize the chance for success and thus develop a cadre of well-trained, rehabilitation researchers whose expertise will foster better rehabilitation research design.

TIMELINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 3 – August 7:</td>
<td>Applications Accepted</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 2:</td>
<td>Successful applicants notified via email</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 3:</td>
<td>Waitlisted and non-accepted applications notified via email</td>
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<td>October 9:</td>
<td>Applicants must confirm acceptance of invitation</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 11:</td>
<td>Alternates notified via email</td>
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<td>October 16:</td>
<td>Participants notified of their primary and secondary mentors</td>
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<td>October 16 through December:</td>
<td>Mentors begin contacting mentees and providing feedback to mentees on proposal and/or research ideas.</td>
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WORKSHOP COST

Cost is $2,500 and includes:
Ground transportation to and from the Charleston International Airport, Hotel Room, Meals during the workshop, Workshop Materials, Mentors and Consultants. NOTE: Airfare/travel costs and additional night(s) at Wild Dunes Resort not included.
WHO SHOULD APPLY

The Selection Committee will accept and review applications from junior and mid-career faculty or senior mentees (post-docs) who have not yet been a PI on an NIH R01 or equivalent grant, but are eligible for NIH funding (either a research or career development award). The selection committee actively encourages applications from previous attendees of the ERRIS/TIGRR workshop, especially if they are close to submitting a grant or have submitted a grant and need mentoring in fine-tuning the revised application. The Committee will base its decisions in large part on the scientific quality and potential of the applicants proposed research, the letters from the applicant’s sponsor (Program Supervisor or Department Head) and the potential for configuring a quality home institution mentorship team (or arrangements and coordination of mentorship outside of their home institution). The letters will be scrutinized for the information they supply about the candidate, the assurances they provide about the candidate’s potential for success in research, and the sponsor’s (both mentor and institution) support for the candidate’s research career. Thus, a letter from a mentor from the applicant’s home institution is important and should address the applicant’s interactions with the mentor.

The following are specific selection criteria:

- Junior or mid-career faculty or senior mentees in any rehabilitation discipline at a US Academic Institution. In unusual circumstances, a senior individual who is embarking on a research career change will be considered. On occasion, we will consider exceptional and relevant foreign applicants with unique expertise that would allow them to apply for NIH funding consistent with NIH guidelines.

- Nomination by a Department Chair, Division Head, or Program Director who can assure that the candidate will be able to prepare for the Workshop, participate fully during the Workshop, and, if successful, complete the research or research training as specified in the research proposal.

- Letter of Support from your Research Faculty Mentor at your home institution. It should include information regarding your potential as an academic and as a researcher, adequacy of training and research experience to be competitive for an NIH or equivalent grant and your mentors qualification and plan of supporting you in writing and submitting your proposal.

- Development of a research concept sheet according to specified guidelines to include background, literature review, specific aims, hypotheses, and methodology outline. Accepted participants must agree to complete this preparatory work prior to the Workshop. Our experience with TIGRR is that candidates are very motivated to do this.

- Special consideration will be given to proposals that add a focus on mechanisms or translation, demonstrate affiliations between successful NIH-funded research programs and traditional rehabilitation disciplines, show collaboration among basic and clinical researchers, attract new talented investigators into the field, encourage successful researchers to add a rehabilitation focus, apply new investigative technologies to rehabilitation, and/or show collaboration across disciplines.

- The Committee will seek a group of mentees who have excellent training, have made outstanding progress in their field, have demonstrated high motivation and the potential for success in rehabilitation research, and come from a diverse group of institutions and disciplines.

- We encourage applications from women, minorities, and persons with disabilities.
## TRAINING IN GRANTSMANSHIP FOR REHABILITATION RESEARCH

### WORKSHOP SCHEDULE (tentative)

**Tuesday, January 9th, 2018**  
**Check-In and Welcome**

- **1:30** Check-in at The Boardwalk at Wild Dunes and Registration in the Palms Foyer
- **3:00** Faculty meets to review what will occur over the 4 days
- **4:00** Welcome all attendees, faculty and mentees briefly introduce themselves
- **4:30** Overview of what to expect is given to mentees
- **5:00** Kick-Off Reception & Dinner
- **7:00** PODs meet: Initial “Panel Review” of mentee specific aims

**Wednesday, January 10th, 2018**  
**Basics of Grant Applications**

- **7:00** Breakfast and announcements
- **8:00** Basic structure and approach to writing NIH research grant applications
- **9:15** BREAK
- **9:30** How to use statistical consultation: Biostatistical Challenges in Rehabilitation Research
- **10:45** PODs gather: Discussion of Research Ethics
- **11:00** Meet individually with mentors: Work on hypotheses and specific aims
- **1:00** BREAK
- **3:00** Options:
  1. Meet with mentors/consultants individually and/or work on proposals
  2. Breakout Session: on Hypotheses and Specifics Aims
- **5:00** Free time and/or work on proposals
- **6:30** Dinner
- **8:00** Work on proposals and/or have informal discussions with fellow mentees or faculty

**Thursday, January 11th, 2018**  
**Clinical Trials; Funding Agency Programs; How to Approach Funding Agencies**

- **7:00** Breakfast and announcements
- **8:00** Overview of the NIH in general and the National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research (NCMRR) in particular
- **8:35** Non-Clinical Trial programs at National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)
- **8:55** What is classified as a clinical trial by NIH?
- **9:35** Research Opportunities at National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB)
- **9:50** Research Programs from Veteran’s Affairs (VA)
- **10:05** Research Programs at National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR)
- **10:20** BREAK
- **10:35** Research Programs from National Science Foundation
- **10:50** Approaching Foundations for Funding
- **11:05** Research Opportunities at National Institute on Aging (NIA)
- **11:20** Research Programs from the Department of Defense
- **11:40** Research Programs at Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute
- **11:50** Funding Representative “Fair” – Mentees go in small groups
- **12:50** Lunch buffet and start meetings
- **1:00** Meet with mentors/consultants individually and/or work on proposals
- **3:00** Half Hour BREAK
- **3:30** Continue meeting with mentors/consultants individually and/or work on proposals
- **5:00** Free time and/or work on proposals
- **6:30** Dinner
- **8:00** 1. Work on proposals and/or have informal discussions with fellow mentees or faculty
  2. Open discussion on clinical trials
WORKSHOP SCHEDULE (continued)

**Friday, January 12th, 2018**
*What Reviewers, Study Sections, and Funding Agencies are Looking For: Grantsmanship*

7:00 *Breakfast and announcements*
8:00 Center for Scientific Review (CSR) Study Section Video: NIH tips and what happens to your grant application
9:00 Panel Discussion: What Reviewers and Study Sections are Looking For
10:30 **BREAK**
10:45 Meet with mentors/consultants individually and/or work on proposals
12:15 *Lunch*
1:00 *Options:*
   1) 1:00 - 5:00 – Meet with mentors/consultants individually and/or work on proposals
   2) 1:15-2:15 – Breakout Session: round table conversation for women mentees with women mentors
2:30 **BREAK**
5:30 *Cocktail Reception*
6:00 *Gala Dinner*

**Saturday, January 13th, 2018**
*Closure*

8:00 Grant review panel with POD Groups

7:00 *Breakfast and announcements*
8:00 Final POD Groups review panel. Fill out and review report to home institution mentorship team, and set up next steps.
10:00 **BREAK**
10:00 Fill Out Workshop Evaluations and Final Comments
11:30 Boxed lunches for those departing later in the day

**LEADERSHIP TEAM**

*(PI) Richard (Rick) Segal, PT, PhD, FAPTA*
Professor and Chair
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**POSSIBLE MENTORS**

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