

What Makes a Proposal Successful

Dr. George B. Stefano
The State University of New York
College at Old Westbury
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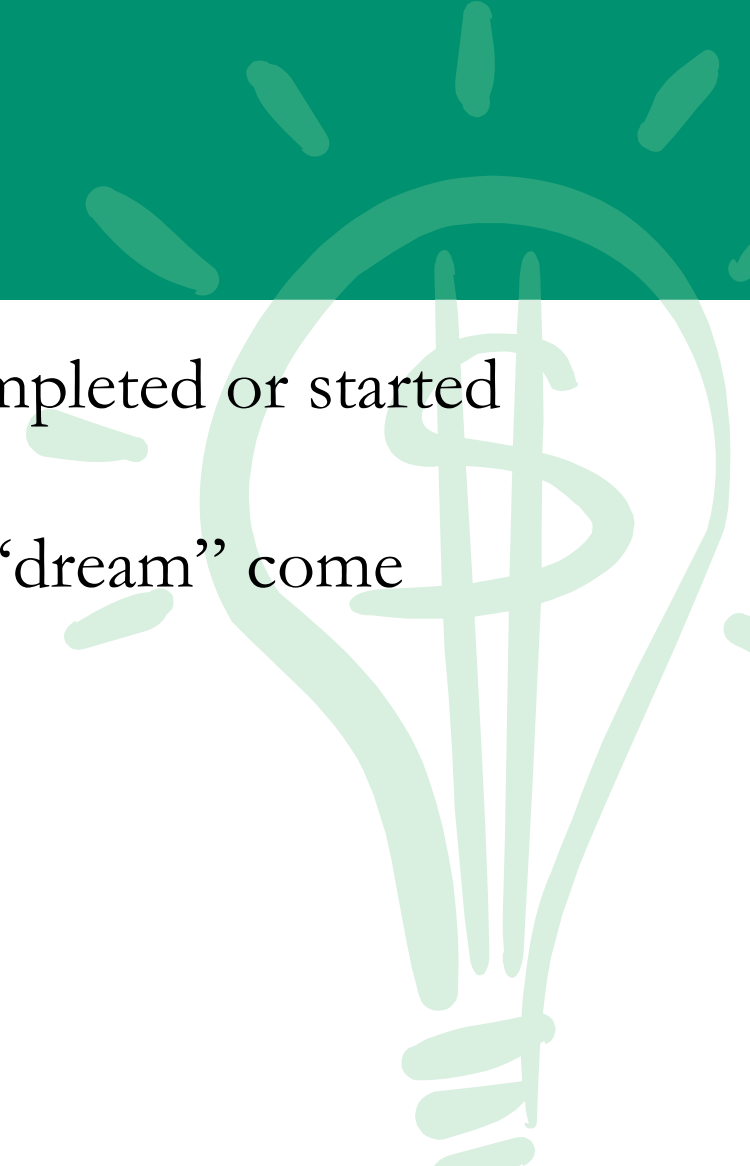
How to Get Your Proposal Funded



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What is a Grant?

- Money for work not completed or started
- Fantasy
- Making someone else's "dream" come true
- Who determined it
 - Committee of peers
 - Patron
 - Corporation
 - Social need



What is a Grant?

- ❑ Forget what you can do
- ❑ Ask if you can “make” someone else’s dream come true



□ Credibility



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Network

- Meetings
- Colleagues
- Grant review
- Publication participation
- Internet database meetings



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Design Your Hypothesis and Abstract

This is what is most critical

- Make it as short and simple as possible
 - Be able to explain it briefly
- How does it fit into the existing knowledge base
- Don't make your hypothesis radical



Design

- Be ready to address why it is a good question
- What need or void does it fill for the granting agency
- **Is it non-obvious and really novel?**



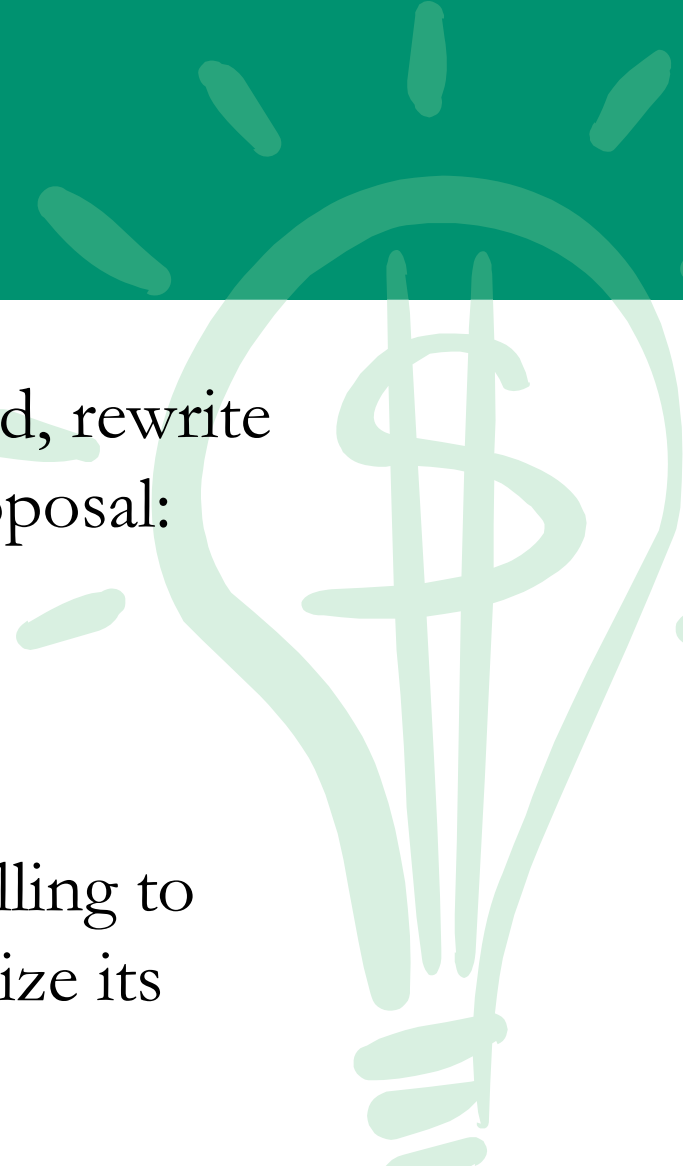
Test Your Hypothesis

Call an individual at the agency (e.g., NIH Program Officer) and inquire if there is interest in your hypothesis

- Person who is responsible for the program
- Person who runs the program
- Person who gets all inquiries about the program

Test Your Hypothesis

- Once interest is established, rewrite the following for your proposal:
 - Abstract
 - Aims
 - Objectives
- Find a colleague that is willing to review the work and criticize its contents



Establish Your Aims and Objectives

Example: A 3-year grant application for a RO-1 type award

- State the hypothesis to be examined
- List the broad and long-term objectives to be tested
 - Keep this simple, clear and concise
 - Try not to list more than 5 AIMS



Establish Your Aims and Objectives

- Include in the objectives what the research proposed is going to accomplish
- Use these objectives to provide a working outline for the other grant sections
- Specific Aims: One page is recommended

Build the Background and Significance

- Sketch the background leading to the proposed grant
 - You do not have to evaluate the entire field covered by the hypothesis
- Focus and evaluate the current knowledge leading to your hypothesis
- Identify gaps or voids in current knowledge that your hypothesis is intended to fill



Build the Background and Significance

- State the health relevance of the proposed work
- Relate this section to the Aims you identified
- Include your own work in this section, demonstrating your expertise and credibility
- Peer review links

Include Your Preliminary Studies

- This section helps establish the experience, expertise and credibility of the proposed P.I.
- It is very important to have some studies performed that support your hypothesis
 - Do not add studies that have nothing to do with the hypothesis



Include Your Preliminary Studies

- Complete references
- Reports may be noted here as long as they are **DIRECTLY** relevant to the proposed hypothesis



Contact Information

Dr. George B. Stefano

Director, Neuroscience Research Institute

The State University of New York

College at Old Westbury

Phone: 516-876-2732

Fax: 516-876-2727

Email: gstefano@sunynri.org



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