

Research Grant Writing



Center for Learning Innovations &
Customized Knowledge Solutions

Your Partner for Innovation & Excellence

16th & 17th April, 2018

**Novotel Deira City
Center, Dubai-UAE**



CLICKS' Public Program 2017-18

Program Overview

Successful research whether it be theoretical or empirical advances the body of knowledge and which, in turn, generally leads to innovations for the betterment of humankind. Hence impact is an important component of the research enterprise. The gaining of external funding for research is an important aspect for the carrying out credible research. The purpose of this workshop is to equip faculty and research staff with the required knowledge and skills to broaden their understanding of the complete cycle of applying for a research grant. The planning process includes identification of a possible source for research funding, gathering a research team, budget planning and preparation, and developing a research proposal. The main pitfalls facing applicants will be discussed and techniques to help avoid these considered.

Participants will be encouraged to develop draft proposals throughout the workshop to allow for direct and targeted presenter feedback.

Intended Program Learning Outcomes

By the end of this program participants will be able to:

-  Explain the research grant application process
-  Use search techniques to identify appropriate research funding sources
-  Identify the key components of grant applications and understand their significance
-  Plan a research proposal
-  Construct a well-written overview of their research proposal
-  Compile a budget that will support their research
-  Understand the most common concerns of the granting review committees
-  Interpret the comments made by granting panels in order to revise proposals.

Program Delivery Strategy

The program will use a variety of proven highly interactive learning techniques to ensure understanding and retention applicability of the information presented. This includes short presentations, case studies presentations and facilitated group and individual activities where participants will be encouraged to apply learning to real-life situations wherever possible.

Participants are encouraged to bring an idea for a research proposal that can be developed throughout the two days.








Target Audience

Academics, Researchers, Deans/Directors of Research












Program Structure

Day One

Session 1 | The research grant process

-  The importance of research and dissemination of findings
-  Identifying research funding sources: database and search techniques
-  Understanding the terms and conditions for research funding
-  Matching research topics with finding criteria and sources
-  Planning the grant application - Designing the schedule from identification of grant agency to submission of application
-  The role of a mentor during the application process
-  Qualities of successful research

Session 2 | Ensuring an outstanding research grant application



-  Essential components in grant applications
-  The importance of overviews and how to construct them
-  Developing research grant proposal
-  Introduction: the significance of setting the scene
-  The research hypothesis/question – a contribution to knowledge, society ...
-  The role of the literature review in the application
-  Methodology and ethics its components and dealing with limitations
-  The case for grant support
-  Impact, impact, impact
-  Research Budget Preparation
-  The end product: *An Outstanding Application*

Day Two








Session 3 | The important technical Issues

-  Titles: why they are important
-  Writing styles – Writing for non-experts and those outside your research field.
-  Pitfalls and how to avoid them
-  Creating a check list
-  Citations and references
-  Appendices and other supporting materials
-  Ethical consideration for research application

Session 4 | Pre-Submission

-  The role of critical readers for the finished application
-  Self-evaluation and peer assessment – applying checklists and processes for ensure quality of the application

Session 5 | Submission through to decision

-  The grant review process from submission to decision
-  How awards are made: Scoring
-  Typical reasons for rejection of grant applications
-  Interpreting the comments made by granting panels and understand granting decisions
-  Importance of compliance with terms and milestones
-  Report writing
-  Dissemination for impact

Workshop Leader



Dolina Dowling's career has spanned three decades in the field of education, from primary school to university level. During this time she has held positions in education institutions and quality assurance agencies in countries as diverse as Bahrain, South Africa, and the UK.

Prof. Dolina has considerable knowledge of Higher Education in the Middle East primarily from her work as the Executive Director of the Directorate of Higher Education Reviews of the National Authority for Qualifications and Quality Assurance of Education and Training (QQA) in the Kingdom of Bahrain from 2008-2014. This involved the development and implementation of frameworks for institutional and programme quality reviews as well as capacity development activities across the Bahraini Higher Education sector. She is also privileged to have worked on short projects in some of the other GCC countries. Prof. Dolina continues to provide education and management consultancy to both public and private Higher Education and tertiary institutions as well as quality assurance agencies. She has successfully completed projects in strategic planning, quality assurance and accreditation, change management as well as research planning and capacity building both at the institutional and individual levels.

Prof. Dolina lectured in Philosophy for ten years at the University of Transkei (now Walter Sisulu University) before being seconded to the Human Sciences Research Council to manage a project to increase the research capacity of the historically disadvantaged universities in South Africa. As the founding Dean of Research and Postgraduate Studies of Vista University she led the identification and development of research niche areas. During her tenure as Pro Vice-Chancellor and CEO of Bond SA she worked collaboratively with Bond University, Australia to ensure that students received a high quality education experience. She has held executive positions in various other organisations. She has served on numerous audit panels internationally to assess the quality assurance arrangements of higher education institutions and is a member of many international audit/review registers of quality assurance agencies.






She has extensive editorial experience of books and academic journals. She is the Editor-in-Chief of The Independent Journal of Teaching and Learning of which she was the founding editor in 2006. She has published widely in academic journals, chapters in books and other scholarly publications. She has delivered numerous papers at conferences. She also mentors researchers who are writing for publication in academic journals.

She holds two diplomas in Education, a Bachelor's degree, a Master's degree in Philosophy as well as a doctorate in Philosophy from the University of Glasgow in Scotland.

Program Duration

This program is 2-day and is organized from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm with one hour dedicated for lunch break and 2 coffee breaks of 20 min each. Kindly be informed that registration will take place on the first day of the program from 8:30 to 9:00.

Program Registration, Program Fees and Discounts

-  The registration fee for the 2 day program is 2,500 AED including lunch and two coffee breaks on each day in addition to program materials.
-  15% Early bird registration discount is available for individual registrations completed prior to the 1st of March, 2018.
-  Group registration discount of 20% is available for groups of 3 and above if registration is completed before 1st of March, 2018 and 15% if registration is done after the cutoff date.
-  All registrations are confirmed only upon receiving the full payment; registrations which are not completed are automatically cancelled after two weeks.
-  Delegates attending the entire program will receive certificate of attendance at the closure of the program.