



# Grants, Fellowships and Scholarships

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MSc

PhD

New Postdocs

Experienced  
Postdocs

Established  
Researcher

Think one step ahead!

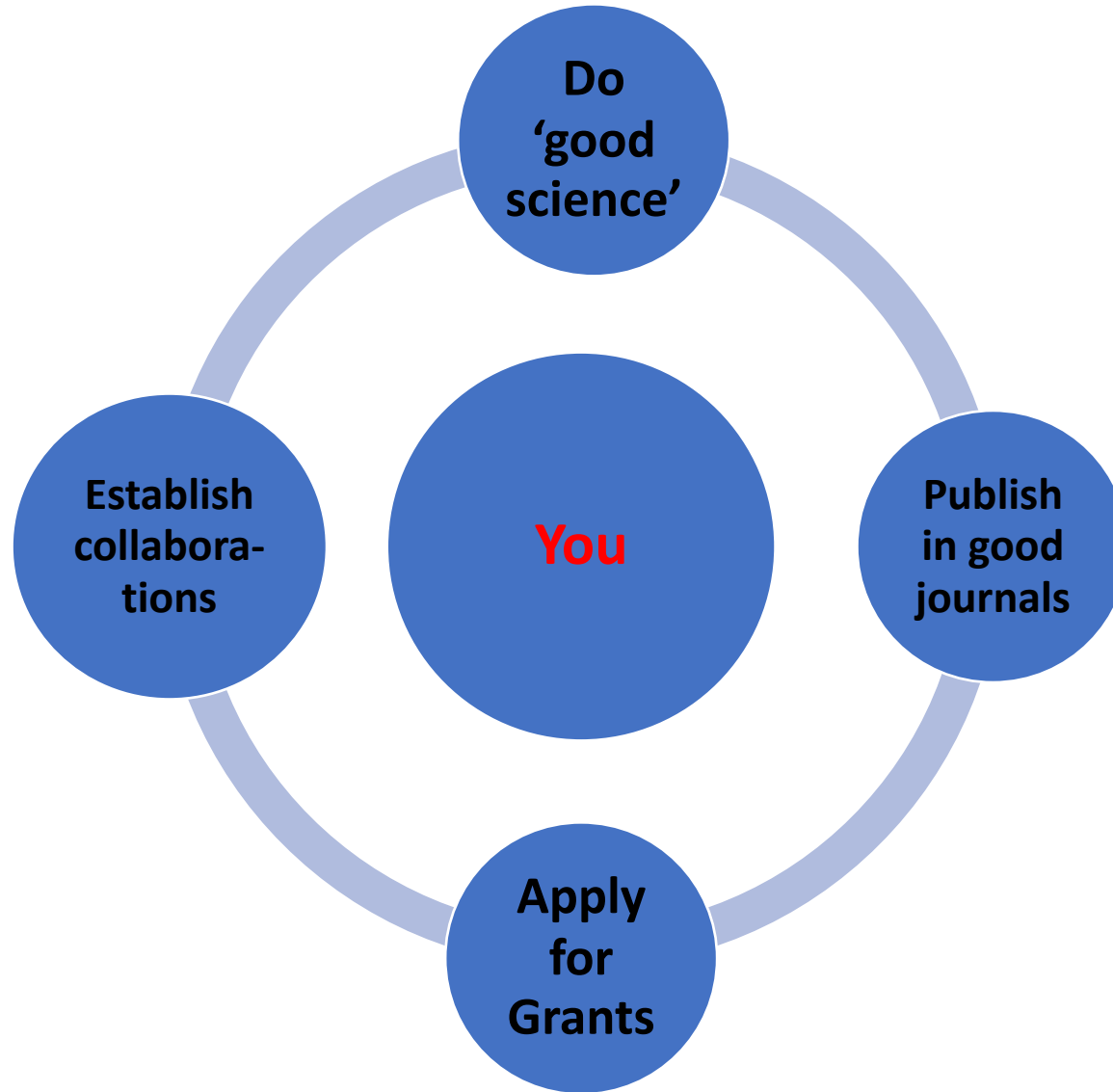
**CUCRID Research Clinic Series for Researchers & Postgraduate Students**

# Outline

- ❑ The foundation for an impactful research career
- ❑ The need for grant and fellowship
- ❑ Information needed prior to grant exploration
- ❑ Grant and Fellowship Sources
- ❑ Structure of a good grant proposal
- ❑ Grant reviews and evaluations
- ❑ Developing scientific presentation skills



# The Foundation for an Impactful Research Career



# The need for Grants & Fellowships

- To fund your research
- Career Advancement
- Knowledge Dissemination
- Peer Recognition
- Building a Reputation for Expertise in the Field
- Attracting Talent
- Solving Real-World Problems
- Competitive Advantage
- Institutional Benefits



# Grants or Fellowships

- Both focused on a piece of research
- Both competitive, peer reviewed
- Focus is very different

## Grant

- A grant is about the research
- Need-based “gift” for academic/research activities

## Fellowship/Scholarship

- A fellowship is about the person doing the research
- A research based training role
- Personal award aimed at developing an academic career
- It is about how this research allows you to make the transition from researcher to academic

# Information Needed Prior to Grant Exploration



# Grants and Fellowships Sources

Search in the right places

Know relevant agencies

Learn grant cycles

## Grants

- **Professional Bodies:** RSC, The Royal Academy of Engineering, The British Academy, AGNES, etc.
- **International Agencies:** World Bank, TWAS, UNESCO, ADB, AAS, The Association of Commonwealth Universities, etc.
- **Government:** UKRI, Swedish Research Council, European Research Council, European Union, AU, USAID, JICA, NIHR, etc.
- **Foundations:** Ford, Bill & Melinda Gates, Andrew Mellon, Robert Bosch, Wellcome Trust, etc.
- **University:** CUCRID, KIT

## Fellowship

- **Government:** Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, DAAD, European Union, The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, Fulbright programs, NSF, UNESCO, Swiss Government, etc.
- **International Agencies:** TWAS, AAUW's International Fellowship, World Bank,
- **Foundations:** Ford IFP, Wellcome Trust MSc Fellowship, etc.
- **University:** CAPIC-ACE and other university funded fellowships/scholarships
- **Scholarship websites:** Fastweb.com, Scholarship.com, etc.

# Structure of a Good Grant/Fellowship Proposal

**Note:** It's usually best to structure your proposal exactly as the funding agency wants it.

## Grants

- Title page
- Abstract
- **Introduction:** (background of study, statement of the problem, questions, aim and objectives, and significance of research)
- Literature review
- Methodology/Implementation/Plan of work
- Expected Outcome of research
- Timeline table: Gantt chart
- References
- **Management Plan:** Personnel & Resources
- Budget and budget justification
- Dissemination

## Fellowship

- **Independence: Show your ideas...**
- Based on experience and previous research record
- Provide research training
- Commitment to academic career
- Leadership potential



# Good Proposal Desirables

“There is no amount of grantsmanship that will turn a bad idea into a good one, but there are many ways to disguise a good one.”

**William Raub**

former Deputy Director, NIH

A well-crafted proposal explains

- What is the motivating problem?
- How is it being addressed?
- What is new about the proposed approach?
- How will the new approach be designed and validated?
- What outcomes will be produced?
  - ✓ Research prototypes? Research papers? Ph.D students graduated?
- How will the work be accomplished?

# Grant Reviews and Evaluations

- The assessment criteria used for grant reviews are usually included in the request for proposal.

Generally, the assessment covers the following:

1. Does the proposed activity:
  - a. Advance knowledge and understanding within its own field or across different fields (**Intellectual Merit**).
  - b. Benefit society or advance desired societal outcomes (**Broader Impacts**)
2. Does the proposed activities suggest and explore creative, original, or potentially transformative concepts?
3. Is the plan for carrying out the proposed activities well-reasoned, well-organized, and based on a sound rationale?
4. How well qualified is the individual, team, or organization to conduct the proposed activities?
5. Are there adequate resources available to the PI (either at the home organization or through collaborations) to carry out the proposed activities?

# Developing Scientific Presentation Skills

- Define the purpose of your presentation.
- Know your audience: tailor content and language complexity accordingly
- Crafting the message: focus on the 'big future'; highlight the Why and How.
- Presentation Technique: visuals are key; less is more, practice makes perfect
- Soft presentation skill: use of plain language, present with passion, etc.

# Conclusions

- **Start early**
  - Build track record
  - Establish collaborations
  - Develop proposal with input from others
- **Offer what the Funder wants**
  - Fit research to funder criteria
  - Understand the form & fill in correctly
  - Excellent research, value for money, high impact, well presented***
- **Remember the bigger picture**
  - Career Development
  - Training award
  - Future Academic leader

# Acknowledgements



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**PhD and Masters Students**



**Thanks for listening**