**Writing a Successful Department Seed Funding Application**

* Topic is creative and exciting
* Project has well-defined research plan
* The study will enhance your ability to submit a more substantial funding proposal (grant or contract)

**Basic Questions Reviewers Ask**

* Does the study have merit?
* What is the potential impact?
* How novel is the proposed work?
* Is the hypothesis/research question valid, and is there evidence supporting it?
* Are the aims logical?
* Are the procedure well designed?
* Is the environment conducive to the research?
* Is the study going to enhance your ability to submit a more substantial funding proposal?

**Hypothesis/ Research Question**

* Strong and important to the field
* Testable
* Provide a strong rationale
* Consider alternative hypothesis

**Is it Feasible?**

Scope/ Budget / Timeline

**Project Summary (Maximum two pages)**

Should include Brief Research Plan Sections

* **Specific Aims**- Should be highly focused/ Relate directly to the hypothesis/research questions
* **Research Strategy**
* **Significance:** Should demonstrate the importance of the work. Consider the longer term, bigger picture impact of the research
* **Innovation:** Should seek to shift paradigms, build upon existing research, and develop new tools and approaches. Accelerate and /or strengthen research
* **Approach**: Why this approach? Include sufficient details (e.g., inclusion and exclusion criteria, cofounding factors/variables? limitations etc.) Describe statistical methods, well designed tables and figures as appropriate and Project Timeline. Talk to department Statistician, Ling Wang for any statistical assistance.

**Other Considerations**

* Describe how the study will enhance your ability to submit a more substantial funding proposal (grant or contract). Avoid a vague description of your plan to apply for future funding. Be specific, indicate which agency, Foundation or institutional grant you plan to submit to or which appropriate Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) you are planning to respond to.
* NIH- style Biosketch, (Include Biosketch for all the investigators)

**Budget**

* Detailed budget: The maximum amount is $10,000. Faculty salary support is not allowed.

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