

University Grants Academy
Description and Application Instructions
AY 17-18

Sponsored by the Office of Research and funded by the Provost, the University Grants Academy (UGA) is an intensive, year-long experience designed to support faculty members through the process of writing a substantial external grant proposal to fund their research, scholarship and/or creative activity (RSCA). The UGA is designed for tenured or tenure-track faculty members who have not yet received major external funding. The goals of the University Grants Academy are 1) to increase extramural support of faculty RSCA; 2) introduce newer grant writers to the units and resources supporting grant writing at SJSU; and 3) contribute to the intellectual culture and scholarship of the university by supporting faculty grant writing across the disciplines. Supporting faculty RSCA is one of the priorities of the Academic Affairs RSCA Plans, with funding provided to develop incentives and opportunities for faculty members to become and remain RSCA active throughout their careers.

Components of the University Grants Academy:

- Workshops by campus experts on various aspects of proposal development in fall 2017;
- Assigned time of 0.2 for grant proposal writing and program participation in spring 2018;
- A spring program providing technical support, resources and mentoring from campus experts and successful SJSU grant writers in spring 2018;
- Proposal reviews by senior scholars in the field;
- \$500 in O&E funds if proposal submitted by the first open submission window after UGA completion;
- Individualized coaching to support the completion and submission of an external grant proposal.

Eligibility:

The UGA is a program of supports designed to help faculty succeed in extramural grant proposal writing. Tenured and tenure-track faculty who have not yet received major external grants are eligible to apply. Faculty members developing proposals to fund their research, their scholarly endeavors or their creative activity work (RSCA) will have priority, but those seeking other types of extramural grants (e.g. training grants or program or curriculum development) could be considered if space permits.¹

Requirements of participation:

- Attendance at or viewing of each of the fall grant development workshops offered in fall 2017;
- Permission from chair or director for 0.2 assigned time during spring 2018 (no overload);
- Completion and submission of a grant proposal within the next academic term;
- Engaged participation in UGA consulting sessions and related activities throughout the process with SJSU mentors, advisors, and Grants Academy peers.

¹The kinds of projects considered "RSCA" vary by discipline, department and college; in general, RSCA work results in accomplishments that would be listed in the Scholarly/Artistic/Professional Achievements category of the dossier. "Creative Activity" refers to those activities aligned with the Scholarly/Artistic/Professional Achievements category of the dossier for faculty in creative tracks of their disciplines. If you have questions about whether your project would be categorized as RSCA, consult with your chair, your college's Associate Dean for Research (or relevant contact), and/or your college's RSCA metrics. You may also email the Associate Dean for Research in the Office of Research at SJSU, Gilles Muller (gilles.muller@sjsu.edu) or Assistant Vice President for Faculty Development, Amy Strage (amy.strage@sjsu.edu).

Application Process:

Faculty should submit the following to apply for the UGA:

1. The UGA application form;
2. A current CV;
3. A proposal budget and budget justification; and
4. A draft proposal narrative containing at minimum:
 - a. 5-6 pages outlining the scope and methodology of the project to be funded (what you propose to do and how it will be implemented; aka the Research Strategy/Project Description); and
 - b. 1-2 pages introducing the problem or issue being targeted and why the problem is important.

Each of the fall workshops will provide instructions and workshop time to complete application elements. Faculty members who have previously submitted external proposals that were not awarded, and wish to use the UGA to revise those proposals, should submit a) the submitted proposal, b) any feedback received (aka reviewers' comments), and c) the PI's response on how to address each comment in the revised proposal in place of application elements #3-4.

Please note that the application requires your chair's signature allowing you a 0.2 course release from teaching for spring 2018 as well as your dean's signature. Applications should be submitted via email to Office of Research at officeofresearch@sjsu.edu by 5 p.m. Monday, November 6, 2017. Applicants will not be eligible for further internal RSCA opportunities from Central and College initiatives until their grant proposals are submitted or for 3 years, whichever is first.

Criteria:

Applications will be reviewed and evaluated by members of the RSCA Advisory Council. Final participants will be selected by the Office of Research informed by the RSCA Advisory Council recommendations. The following criteria will be used to evaluate proposals:

- Completeness of application;
- Strength of application elements and likelihood of potential funding;
- Evidence of faculty member's ability to complete a proposal within the UGA timeframe;
- Fit of faculty interests and needs with the goals of the UGA.

Submission Deadline: 5 p.m., Monday, November 6, 2017

Questions?

Two Q&A sessions will be held to answer questions about this opportunity.

1. Thursday, September 7, 2017, 11:00 a.m.-12 p.m., via Zoom

<https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/800345699>

Meeting ID 800 345 699

2. Monday, September 25, 2017, 3:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m., Clark Hall 118