Assessing the Library’s Grants Program

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Purpose

• Analyze sponsored research projects
• Identify trends & themes
• Identify future research opportunities
• Demystify grant preparation & administration
Questions

• What are recent funding trends?
• What is success?
• What are obstacles, and how to minimize them?
• How to support success post-award?
• What are strategic areas for expansion?
Approach

• Multi-step assessment included:
  – Baseline data on funded grants, 7 yrs.
  – Interviews with PI’s, co-PI’s
Understanding Context

• Libraries pursue grants increasingly
• Grants fuel innovation, research, extend core programs
• Activities moving into mainstream benefit from assessment: ROI
Why assessment?

“What gets measured gets managed”

Lakos & Phipps
Literature

- How-to’s
- Where to’s
- Career enhancement
ARL Spec Kit 2004

• 62 / 65 libraries pursue grants
• 66% of grants are managed by the PI (individual who proposed the grant)
• How much and what kinds of support are needed?
Baseline Data: Quantitative

- University’s proposal data system
- 7 years
- External proposals only
- Award, investigators, award title, funder, amount, length of award
Interviews: Qualitative data

• Perspectives from library professionals
• Recommendations for enhancement
Overall picture

- 146 proposals submitted in 7 years
- 58% of submissions resulted in awards
  (10% better than campus success rate)
- Support comes from a healthy mix of sources (federal, private, etc.)
Number of Grants Awarded, 2004-2011

Number of grants

Year:
- 2004
- 2005
- 2006
- 2007
- 2008
- 2009
- 2010
- 2011

Values:
- 2004: 8
- 2005: 20
- 2006: 4
- 2007: 14
- 2008: 18
- 2009: 12
- 2010: 5
- 2011: 3
Grants reflecting multi-year funding, 2004-2011
Number of Awarded Grants by Sponsor, 2004-11
N=85

- Federal: 24%
- IL-Secretary of State: 14%
- Associations: 31%
- Local Illinois Govt: 3%
- Philanthropic Fdns: 19%
- Foreign-Comm & Govt: 2%
- Special Contracts: 7%
Grant Award Amounts by Sponsor, 2004-11
Total=$10,169,069

- Federal: 42%
- Philanthropic Fdns: 43%
- Special Contracts: 7%
- Foreign-Comm & Govt: 0%
- Associations: 4%
- Local Illinois Govt: 0%
- IL-Secretary of State: 4%
Funding Amounts by Grant Categories, 2004-11

- Access, Management, Preservation: 57%
- Professional Development & Training: 33%
- Planning, Outreach, Assessment: 2%
- Collection Development: 1%
- Special Contracts: 7%
- Research: 0%
Access, Management, Preservation Grants: Funding by Sub-Categories, 2004-11
Total: $5,765,263
Average Funding levels by Source, 2004-2011

- **Associations**
- **Federal**
- **Philanthropic**
- **State of Illinois**
Interviews: Opportunities

- Expanding strategic programs
- Professional advancement
- Enhancing the library’s reputation
- Positive feedback & community building
Strategic focus

- Increase training & professional development grants
- Increase access & management grants
- Expand new services,
- Expand outreach, assessment, and planning grants
Interviews: Concerns

• Relationship to strategic plan
• Bottlenecks / silos
• Internal submission deadlines
• Limited collections and other funding sources
• Day-to-day pressures
Recommendations

- Collegial mentoring in proposal development
- Seminars on idea development, proposal preparation
- Proposal review pre-submission
- Research interest groups
- Better documentation
- Promote research to library and beyond
Findings

• Baseline data
  – Revealed trends
  – Helped to identify growth areas
  – Identified areas of excellence

• Interviews
  – Identified needed support
  – Called for recognition
Grants, Fellowships, and Scholarships

Find funding support for your research or studies--A guide aimed at faculty, researchers, and students

Last Updated: Sep 27, 2012  |  URL: http://uilc.libguides.com/grants  |  Print Guide  |  RSS Updates  |  SHARE

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Search:

Top Picks - Online Databases for Finding Funding & Fellowships

Grant Forward (Formerly IRIS)
A searchable database of grant funding opportunities, formerly IRIS (Illinois Research Information Service). Allows users to create logins, save searches, and get recommendations

SPIN (Sponsored Programs Information Network)/ infoEd
SPIN provides electronic Research Administration (eRA), and it help "manage the data and to automate many of the processes that facilitate the administrative work involved in research." It provides robust searchable database to track funding programs (grants, fellowships, publication subventions, etc.) of government, private and nonprofile funding globally.

- Anyone can get started using Spin, using the SPIN CLASSIC to run searches for funding opportunities
- For individuals or institutions who subscribe to SPIN, you can begin your search at: NEW SPIN

NOTE: The University of Illinois subscribes to New Spin, providing only one user at a time to access to the database. Users can sign up for 30 days of access every six months. Users can search the database using the database's search tool, by the search tool of the University Libraries, or by the University Libraries' Library Search.

Books on Finding Grant Funding

The Foundation Directory
- Regina J. Faighes
- Call Number: 378.32 F82
- Reference, ACES, Music & Performing Arts
- ISBN: 9781595423610
- Publication Date: 2011-03-01

European Foundations and Grant-Making NGOs
- Rita Marcella
- Call Number: 060 In871
- Reference
- ISBN: 1857432681
- Publication Date: 2004-12-
Finding grants to support your research

**Speaker**  Beth Sandore, Associate University Librarian for Information Technology Planning and Policy

**Date**  Nov 8, 2012

**Time**  3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

**Location**  Main Library - Library 314

**Cost**  Free

**Sponsor**  University Library

**Contact**  Merinda Hensley

**E-Mail**  learnlib@library.illinois.edu

**Registration**  Registration

**Event type**  Workshop

**Views**  339

This session focuses on identifying grant opportunities to support research projects, and to identify scholarships and fellowships in your field of study. Participants will be exposed to strategies for identifying funding sources in their particular subject domain, and we'll examine key grants databases and directories.

[http://illinois.edu/calendar/list/4068](http://illinois.edu/calendar/list/4068)
Summer 2012 Selected Library Faculty Activities

Selected Publications


http://publish.illinois.edu/library-excellence/
Conclusion

- Grants are an integral part of the continuum of research by library professionals
- Research is integral to library’s strategic mission
- Research successes, failures, gaps should be assessed regularly to ensure effective organizational support
Questions?

• Write us:
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