



**SJSU** SAN JOSÉ STATE  
UNIVERSITY



**The  
University  
Grants Academy  
(UGA)**

# Background and context

- From Provost's funds allocated for stimulating and supporting RSCA
- SJSU UGA
  - An intensive year-long experience for a select group of faculty designed to support them through the process of writing a substantial external grant
- Based on the CASA Grants Academy and lessons learned in the UGA AY 15-16

# Grants Academy Elements

- .2 release time for one semester
- Workshops focused on steps in the process of grant-writing
- Working sessions with campus experts and mentors
- Structure providing support and accountability
- Proposal reviews by external senior scholars
- Editing and statistical consultation as needed

# Fall Workshops

- Open to all faculty
- In person, first hour to be recorded and available on-line subsequent to the event
- Subset of workshops required for Academy participants
- First hour information, second hour workshop resulting in product
- Reviews of products by campus experts available

# Consulting Sessions

- Held in Spring
- Just for Academy participants
- Participant review information/instruction in advance
- Canvas as communication tool
- Assignments, discussion, accountability
- Consultation with campus experts and mentors

# But does it work?

- 80% of participants completed a full grant proposal for a specified funder by the end of the Spring semester
- As of August 31, 48% (12 of 25) formally submitted proposals worth over 4 million \$ to funders, and another 6-8 are pending submission windows

# But does it work?

- After the UGA, the majority of participants considered themselves “completely capable” of locating a funder, drafting a budget, and writing a strong proposal narrative

Step	Average before	Average after
Locate a funder	2.5	3.5
Draft budget & justification	2.3	3.5
Write strong proposal narrative	2.7	3.5
Submit through auxiliary	2.1	3.3
Contact program officer	2.0	3.0

# But does it work?

An amazing experience

I have learned a lot

Enjoyed all workshops and services/resources

Really appreciate the UGA

Fantastic!

a tremendous opportunity

such a positive experience

would recommend it without hesitation

a great opportunity

highly recommend participating

really helpful

Without the UGA activity, I would never have a submission ready proposal now

I would definitely recommend taking UGA

now I feel more confident with the proposal writing.

a powerful experience

an absolutely necessary opportunity

A very worthwhile program

Extremely supportive and highly informative in so many ways!

# But does it work?

“You may know the basics and the overall process (of grantwriting), however, there are so many small but very important, details here and there that you will learn in the academy. It is very well organized and well structured and the organizers are extremely helpful. It really pushed me to do what I wanted to do; to put together a complete draft of my proposal, something I might not have gotten the chance to accomplish with my regular load during the semester and might have postponed again and again. There is a certain level of accountability as well as flexibility that I found helpful.”

# Requirements

- Attend 2 or more Fall RSCA info sessions
- Participate in 4 or more Spring working sessions
- Complete and submit a full proposal aimed at specific funder
- Engaged participation, attendance at writing sessions as needed
- Aim for moderate to large grant for the field

# Application Process

- Application (Chair's and Dean's signature)
- CV
- 2 pg Proposal Narrative
  - RSCA agenda
  - Introduction to problem/issue
  - Project description
  - Cost estimate and potential funders (if known)
  - Timeline
- **DEADLINE 5PM SEPTEMBER 26, 2016** via email to amy.dandrade@sjsu.edu

# Criteria

- Clarity and completeness of proposal
- Clarity and strength of RSCA agenda and fit of project within that agenda
- Evidence of ability to complete project
- Fit of faculty interests and needs with goals of UGA
  - Not have received major external grant
  - Interested in the learning experience

# Questions?

SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY *powering* SILICON VALLEY

Gilles Muller, Associate Dean of Research

[gilles.muller@sjsu.edu](mailto:gilles.muller@sjsu.edu)

Amy D'Andrade, UGA director

[amy.dandrade@sjsu.edu](mailto:amy.dandrade@sjsu.edu)