OHSU researchers brought in $340 million in FY 2013!
We have about 1,100 principal investigators working on 3,000 research projects.
Find funding opportunities

• Investigator-initiated grants vs. RFAs
• Work backwards from your deadline: it takes awhile to write a good grant. Months.
• Have good preliminary data, even when it says you don’t need it.

SciVal Funding is one database we use to find funding opportunities. Visit http://www.funding.scival.com/.
NIH applications are scored on...

- Significance
- Investigators
- Innovation
- Approach
- Environment

- PAR & RFA: May add questions to each scored or additional criterion
HAVE THE RIGHT ELEMENTS IN PLACE

• Collaborators?
• Mentors?
• Letters of support?
• Transcripts?
• Compliance requirements?
• Facilities, equipment, study coordinators, scientific resources?
• Befriend your department administrator, GCA, and other university officials.
• Know the ePPQ (electronic proposed project questionnaire)
• Know when you need approvals for compliance, Foundation Notice of Intent, Limited Submission
• Understand budgets and cost sharing
• OCTRI?
• Research Funding & Development Services can help!
All grant writing is problem solving.

• Reviewers have to like your idea, and it has to be based on something (preliminary data) that makes the project look feasible.

• Don’t propose to develop the test and then test the test. Develop the test, then propose to use it.
Know your audience

- What is the purpose of the funding agency? What do they want to achieve?
- Who is reviewing your application—a lay audience? Peers? Peers at OHSU?
- Write the application that you would want to read.
- Delivering information ≠ communication
We need to establish a clinic for children with tuberculosis.

Coordinated clinical care for children with tuberculosis will improve survival by 50%.
We need to identify biomarkers for lung cancer to improve survival.

BRCA 2 status is correlated with reduced lung cancer survival rates.
YOU NEED A STRONG HYPOTHESIS

A prediction is not a hypothesis.
If I let go of this pen, it will drop.
This pen will drop.

This pen will drop because......

It is subject to forces of gravity?

Someone tied a string around the end of it?

Invisible demons are stealing it away?
**Hypothesis:** The proposed research seeks to examine the relationship between neurotransmitter A and neurotransmitter B signaling in Brain Region of Interest and in vivo electrophysiological measures of Brain ROI output during the transition from chronic morphine exposure to morphine withdrawal.....additionally seeks to determine whether putative Brain ROI projection neurons exhibit altered basal and behaviorally-correlated firing profiles during these states........finally seeks to determine whether the observed behavioral, neurochemical, and neurophysiological indices associated with morphine dependence and withdrawal are dependent on Neurotransmitter A projections to the Brain ROI.

-Thanks to the NIH Regional Seminar for this example
YOU NEED GOOD, FEASIBLE AIMS

Characterize the obesity of the POMC null mouse.
• Determine the extent to which leptin is downregulated by POMC ablation
• Determine the extent to which insulin resistance is affected by POMC ablation.
• Measure whether POMC null mice are more susceptible to inflammation.
WRITE A GREAT APPLICATION

• Make it easy to read
• Make sure your data are beautiful
• Follow the guidelines in the application—all the guidelines, not just the science part
• Make sure the budget and timeline are reasonable

An image from a paper from the Balkowiec Lab published in *Neuroscience*. 
WHERE TO GET HELP?

Research Funding & Development Services
http://www.ohsu.edu/funding

Research News
http://www.ohsu.edu/researchnews

Sample NIH R01s and R21s from NIAID

Contact us: funding@ohsu.edu