APPLYING FOR GRADUATE FUNDING

Workshop Series: Navigating Academia

September 12th, 2014

Graduate Student Caucus

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Disclaimer:

These slides are to serve as guide and reference to access further resources. Please verify with your specific funding agency if you have questions.

The information provided here may not be up-to-date. Please verify the dates to ensure no problems with your application process.

The presentation was meant to be a peer-based discussion. The author and Psychology Graduate Student Caucus do not claim to guarantee funding or responsibility for any missing information or out-of date information dates etc. The spirit of this presentation was to provide a discussion and link to resources.

References

WHAT WILL YOU TAKE AWAY FROM THIS PRESENTATION?

"It's a foolproof formula for writing grant applications."

Outline

- Information to prepare a strong Tri-council grant application

- Panel discussion :
  - Past award winners
  - Rachel Dawson from the Scholarship and Awards Office of SFU
  - Information on international funding opportunities

- Peer feedback on work

General Info: Preparation

- Start as early as possible

- Read the agency's guidelines. Determine where you need to apply and if you are eligible:
  - NSERC's Doctoral Program
  - SSHRC's Doctoral Awards
  - www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca
  - Vanier website

- Get what you need, for example:
  - Order transcripts
  - Reference letters
  - Scan passport (if needed)
  Source: http://www.sfu.ca/dean-gradstudies/awards/external-awards/tricouncil-masters.html

References

- Ask early

- Choose someone that knows your work and research abilities

- Provide all the materials they need. For example:
  - Copy of proposal
  - List of strengths
  - Gaps addressing in application
  - The criteria of the award

- Follow-up on references to make sure they are on track, i.e. know deadlines, do not have questions etc.

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General Info: Getting down to business

- Planning:
  - Start writing and brainstorming
  - Create a Canadian Common CV: https://ccv-cvc.ca
  - Work on the research proposal your supervisor (if possible).

- Writing style
  - Use lay language, be specific and address
  - Include headings and subheadings as specified by instructions
  - Edit out the "fluff". Ask yourself, "Is this clear?" and "Does this add to the strength of my application"?

- Editing:
  - Be sure that the application is complete– incomplete applications are not accepted
  - Use up the allocated space in your application.

What should be conveyed?

- **WHO**: Demonstrate that your research is viable and you are competent (or will be) to conduct the research

- **WHAT** : Clearly outline the issue to be researched, what is known already and the gaps in the literature your research will address

- **WHERE :** SFU. Explain the reasons it is appropriate for you to undertake this research in this particular institution and program (i.e. faculty, research resources, location, etc)?

- **WHEN** : Now ☺

- **WHY:** Is this issue important, timely and relevant? Discuss the ways your approach innovative or advances knowledge.

http://graduatestudies.concordia.ca/gradproskills/uploads/Tips_on_Applying_for_External_Funding.pdf

How will I be evaluated

- Academic Excellence

- Research Ability and Potential

- Interpersonal, Leadership, and Communication Skills

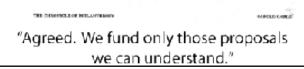# General Info: Getting down to business

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"Agreed. We fund only those proposals we can understand."

RESOURCES

SFU Information Sessions: Masters

Grant	Info Session at SFU	Grant due date
NSERC		
SSHRC	Tuesday, November 4, 2–4 pm in the Halpern Centre, Burnaby campus.	December 1 before 8:00 pm ET (5 pm Vancouver time).
CIHR		

Doctoral

Grant	Info Session at SFU	Grant due date
NSERC	Tuesday, September 23, 2–4 pm in the Halpern Centre, Burnaby campus	• Official paper transcripts to the DGS Office is: Oct 7, 2014 • The deadline to apply is: October 15, 2014
SSHRC	Wednesday, October 8th, 2–4 pm in the Halpern Centre, Burnaby campus	• Application packages to their dept is November 5, 2014 • Deadline for departments is November 18, 2014
CIHR	Passed	• Application deadline September 29 • Can modify accepted publications until November 1, 2014.
Vanier	Passed	Online submission deadline: September 25, 2014

Info: General

- SFU Award timeline:: http://www.sfu.ca/dean-gradstudies/awards/awardstimeline/falltimeline.htm

- Reference letters: http://www.concordia.ca/content/dam/concordia/offices/sgs/docs/funding/applications/tools-and-tips/Letter_of_Reference_Guidelines.pdf

- Choosing which funding agency:

http://www.science.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=FEE7261A-1

- General grant tips:
  - http://www.sfu.ca/content/dam/sfu/dean-gradstudies/scholarships/ScholarshipApplications.pdf

- Other grant sources: http://cufts2.lib.sfu.ca/CRDB4/BVAS/resource/6086

Info: Specific Agencies

- Masters (All):
    - http://www.concordia.ca/content/dam/concordia/offices/sgs/docs/funding/applications/tools-and-tips/Application_Instructions_for_a_CGS_Masters_Award_2014-2015.pdf

- SSHRC:
    - http://www.concordia.ca/content/dam/concordia/offices/sgs/docs/funding/applications/tools-and-tips/Application_Instructions_f:or_a_SSHRC_Doctoral_Award_2014-2015.pdf
    - http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/apply-demande/resource_centre-centre_de_ressources-eng.aspx

- CIHR:
    - http://www.concordia.ca/content/dam/concordia/offices/sgs/docs/funding/applications/tools-and-tips/Application_Instructions_for_a_CIHR_Doctoral_Award_2014-2015.pdf
    - CIHR Applicant Worklist
    - http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/45096.html#tab2

- NSERC:
    - http://www.concordia.ca/content/dam/concordia/offices/sgs/docs/funding/applications/tools-and-tips/Application_Instructions_for_a_NSERC_Doctoral_Award_2014-2015.pdfC:

- Vanier:
    - Vanier Presentation from the information session

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Questions? Comments?