

CASA CARHS Mentored Research Grant-Writing Group
AY 14-15 – Spring Semester

Context

Many CASA faculty are interested in applying for external research grants, but there are limited opportunities at SJSU for receiving mentoring by successful grant-writers in the applied human services field.

Program

CASA CARHS is hosting a *Mentored Grant-Writing Group*, a small group of selected CASA faculty who will work with an experienced mentor to each draft an external research grant proposal. The mentor is Dr. Dolores Gallagher Thompson, professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science at the Stanford/VA Aging Clinical Research Center at the Stanford School of Medicine. Dr. Gallagher Thompson will work with a small group of 4-8 CASA faculty who are interested in writing a proposal for research funding. The group will meet monthly throughout the academic year. Dr. Gallagher Thompson will provide mentoring, feedback, suggestions, and guidance on the process of grant writing - identifying funders, study design, proposal writing, and/or developing partnerships – as well as on particular aspects of individual faculty members' developing proposals.

Topics covered:

- Review of useful websites for getting information about government grants, current RFAs that might be applicable, deadlines, and steps in the process of writing/ submitting/ review/ getting funded. Discussion of research trajectories, and how projects build upon each other.
- Review of components of successful federal grants – particularly focusing on methodology and measures, areas where many beginning grant writers have problems.
- Review of “do’s & don’ts” of successful grants.
- Individual coaching within the small group format.

In group sessions, members discuss research interests, prior grant history, and goals for participation. At some point, each member will do a very brief presentation (5 - 10 minutes) of their topic of interest and their ideas about how to study it. This will help each person to hone in further on their topic of interest and explore (both in the group and outside) inter-professional and inter-agency collaborations that could strengthen their proposal. When ready, participants will bring in their skeleton outline/rough draft of their proposal and as a group, we will spend the time discussing strengths and weaknesses, how each proposal can be improved, what are some of the key missing elements that need to be added, etc.

Dates

Mondays from 12PM – 2PM

2/2, 3/16, 4/6, 5/4, and possibly 6/1, 12-2PM

MH 438A

Who Can Apply

CASA faculty interested in writing an external grant during the current term are encouraged to apply. Faculty with an interest in *intervention research*, *translational research*, and/or *aging research* would be an ideal fit and will have priority for the group, but all CASA faculty are welcome to apply. Faculty with some experience managing research projects and who have written at least one prior proposal for funding, internal or external, are likely to benefit most from participation.

About Dr. Dolores Gallagher Thompson

Dr. Gallagher-Thompson received her degree in clinical psychology/adult development and aging from the University of Southern California in 1979 and has worked in the field ever since as a practicing geropsychologist, conducting research, teaching, and providing clinical care to patients and families. She has been an NIH funded clinical researcher for the past 20 years and is most noted for her empirical studies on the efficacy of different types of psychosocial interventions to reduce stress and improve the psychological status of family caregivers of older adults with Alzheimer's disease or other forms of dementia. She recently completed the first efficacy trial of psychosocial interventions with Chinese American caregivers, and has pilot work in progress with Farsi-speaking Persian caregivers in the San Francisco Bay area. Her work on the development and evaluation of psycho-educational "coping classes" with caregivers has been translated into Spanish, Chinese, Japanese, and Persian.

Dr. Gallagher-Thompson has authored nearly 200 papers in major journals in the field and has co-edited the critically well-received second edition of "Ethnicity and the Dementias" (with Gwen Yeo, senior editor) and the book "Innovative Interventions to Reduce Caregiver Distress" (David Coon, senior editor). She is currently co-editor in chief of the journal Clinical Gerontologist, and has recently been the senior editor of a comprehensive new volume entitled: "Handbook of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies with Older Adults." She also serves in several volunteer positions with the Alzheimer's Association in northern California and is currently developing online intervention programs for caregivers of older persons with significant memory loss. She is a Professor of Research in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University School of Medicine, and Director of the Stanford Geriatric Education Center. (bio from <https://med.stanford.edu/profiles/dolores-thompson>).

TO APPLY: Send responses to the following questions by 1/26/15 5PM via email to CARHS Director/CASA Associated Dean for Research, Amy D'Andrade at amy.dandrade@sjsu.edu:

Name:

Department:

Years on Faculty:

Research Interest Area(s):

Previous grant experience:

Do you plan to write a research proposal this year?

Are you available and willing to commit to attending sessions from 12-2 on the following Mondays: 2/2, 3/16, 4/6, 5/4, and (possibly) 6/1?

What are your reasons for wanting to participate?