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IFH Grant Writing Workshop:

Mobile/Digital Health Assessment & Intervention

The Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research (IFH) is pleased to announce a grant writing workshop targeted to talented faculty who are committed to developing and submitting an

R-level funding application to NIH or similar agencies/foundations focused on mobile/digital health assessment and/or intervention. The workshop sessions will engage panels of Institute-affiliated, RBHS and Rutgers faculty with experience in grant writing and peer review involving diverse research topics, funding agencies, and study sections, in providing feedback on specific challenges for successfully negotiating the peer-reviewed grant system, and crafting compelling applications, targeted to workshop participants who are actively engaged in developing their own grant applications.

The approach will be interactive; workshop participants should be prepared to share draft Specific Aims and other grant sections for discussion in workshop sessions, and to participate in turn in providing feedback for other participants. Time will be set aside in each session for the panel and group to provide feedback on a participant's draft Specific Aims page. Participants should have identified their research teams and mentors for their application with specific expertise in the area of their application, who can help them revise their draft in response to workshop feedback.

**Who Should Attend?** Early career faculty (instructors, assistant professors, and early stage associate professors) and advanced postdoctoral fellows/associates working on federal research grant applications in the areas of behavioral, social, health services, health policies and systems, intervention, prevention, outcomes, and related topics. Completion of all sessions is required and will be a factor within the review process for applicants. Eligible early career faculty should be planning or working on an R-level application or similar.

***Seminar Series Application Deadline:*** *Friday, October 15th*

***Decision by:*** *Friday, October 22nd*

***Workshop Starts by:*** *Wednesday, November 3rd*

# What Will be Covered?

***Before Winter Break:***

***Basics of NIH Structure, Program Officers, Review Committees***: Overview of funding sources, working with program officers, and identifying a study section for your application. (11/10)

***Overview of Grant Development Process--Ecological Momentary Assessment (EMA) Example:***Structure and major sections of an R-level Application. Brief presentation on EMA methods, including enhancing compliance, and incentive/compensation schedules relevant to the project budget. (11/17)

***Developing Strong Specific Aims:*** Workshopping Specific Aims. This page summarizes why your project is important, how it is innovative, what the project will "deliver", and how it aligns with NIH's mission. (12/1)

***Getting the Approach Section Right, Part 1*.** Structuring Approach sections. Recurring critiques of Approach sections (e.g., "underdeveloped" approach, need for preliminary data) will be discussed. (12/8)

***Approach, Part 2: Methods Workshop--Collection & analysis of mobile/wearable data; SBIR/STTR grant mechanism to fund mobile app development***. Review of issues in data collection using wearable and mobile device (e.g., smartwatch, phone sensor), and analysis methods, including statistical power. Discussion of SBIR/STTR as a possible funding mechanism for mobile apps. (12/15)



# January Onward:

***Approach, Part 3: Methods Workshop--Focus on Digital Intervention***. Brief presentations on population vs individual models of behavior change, adaptive intervention designs (e.g., SMART), micro-randomized trial design to optimize "just-in-time" intervention, and associated analysis methods and power considerations. (1/5)

***Human Subjects and Recruitment:*** Recruiting a diverse sample, obtaining informed consent, privacy and confidentiality (e.g., sensor data), and submitting applications for IRB approval. (1/12)

***The Mechanics of NIH Applications:*** Getting All the Parts Right. Abstract and Narrative, Personal Statement Sections of Biosketch, Human Subjects Sections (e.g., handling harm to self and others), Resources and Facilities, Equipment, Inclusion Tables. Rules on Appendices. (1/19)

***What happens to your application in an NIH study section?*** Understanding how the expectations and "culture" of a study section can affect the evaluation of your application. A panel of experienced grant-funded researchers, who served on NIH study sections, will each present for 10 min, followed by group discussion with the panelists. (1/26)

***Responding to Peer Review.*** Writing the (A1) resubmission and 1-page Introduction to the resubmission. Deciphering summary statements and recurring review comments. (2/2)

Workshops will generally meet "virtually" on **Wednesdays from 12-2pm**. Mode of meeting will be dependent on current public health situation, with the possibility of both socially distanced in person and remote learning. Free Registration. Accepted participants are expected to write, present and refine their specific aims and other main sections of the grant during the course of the seminar. Participants are highly encouraged to have plans for submission in upcoming 2022 grant cycles.

# To apply, please include the following information:

1. Name, Title, School, Department, Email, Phone.
2. Working title (can be tentative) for planned R-level application.
3. Brief description of planned application: aims, data sources, key research questions, likely methods. Draft of specific aims is a preferred format; otherwise, please provide a brief description.
4. Any identified key personnel and mentors for your application
5. Biosketch in current NIH format. Personal Statement section: please provide a brief summary of your background and relevant skills, priority areas of grant development for which you desire help/information, and what you hope to gain from the workshop.

# Instructions: Please send to [grantwriting@ifh.rutgers.edu](mailto:grantwriting@ifh.rutgers.edu) in a single PDF file named ‘LastName’\_’First’\_WorkshopApplication\_2021’

*Please direct any questions or applications to* [*grantwriting@ifh.rutgers.edu*](mailto:grantwriting@ifh.rutgers.edu)