

**Grant Chat 2 – Small Grant Opportunities**  
**Friday, January 11, 2008**  
**Report**

**Present:** Marcia Harrison, Michael Castellani, Maria Babiuc, Brian Antonsen, Simon Collier, Chris Schlenker, Wendy Trzyna, Charles Hossler, Marilyn Fox, Andrew Rogerson, Len Deutsch, Jack Smith, Elaine Baker, Rudolf Burcl, Tonya Penkrot, Shawn Zack, Tracy Christofero, Bin Wang, Nalini Santanam, Richard Egleton, Aley El-Shazly, Cory Dennison, Philippe Georgel, David Neff, Gary Schultz and Heidi Williams.

A total of 26 people attended, with 7 female faculty and 1 female post-doc, representing 9 departments and 5 colleges. This chat focused on small grant opportunities for which faculty may apply.

-Marcia Harrison presented an overview of Grant Chat 1, where the results from the survey were shown. The next Grant Chat will focus on effective outreach programs and integration of teaching in research statements

-Handouts summarizing the small grants from the WV Space Grant Consortium (WVSGC)/ NASA-EPSCoR, the Elsa U. Pardee Foundation, Drew University/NIH Partnership, WV-EPSCoR and the WV Department of Natural Resources were provided.

-A summary of the WVSGC and WV-EPSCoR review process was presented by Dean Rogerson.

-A proposal preparation/grant writing checklist was distributed.

Statements from the discussion:

- When asking for a 1:1 match, tuition waivers and some in-kind salary can be used.
- WV Space Grant Consortium especially urges researcher to apply for travel for undergraduate students to do research – not many people apply for these.
- LOOK CAREFULLY AT THE MISSION STATEMENT OF THE RFP. How will your proposal fit with this mission statement? Point this out in your proposal. Reviewers get excited when applicants tell them that their proposal fits with the agency's mission.
- The make-up of the review board is very broad – experts in your field will unlikely be reviewing your proposal. Therefore, the first paragraph MUST BE written in layperson's terms. No matter how esoteric your research is, make it understandable to a common person.
- For NASA-EPSCoR, education is high priority; therefore, if you list graduates and undergraduates, you will please the reviewers.
- Keep in mind the size of the budget since most of these grants require you to spend out the funds in 1 year.
- Writing groups, especially interdisciplinary writing groups, can be very beneficial to you as you write your proposal to determine if it is easily understood. To get in contact with a writing group, contact either Marcia Harrison ([Harrison@marshall.edu](mailto:Harrison@marshall.edu)) or Elaine Baker ([bakere@marshall.edu](mailto:bakere@marshall.edu)). These groups help faculty not only with their writing, but also with presenting their writing.
- When going over the writing checklist, be sure to identify relevant elements from the program announcement.
- Create an outline of steps required for submission.

-There was been a suggestion to have a proposal workshop, where coordinated groups of people would actively engage in proposal writing and have them peer-reviewed.

-Also, there was a request for another mock panel review. If this is of great interest, MU-ADVANCE will help facilitate the planning.

-The WV-EPSCoR Office offers expert reviews of grant proposal. For this, you submit your proposal to them and they send it to an expert in your field. They must receive it at least 3 weeks prior to the agency deadline.

The MU-ADVANCE website has all the upcoming grant information listed at:

<http://www.marshall.edu/mu%2Dadvance/Grants.asp>

A sign-up sheet was passed around for people interested in attending a CV/ 2-page biosketch development session.