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Type them into the questions box!

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Being a part of the ACS Bridge program has benefited me in several ways. I was able to pursue fully independent, fascinating research at a top institution, but even more importantly, I was exposed to a number of opportunities (such as conferences, career events, etc.) I never would have known about otherwise. The best thing about Bridge in my opinion, are the people at ACS who have worked to make it happen. Their dedication to helping me develop professionally and supporting me in good or bad times I will forever be grateful for.

Hanin Sarhan, Bridge Fellow at Indiana University

Group picture from 2022 CKS at ACS HQ in Washington, DC

ACS Scholar Adunoluwa Obisesan
BS, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, June 2021
(Chemical-biological Engineering, Computer Science & Molecular Biology)

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ACS OFFICE OF DEIR
Advancing ACS’ Core Value of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Respect

Resources

Inclusivity Style Guide
Inclusivity is not about making people feel comfortable, but about being inclusive. Classic mistakes such as language and images that respect diversity in all forms.

ACS Webinars on Diversity
Covering diversity and inclusion in the workplace.

ACS Volunteer and ACS Meetings Code of Conduct
Incorporating a positive and welcoming environment for attendees, volunteers and staff.

C&EN Trailblazers
Each highlights someone from different backgrounds who are making an impact in chemistry.

NEW Download DEIR Educational Resources
Download this educational guide for additional recommendations on videos, articles, books, portraits, and more on diversity, inclusion, and related topics.

Quick Guide: Inclusion
Learn more about what inclusion means and how to foster it during your meetings.

Quick Guide: How to host inclusive in-person events
Recommendations and best practices to ensure that your events can accommodate everyone.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Respect

Equity**
Seek to ensure fair treatment, equality of opportunity, and fairness in access to information and resources for all. We believe this is only possible in an environment built on respect and dignity. Equity requires the identification and elimination of barriers that have prevented the full participation of some groups.

Diversity**
The representation of varied identities and differences (race, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, sex, social economic status, thinking and communication styles, etc.) collectively and as individuals. ACS seeks to proactively engage, understand, and draw on a variety of perspectives.

Inclusion**
Diverse culture of belonging by actively inviting the contribution and participation of all people. Every person’s voice adds value, and ACS strives to create balance in the face of power differences. In addition, no one person can or should be called upon to represent an entire community.

Respect
Ensures that each person is treated with professionalism, integrity, and ethics underlying all interpersonal interactions.

https://www.acs.org/diversity
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“To best way to learn how to write a competitive grant proposal, is to think through the lens of a reviewer.”

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Crafting a Standout Grant Proposal: Tips and Success Stories

ALLEGRA LIBERMAN-MARTIN, PhD
Speaker
Program Officer, Office of Research Grants, American Chemical Society

CHARLISA DANIELS, PhD
Speaker
Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Northern Kentucky University

JULIAN G. WEST, PhD
Speaker
Assistant Professor, Chemistry, Rice University

JODIE LUTKENHAUS, PhD
Speaker
Professor, Chemical Engineering, Texas A&M University and Deputy Editor, ACS Applied Polymer Materials

LAURA FERNANDEZ, PhD
Moderator
Assistant Professor, Chemistry, Rice University

This ACS Webinar® is co-produced with the ACS Office of Research Grants.
The Greatest Pragmatic Question in Science is...

How will I fund my research?

Two Essential Elements of a Successful Grant Application

A Great Research Idea

Effective Presentation of the Idea

Planning Organization
The Proposal Writing Process

Selecting a Topic

Funding Sources

Writing the Proposal

Following Up

Selecting a Topic

Determine the topic’s significance to your field and funding agency

Find a current knowledge gap

Impactful

Fundable

Novel

Feasible

Consider time and institutional resources
Funding Sources

- Internal
- Government agencies
- Private foundations
- Industrial partnerships

Your research objective needs to fit the funding agency’s mission

Funding Mission Example – ACS Petroleum Research Fund

PRF-funded research must be:
- **Fundamental research** in the petroleum field
- A **new direction** for the PI
- Aligned with one of ten **specified disciplines**

- Synthetic Organic Chemistry
- Geochemistry & Biogeochemical Cycling
- Inorganic Chemistry
- Physical Organic Chemistry
- Surface Science
- Chemical Physics/Physical Chemistry
- Polymer Science
- Geology & Geophysics
- Chemical & Petroleum Engineering
- Materials Science
Finding Funding Agencies

U.S. federal grants

Internet searches
Reading the CVs of other researchers

Funding database (requires subscription)

Information on Successful Topics

Check the funding agency’s website for funded projects

**Petroleum Research Fund** (search annual reports): https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/funding-and-awards/grants/prf.html

**NSF** (search funded projects): https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch
Contacting a Program Officer

Program Officers are a resource to:

- Clarify grant guidelines
- Assess the fit of your proposed research
- Assist with framing the work
- Provide review insights

Be prepared to discuss:

- What is your research objective?
- How does this meet the agency’s mission?

Planning the Research

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHO?</th>
<th>research team, collaborators, co-PIs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHAT?</td>
<td>experiments, equipment, supplies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHEN?</td>
<td>timeframe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHERE?</td>
<td>institution, travel, fieldwork</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHY?</td>
<td>scientific and societal impact</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Application Planning

- Abstract
- Proposal Narrative
- CV
- Budget
- Other documents

- Program Officer
- Grants office
- Collaborators or co-PIs
- Individuals who can provide feedback

Writing

Communicating

Effective Proposal Organization

1. **Abstract**: Written in slightly more general terms.
2. **Background and Significance**: Briefly discuss relevant literature and identify a knowledge gap.
3. **Specific Aims**: 1-2 sentence overview of each topic you will investigate.
4. **Work Plan**: State the work to be done, how it will be done, and the expected outcomes.
   - Incorporate testable hypotheses.
   - Address potential challenges and alternatives.
Advice for Writing the Proposal

✓ Have a clear structure for your proposal
✓ **Bold**, *italicize*, or *underline* key points
✓ Use graphics and tables effectively
✓ Follow the instructions carefully
✓ Write with the review criteria in mind

Common Mistakes in Proposals

× Poor fit with the grant agency’s mission
× Disorganized proposal
× Grammatical or spelling mistakes
× Missing citations for relevant literature
× Work plan is too ambitious
Receiving the Reviewer Feedback

Framing Rejection as a Learning Experience

- Avoid becoming overcome by emotions
- Look for constructive comments
- Contact your program officer
- If rejected, use the feedback to inform if you:
  - Resubmit
  - Seek a new topic or funding agency

Learn About Grant Proposals

Be a reviewer!

See how the system works.

Join the ACS PRF reviewer database:

To register using “Forms”, you need a Microsoft Account
Key Takeaways

A standout proposal requires a research topic that is:

- Novel
- Impactful
- Feasible
- Aligned with the funding agency's mission
- Communicated clearly
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