SESSION NOTES FOR ME

From 11:45-1:00; 1.25 Hrs
Total
THE GATEWAY GRANT MODEL

HOW TO SUPPORT APPLICANTS FOR PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS

Mike Westrate, PhD
Director
Center for Research & Fellowships
Villanova University
Who am I?

Mike Westrate

Director of Nova’s Center for Research & Fellowships
Started at Villanova in August 2016
3 yrs. as Director of ND Office of Grants & Fellowships
PhD (History, ND); Fulbrighter; NSF Panelist

My best qualification: I have assisted hundreds of winners of national fellowships, including NSF GRF, Fulbright, NASA, DoD, DoE, and dozens of others. I volunteer my time with LSAMPs, McNair programs, and others.
Why do I care?

St. Augustine of Hippo:

“God loves each one of us as if there were only one of us.”

“Hope has two beautiful daughters. Their names are anger and courage; anger at the way things are, and courage to see that they do not remain the way they are.”
Thank You!

Dr. Ansley Abraham
Director, SREB
Our Host

Cherryl Arnold
Special Assistant, SREB
Institute Organizer

Dr. Paige Smith
Program Director
Directorate for Engineering (ENG)
Engineering Education and Centers (EEC)

Dr. Erick Jones
UT Arlington
Amazing Advocate
1. Where do you consider *home*?
   (shout ‘em out!)

2. What *universities* do you work at?
   (shout ‘em out!)

3. How many of you are *Staff/Administrators*?

4. How many of you are *Faculty* members?

5. Others? *Who are you?*
1. Which of you are Engineers? Bench Scientists? Social Scientists? Humanists?

2. Which of you currently have undergraduates only? Master’s students? PhD students? Postdocs?

3. Which of you regularly write recommendation letters for students?
1. How many of you know the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (NSF GRFP)?

2. How many of you know the Fulbright Program?
1. How many of you have applied for a grant, scholarship, or fellowship before? Won?

2. Whether or not you have applied before, how many of you think applications for such things are difficult?

3. How many of you think that a student might need a fellowship to successfully finish a master’s degree, a PhD, and get a great job?
Our NSF Project

We at Villanova’s Center for Research & Fellowships are in year two of a two-year NSF-funded research project, collaborating with several Louis Stokes Alliances and SREB.
Our NSF Project: The Problem

Program managers at the NSF and fellowship advisors at colleges and universities have discovered that many underrepresented students (URMs)—applicants who are otherwise well qualified in education and experience—are underserved in the area of application support, specifically in the development of self-presentation skills necessary to win a major fellowship, get into graduate school, and land a quality job.
While students at universities like Villanova and Notre Dame are offered recruitment presentations for fellowships, preparation workshops, and professional advising in order to develop such self-presentation skills, these services are often lacking at schools that do not have the resources or human capital to offer such professionalization training to their students.
Without this support, underrepresented students and future faculty are less likely to be successful in securing a fellowship—and are therefore less likely to gain admission to and to complete graduate school.
THE GOOD NEWS: Minority students who receive this kind of support, including training, are even more likely to win than majority students (they are great candidates, there are still LOTS fewer minority applicants, and the government wants MORE).
Our Audience and Goal

Our goal is to increase fellowship application success rates for underrepresented students by delivering to YOUR STUDENTS the same professionalization training that students receive at Villanova and Notre Dame—as well as to assist professors and administrators who wished to learn best practices in such training.
Results of our Pilot Program

At the Institute on Teaching and Mentoring in Tampa, 2016:
• We covered the cost of 36 LSAMP students and faculty to attend the Institute (targeted Juniors).
• Three full days of intensive workshops and exercises.
• 112 half-hour consultations with 36 unique participants.
Pilot Program Results

• Of six GRF-eligible students (2016) who attended that program, three won the prestigious National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (GRF).

• Almost all of the participants are now enrolled in graduate programs; more than 50% are in funded PhD programs.

• SURVEYS:

| My participation in this workshop led me to a better understanding of how to apply for graduate school fellowships. | 4.7 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.7 | 5.0 | 4.8 | 4.7 |
| My participation in this workshop led to a better understanding of my own career goals. | 4.7 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.7 | 5.0 | 4.8 | 4.7 |
Pilot Program Results

Pre and Post Results of LSAMP Student Participants Regarding Graduate School and Fellowships and Post Graduate Plans

- I am knowledgeable about preparing for an academic/teaching career: Pre - 3.33, Post - 4.28
- I am confident in my career goals beyond undergraduate school: Pre - 3.70, Post - 4.33
- I am confident in my ability to secure graduate school fellowships: Pre - 3.22, Post - 4.39
- I am knowledgeable about the graduate school application process: Pre - 3.67, Post - 4.61

Figure 27: Pre-post comparison on Knowledge about Graduate School and Fellowships
• 100% of participants of this program in Puerto Rico last year said they will be able to use what they learned.
• 100% of participants last year said they thought the workshops should be continued.
• Of the GRF-eligible students who participated last year, three won the prestigious National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (GRF).
• Overall, 14 Puerto Ricans won the GRF last year, 10 of whom were LSAMP students.

I believe that your students can have similar results!
Current Project

Two-year research project to test the effectiveness of this training using three types of delivery methods
• In-person over summer (5 four-hour sessions over 5 weeks @ Nova)
• In-person intensive (3 days at the Institute)
• Online (Blackboard site, with videos)

All in-person groups will receive 1-1 consultations with experts.

Half of each group (randomly selected) will receive remote (Skype and phone) 1-1 consultations for a full year.
Our Audience and Goal

We are testing whether this training is useful, and whether 1-1 consultations increase success.

LSAMP participants complete a pre-test, post-test, and several additional forms and surveys.
Our Workshop’s Specific Goals

WORKSHOP SERIES GOALS

✔ Break down the steps so they are easier to manage
✔ Introduce students to multiple opportunities
✔ Chance to share their work with people from other fields and practice effective peer review
✔ FINISH a solid draft of their GRFP and/or Fulbright (or another) application—plus think through a planned app. for at least two more

✔ To learn necessary skills: how to articulate their research and goals; how to present themselves and their work easily, effectively, and concisely

✔ To equip them to fight for themselves like a Wildcat!
Create and test a replicable Boot Camp for minority-serving programs and institutions.

Disseminate the results of the research project, including materials, to LSAMPs, HBCUs, and similar minority-serving programs and schools.
GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS 101:
WHERE TO LOOK, WHEN TO APPLY, WHAT TO DO, WHO CAN HELP, HOW TO APPLY
Recruiters and graduate school committees spend less than 30 seconds with a resume before they make the “fit or no fit” decision.
Solution: Being Different

What can students have on their resume that will **make recruiters/schools want to interview them?**
Experiential Learning = Real-World Experience
Real-World Experience = Great Careers
Experiential Learning

How can you get real-world exp.?

- Internships
- Study Abroad
- Research Projects, especially resulting in presentations and/or publications
- Grants for research and other opportunities
- Fellowships addressing real-world problems
QUESTIONS?
BACKGROUND: RESEARCH FUNDING
U.S. Research Funding is No Longer Growing

- As % of GDP, R&D funding peaked in the early 1970s at 2%
- Across the board reductions started in 2010
- Largest decline in government funding since the end of the space race
- 2018: 0.7% of GDP

What does this mean to your students (in industry, at university, or in gov’t)? They will need to be increasingly good at winning research funding.
“You’re trying to get the reviewer emotionally involved to the point where he wants to see your project funded.”

—Karin Rodland, NIH Chief Scientist
Why should they apply for a research opp. or a fellowship?

- **Financial Benefit**
- **Recognition & Validation**
- **Experience & Feedback**
- **Skill Development**
- **Networking**
- **Branding (for life)**
And if they don’t win?

- Built skills of self-presentation & research presentation
- Built skills of research preparation & reflection
- Built skill of writing
- Built network
- Learned new information about opportunities and the enterprise of scholarship and research
- Built a reputation with current faculty, staff, and colleagues as a “go-getter,” a “rock star”!
It is all the same genre

• Whether Fellowship Application, Grant Proposal, Thesis or Dissertation Proposal, Elevator Pitch, or Job Application, it is all the same type of communication!

• Winning skills in this area can be learned and perfected—and the best part is, they can practice and improve while making more money and building their personal brand

• All with help!
Current Objective: Answer Your Questions

Where?  When?  What?

Who?  How?
## Defining Terms: “The Ships”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Research Assistantship</strong></td>
<td>Awarded by a Professor, Lab, or Department, <strong>from external</strong> funds (NSF, NIH, DoD, DoE, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Teaching Assistantship</strong></td>
<td>Awarded by a Professor, Lab, or Department, <strong>from internal</strong> funds (the university)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scholarship</strong></td>
<td>Funds education costs, can be internal or external, government or private (e.g. Ford Foundation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fellowship</strong></td>
<td>Funds living costs, can be internal or external, government (e.g. NSF, Fulbright) or private (e.g. Facebook)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can be multi-year, educational support, dissertation research, dissertation completion, postdoctoral</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GOAL:** To carry a student (or postdoc) along on the educational journey. *Destination: Graduation*
Defining Terms: “Grant”

Grant

• Funds a particular project (or presentation, seminar, training, etc.)
• Can be short- or long-term
• Can be internal (university) or external (government or private)

To fund a particular thing for a particular time towards a particular purpose (can be anything)
The Basics of Student Awards

In the USA:

1. Brands (personal, government, university) matter
2. Awards are almost never based on need
3. Awards are almost always based on merit
4. Winners win more (avalanche effect)
5. Selectors like to invest in careers, in people (and will do so multiple times)
6. To be competitive at the top level on the job market, a student must prove they have the necessary skills in this area by winning some grants & fellowships during (under)graduate school (even if they may not need the $)
Student Misunderstandings

All Villanova PhD students are guaranteed 4-5 years of funding!

Common Grad School Misunderstandings

• All universities in the USA work the same way (false)
• If my professor leaves, I will lose my funding (only sometimes true, and almost never true for Villanova PhD students)
• If my professor drops me, I will lose my funding (only sometimes true)
• If my professor’s grant ends, I will lose my funding (only sometimes true)

All Villanova PhD students are guaranteed 4-5 years of funding!

For graduate school, they should consider a PhD strongly before applying for a master’s degree!
Master’s or PhD?

**Master’s**
- Often, they must pay (loans)
- Shorter
- A path to industry
- A path to best PhD programs

**PhD**
- Keeps their options open
- Maximizes earning potential, but at the opportunity cost of ~2 years of earning potential.
- At many schools, makes graduate school *free*
- **INSIDER TIP:** at many schools, they can “master out”—without debt
HAVE A PLAN
Program: CHEM
Research area: IBMS
Career goal: Research Professor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Research</th>
<th>Fellowship/ Grant Applications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Coursework</td>
<td>Multi-year support: NSF, Hertz, DoE, DoD, NPSC, Ford [DEADLINES]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Coursework</td>
<td>Multi-year support: NSF, DoD, NPSC, Ford [DEADLINES]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Pre-candidacy exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Candidacy Exam</td>
<td>Multi-year support: Liebmann, NPSC, Ford [DEADLINES]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Internship: NSF Pacific Institutes [DEADLINE]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>Internship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Laboratory Research</td>
<td>Completion: AAUW, Ford, NPSC, de Karman [DEADLINES]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Independent Research: GWIS, AWIS [DEADLINES]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>Independent Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Dissertation Completion</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Ph.D. Defense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHAT Is Out There?

- More than a Dozen Multiyear Fellowships
- More than 30 Dissertation Fellowships
- Dozens of Research & Study Abroad
- Many Internal Opportunities
- More than 30 for International Students
- Thousands of smaller grants & scholarships
Short-Term Research Grants

https://www.zintellect.com
Goldwater Scholarship

- Undergrad Scholarship ($7.5K) for STEM fields
- High GPA a must

Udall Scholarship

- Undergrad Scholarship ($7K) for those working in Tribal Policy, Native Health Care, and Environmental Studies
- Native American identity a plus
Thinking of applying for a National Fellowship? Here is how to start:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If you are a:</th>
<th>With a GPA of:</th>
<th>Interested in:</th>
<th>Consider applying for…</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Year</td>
<td>GPA 2.5+</td>
<td>International/Language</td>
<td>Gilman, Fulbright UK Summer, Boren, CLS, Freeman-ASIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GPA 3.0+</td>
<td>Graduate Study: STEM</td>
<td>Goldwater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Year</td>
<td>GPA 2.5+</td>
<td>Environmental Career</td>
<td>Gilman, Fulbright UK Summer, Boren, CLS, Freeman-ASIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GPA 3.0+</td>
<td>Environmental Career</td>
<td>Goldwater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Year</td>
<td>GPA 2.5+</td>
<td>Environmental Career</td>
<td>Truman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GPA 3.0+</td>
<td>International/Language</td>
<td>Udall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th/5th Year</td>
<td>GPA 2.5+</td>
<td>International/Language</td>
<td>Fulbright, Gilman, Boren, CLS, Freeman-ASIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or Alum</td>
<td>GPA 3.5+</td>
<td>Graduate Study: General</td>
<td>Marshall, Mitchell, Rhodes, Gates, Knight-Hennessy, Schwarzman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GPA 2.5+</td>
<td>Graduate Study</td>
<td>Fulbright, Boren, CLS (seniors only), Yenching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (STEM/SocSci), Ford</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Multiyear Opportunities SHOULD Apply (if qual.)

**Hertz**

- 5 years of support for **applied** physical, biological, and engineering sciences grad students who are willing to morally commit to make their skills available to the United States in time of national emergency (US C/P)
- **DEADLINE:** October

**National Physical Science Consortium (NPSC)**

- 2-6 years of support for **physical sciences**. Though the fields supported can vary annually depending on employer needs, in general NPSC covers the following: Astronomy, Chemistry, Computer Science, Geology, Materials Science, Mathematical Sciences, Physics, and their subdisciplines, and related engineering fields: Chemical, Computer, Electrical, Environmental, Mechanical (US C)
- **DEADLINE:** November
Multiyear Opportunities
YOU SHOULD Apply (if qual.)

Harvey Fellowship

• 3 years of support for committed Christians
• DEADLINE: November

Ford Predoctoral Fellowship

• 3 years of support, must be a minority with a focus on diversity and diversity education (US C/P)
• DEADLINE: November

Point Foundation Fellowship

• 4 years of support ($10K per year), must be “out” LGBTQ with a focus on LGBTQ issues/research
• DEADLINE: January
Multiyear Opportunities: Underrepresented SHOULD Apply (if qual.)

GEM Fellowship

• 5 years of support for engineering and applied science students from an underrepresented group

Bullitt Environmental Fellowship

• 2 years of support for students from a group underrepresented in environmental fields, in Oregon or Washington (state)
Encourages applications from students in 15 broad fields in the bench sciences and engineering, including Psychology.

**Eligibility:** Must be a first or second-year PhD student; citizen or national.

**Deadline:** December

**Eligible Fields:** Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering, Biosciences, Chemical Engineering, Chemistry, Civil Engineering Cognitive, Neural, and Behavioral Sciences, Computer and Computational Sciences, Electrical Engineering, Geosciences, Materials Science and Engineering, Math, Mechanical Engineering, Naval Architecture and Ocean Engineering, Oceanography, Physics, Psychology (Cognitive, Neural, and Behavioral Sciences).

**DOD NDSEG benefits:**
- A yearly stipend of $30,000+
- Payment of **full tuition and required fees** during the appointment period (at any accredited U.S. university)
- Health insurance
- Three years of total support
The Department of Energy CSGF encourages applications from students in the sciences and engineering who use math and computers to conduct doctoral research in many fields.

**Eligibility:** Must be a first-year PhD student; citizen or permanent resident.

**Deadline:** January (expected).

**DOE CSGF recipients come from many fields, including:** Applied Mathematics, Astrophysics, Chemical Engineering, Chemistry, Computer Sciences, Environmental Sciences, Life Sciences, Materials Sciences, Mechanical Engineering, Physics.

*For a more comprehensive look at the fields of study the DOE CSGF supports, check out their website.*

The DOE CSGF has benefits that set it apart from other science- and engineering-focused graduate fellowships:

- A yearly stipend of $36,000
- Payment of **full tuition and required fees** during the appointment period (at any accredited U.S. university)
- A **$5,000 academic allowance** in the first fellowship year and a $1,000 allowance each renewed year (to be used for the purchase of a computer workstation or for research/professional development expenses)
- Freedom to focus on research--the fellow’s department **must waive any teaching requirements** beyond one term.
- Up to **four years** of total support
NASA Space Technology Research Fellowship (NSTRF)

Encourages applications from students in MANY broad fields in the bench sciences and engineering, including Psychology.

NASA seeks to sponsor U.S. citizen and permanent resident graduate student researchers who show significant potential to contribute to NASA’s goal of creating innovative new space technologies for our nation’s science, exploration, and economic future.

Eligibility: Must be a senior, master’s, or PhD student; citizen or permanent resident.

Deadline: November (expected).

NASA NSTRF recipients come from many fields, including: Applied Mathematics, Astrophysics, Chemical Engineering, Chemistry, Computer Sciences, Environmental Sciences, Life Sciences, Materials Sciences, Mechanical Engineering, Physics.
*For a more comprehensive look at the fields of study the NASA NSTRF supports, check out their solicitation.

The NASA NSTRF has benefits that set it apart from other science- and engineering-focused graduate fellowships:
- A yearly stipend of $36,000
- Health insurance of $1,000
- Tuition and required fees during the appointment period (at any accredited U.S. university) of $17,000/yr
- Support for Visiting Technologist Experience (research at NASA Centers!) of $10,000/yr
- Up to four years of total support; $74,000/yr. = $296,000.00!!
Multiyear Opportunities SHOULD Apply (if qual.)

Department of Defense/ASEE SMART

Department of Energy NNSA SSGF

National Institutes of Health F31

NASA (2 awards)
THE Fulbright Fellowship

- 1 year—research &/OR study abroad—many countries looking for more STEM
- One of the best CV-builders (your parents have maybe heard of it)
- Very high acceptance rates
- DEADLINE: (usually) August

Boren Fellowship

- For study abroad in Africa, Asia, Central & Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin America, and the Middle East. Fellowship can include language study, research, and academic internships.
- DEADLINE: December
### Dissertation Fellowships
(just a few examples)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fellowship Type</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NSF Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grants</strong></td>
<td>• Supports a year of research and writing to help advanced graduate students in STEM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship</strong></td>
<td>• For those well prepared to use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of all students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chavez/Eastman/Marshall Dissertation Fellowships</strong></td>
<td>• Support completion of the doctorate by underrepresented minority scholars (including African-American, Latina/o, and Native American scholars) and other graduate scholars with a demonstrated commitment and ability to advance educational diversity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Josephine de Karman Fellowship</strong></td>
<td>• Open to students in any discipline, including international students, who are currently enrolled in a university or college located within the United States.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AAUW Dissertation Fellowship</strong></td>
<td>• Open to all women in all fields of study.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**INTERNAL:** Villanova CRF & others; your future Graduate School & University, Centers & Institutes

**EXTERNAL:** UCLA, Cornell databases

Your Professional Association Websites, Google

Your Advisor and your Department Admin, DGS, and colleagues

Individual granting institutions  
(gov’t agencies, corporations, foundations, libraries, archives)

Your (graduate) university’s fellowships office (or Career Center if no fellowships office)
More Opportunities: WHERE do I look?

http://spin.infoedglobal.com

http://pivot.cos.com/funding_main

https://www.zintellect.com/Posting/Catalog

http://gradschool.cornell.edu/fellowships
Be Efficient

The Gateway Grant Model

Mike Westrate, PhD
Director
Center for Research & Fellowships
Presidential Scholars Program
WHEN & HOW:
Start with a “Gateway Grant”

Current DOMESTIC undergrad juniors, seniors, and 2nd-year grads: COMPLETE a NSF GRFP – Graduate Research Fellowship Program

Other domestic students: Fulbright!

Later stage PhDs: COMPLETE a NSF DDIG - Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant

International students: SSRC, AAUW, or NSF DDIG

Then, just use that as a template that you tailor for other opportunities.
The National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship funds three full years of graduate school.

- $34,000 stipend per year
- $12,000 educational allowance to the school—*bargaining chip!*
- Massive professional network
- NSF buy-in to your *whole career!*

### Recognition Rates

- ~12,000 Applications
- 1,500 Awards
- 1,500 Honorable Mention
- ~12.5% Award or Hon. Men.

~ 25% are recognized!
Besides generating constructive feedback, the application is great preparation for:

- Your own research
- Graduate school applications
- Other award applications
- Job applications
- Writing publications in career
- Professional connections

~ 1 in 4 applicants is recognized by the NSF!
Our NSF GRFP Successes

Over the last 6 years:
100+ of our students have won,
80+ have earned Honorable Mention.
Your students can do it, too!!!
Our STEM/GRFP Dropbox site includes handouts, videos, and successful exemplars. We provide these materials to all of our participants.
Fulbright has one of the most powerful brands in nationally competitive fellowships.

ALL students can:
- Conduct research (any kind)
- Take graduate classes (incl. degrees), and/or
- Teach ESL

Any of the above, in (almost) any country!
The Power of Fulbright

Largest international network in the world
One of the two most prestigious and recognized program "brands"

Undeniable IMMEDIATE impact on a career. Chris Shuck, now a Postdoc at Drexel, was a Fulbrighter in Russia two years ago. The day (January 30) that he added "Fulbright Semi-Finalist" to his LinkedIn page, his page views quintupled. When he won, they doubled again, and have remained roughly quadrupled since.
Fulbright Success Rates

Some Fulbright countries and programs have over a 50% win rate!

Many winners with GPAs of less than 3.5!!

Any domestic student CAN do this, and most SHOULD
The “Gateway Grant” Model

Juan Valdez
(Political Science)
NSF-GRF
ALSO
Ford Pre-doctoral Fellowship

Arianna Ulloa
(Psychology)
NSF-GRF (Hon. Mention)
ALSO
Fulbright to pursue a Master’s Degree program in England

Jermaine Marshall
(Computer Science Engineering)
NSF-GRF
ALSO
GEM Fellowship
AND
Google Generations Grant
The “Gateway Grant” Model

Arturo Argueta
(Computer Science Engineering)

INSTEAD
GEM Fellowship

Megan Rogers
(Sociology)

NSF DDRIG

ALSO
Fulbright, China

AND
Boren Fellowship

AND
Confucius China Studies Program

AND 4 OTHERS, all in
ONE YEAR!
QUESTIONS?
APPLICATIONS

When? What? How?
WHEN: Know the Deadlines!

The deadlines are **sooner** than you might think

- For major (stipend replacement awards), the deadline is usually about a year in advance. NSF-GRFP is late Oct. **of the previous year**. Fulbright is Aug. **of the previous year**.
- The deadline “season” is Aug.-early March.
- For all deadlines, I recommend acting as if the deadline is actually 1 week prior to the actual deadline—and sticking to it!
- Summer and fall break are the best times to write and adapt application materials.

**IN SUM:** Know your deadlines, and start early...
WHAT are the typical components of an application (I)?

- CV
- Transcripts
- GRE scores
- Recommendation letters
WHAT are the typical components of an application (II)?

Research Statement

Personal Statement
HOW: TELL A STORY
Tell a Story!

**STORYTELLING IN THE TED Style:**

3 Unbreakable Laws of Communication

- Communicate Me!
- Wow! That's Unexpected!
- Memorable

**Emotional**

- You've Got to Touch the Heart
- Stories
- Shock
- World

**Novel**

- You Touch the Head
- Spark
- Fear
- Changing

**Memorable**

- You Gotta Have It
- Movements!
- Paths!

**Passion**

- Think Like Twitter
- Rule of 3

**KV Summit**

Carmine Gallo, Author

Your Selling Dreams, Not Products

ImageThink
Make an Argument!

Audience!!

Claims

Proofs
Know Your Audience!

What you want to say.

What they’re interested in.

Relevance
Consider your audience

- Interdisciplinary and/or multi-expertise panel
- Discipline specific but not specialized to your topic
- Field experts

Provide sufficient **background** so that **non-specialist and specialist alike** will consider it **integral to your argument**

- This may seem unnecessary, but it is often **essential**!
- You are proving that you know the science so well that you can explain it to non-experts—and that is the essence of Broader Impacts!
It is a Matter of Audience

GRANTWRITER

What my friends think I do
What my mom thinks I do
What program staff think I do

What my boss thinks I do
What I think I do
What I really do
Know the **Agency and Division and Program**

- E.G. NSF -> Division of [Chemistry] -> Specific Call
- What are the missions & goals?
- What do they see as *agency* and *division* news? (see websites!)
- What types of work are they funding? Why?

Speak to the Division’s **Program goals** as well as its **overall mission and goals** and the Agency’s **overall mission and goals**

- Modify according to **each** announcement
- **Always** incorporate language from the **calls** themselves
WHO: Personal Statement

Begin with your last successful application—it worked!

They are funding the researcher, NOT the research

Describe the IDEAL PROJECT, the IDEAL YOU
HOW: Personal Statements

Demonstrate desirable qualities

• Enthusiasm, dedication, initiative, adaptability, leadership
• Specific traits valued by granting institution

Explain preparatory experience and special skills

• Courses, exams, projects, certifications, etc.

Explain your trajectory from student to professional
PLANNING A PROPOSAL
HOW: Planning a Proposal

Why you?

Why now?

Why this?

Why there?
WHAT: Project (Research) Proposal

Demonstrate your potential to plan and conduct research

• Draw on your past experience

Exhibit your ability to interpret and communicate research

• Exhibit understanding of where your research fits
  • Into your own career aims
  • Into the scholarly field
  • Into a broader public context
Presenting past experience in terms of their impact on your **future trajectory**:

- What did you learn that has influenced your goals for graduate study?
- What methods or issues would you like to continue exploring, what new directions would you like to move into?
- What specific experiences (seminar papers, laboratory work, research project, etc.) can you describe that have helped you formulate what areas of interest you’d like to pursue in your graduate work?
What if I Don’t Know Exactly What I Want to Research?

Although the Research Proposal is important (to show your intellectual merit and the broader impact of your research career)

At this stage, they want to fund **YOU** and your POTENTIAL

**NOT** your research!

“The researcher, NOT the research.”
HOW: Super You!

Present the best possible versions of your proposal and career!

(while maintaining realistic goals and high ethical standards)
HOW can I prepare myself?

**Share** your research (conferences, workshops, etc.)

**Make and maintain** good relationships with faculty (working groups, writing groups)

**Keep CV AND resume** current (add as you go)

**Read** and analyze models (past winners)

**Draft, edit & revise** applications (practice makes perfect)
Support! Materials

This Workshop’s Materials

Google “Claire Bowen GRFP”

Via DropBox: https://goo.gl/Aaw4nr

http://www.clairemckaybowen.com/fellowships.html
HOW: Additional Resources

- Your peers, postdocs, and professors
- University Writing Center/Placement Center
- Peers, Friends, Family— anyone!
- US, this week!!!
What should I remember?

Read and follow all instructions.

Don’t be afraid to contact institutions.

Show, don’t Tell

Revise, rinse, repeat (& again). Practice makes perfect!
WHEN? Start now and finish during summer break
WHERE? Start with the CRF webpage and its links
WHAT? Start with a Gateway Grant, then complete the Research Action Plan with your advisor(s) (DGS, etc.)
HOW? Start by reading the solicitations carefully, then a Strategic Audience Analysis, then read successful examples, then get help!
WHY? You want to get into and through grad school—and get A SWEET JOB! (skills & branding)
Is it Worth it?

A GRFP Pays $34,000/yr. for three years

$34,000.00 X 3 = $102,000

A winning GRFP application takes roughly 60 hours

$102,000 / 60 = $1,700 per hour!

The NASA, DOD, and DOE pay even more!
(and take less time, since you have a GRFP app done already!)

PLUS how much more you will earn at every job, throughout your career!
Thank You!
QUESTIONS?