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Academic Libraries 2014: Understanding the Diverse Grant-seeking Needs of Our Faculty

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Faculty Interview Protocol

1. Tell us a little about your history with respect to grant-seeking and grant-getting activities.
 - How has your approach to securing funding changed over your career?
2. In your research process, when and how do you focus on grant-seeking needs?
 - Is it one of the first “steps” in your research process?
 - Is it something you do throughout the process?
3. How do you find out about grant opportunities?
 - Did you use any of the funding databases in your search or approach?
 - Do you have an account in any of the funding databases?
4. What University resources (people, tools or funding) have you used in the process of grant-seeking/grant-getting?
 - Where did you start looking?
 - Who did you reach out to to receive training/info?
 - How did you end up applying that knowledge in your search/find process?
 - What is your perception of how well the University supports your grant-funded research?
 - If money was no object, what types of support would be most helpful/useful to you in order to bring in external funding?
5. How do you perceive the grants landscape in your field/discipline?
 - Is it changing? If so, how?
 - Is it stable?
 - Have the major foundation/federal funders in your field changed priorities recently?
6. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about your grant-seeking process or funding needs?

Resources We Offer

Pivot - Pivot is a directory of researchers and research funding opportunities that combines two comprehensive, editorially maintained databases: the Pivot Funding Opportunities database of over 400,000 funding opportunities worth an estimated \$33 billion, and the Pivot Scholar Universe database of 3 million profiles of scholars worldwide. Its proprietary algorithm compiles pre-populated researcher profiles unique to an organization (such as University of Michigan) and matches them to relevant current funding opportunities. This allows U-M users to search for a funding opportunity and instantly view matching faculty from inside or outside U-M. Conversely, a search for a given scholar will link to matching funding opportunities.

Foundation Directory Online - Profiles over 105,000 U.S.-based foundations and public charities, describing programs, areas of funding, types of support, geographic emphasis, trustees & officers, application process, deadlines, high, low & average grants, and lists of recent grants made. Also provides access to recent tax returns for private foundations as submitted to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (Form 990-PF's). Updated biweekly.

Foundation Center Website - foundationcenter.org - a freely available website that has tutorials for proposal writing, proposal budgeting, approaching foundations, etc., a catalog of thousands of content rich reports on every topic, sample proposal documents, access to the Philanthropy News Digest, and more.

Grants LibGuide - <http://guides.lib.umich.edu/grants> Curated by Karen Downing, Foundation & Grants Librarian at the University of Michigan. The guide brings together both licensed and non-licensed resources in one place.

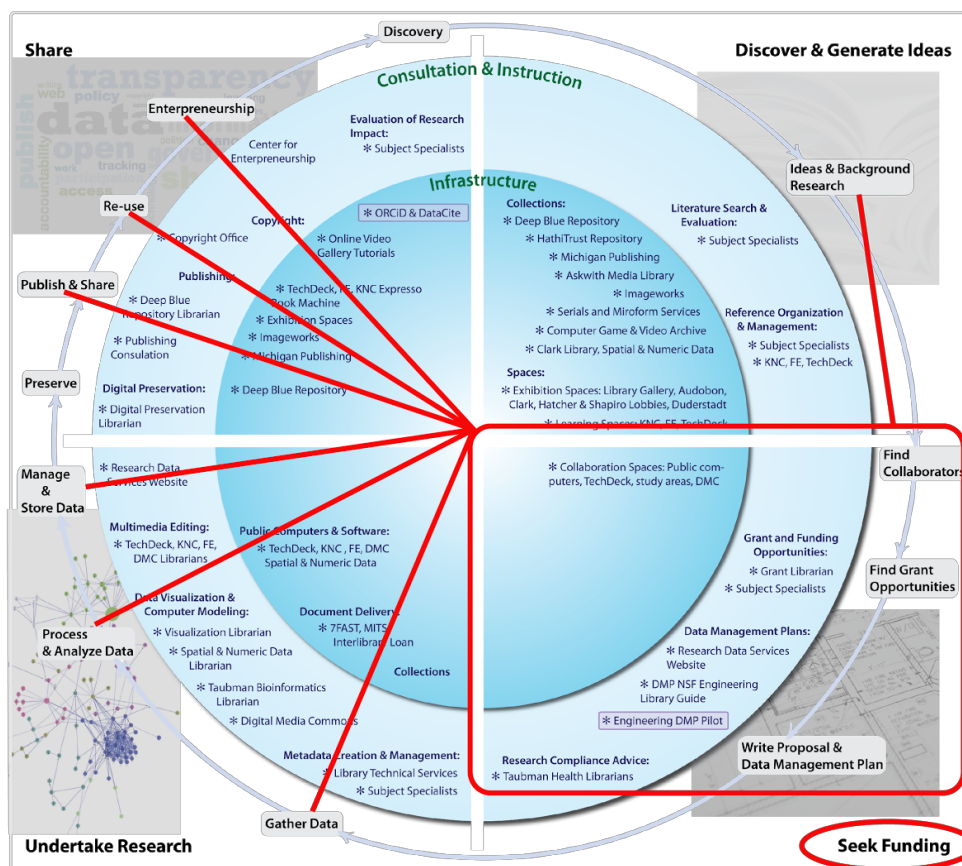
Graduate Student and Faculty Registrants for Open Grants Classes: Sept-Nov 2013

	Health Sci	Sci/Engin	Arts/Hum	Soc Sci	Business	Internat'l	Community Users
No. of Registrants	57	79	91	163	8	11	62

TOTAL number of registrants: 471

Research Lifecycle with Grant Process Highlighted

The research lifecycle at the University of Michigan, as supported by the University of Michigan Library.



Graph adapted from "Research Data Services at the University of Michigan Library" CyberInfrastructure Days poster (2013). © Sferdean, Li, York, Green.