Office of Foundation Relations

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What, Who, Where is OFR?
Northwestern University’s central office supporting faculty and staff across all schools and units who seek funding from private, professional foundations.
Liaison Roles and Responsibilities

- **Sarah Fodor, PhD, Executive Director**
  - Institutional priorities, NU-Qatar, The Graduate School, Feinberg (in partnership with Michelle Melin-Rogovin)

- **Susan Dauber, PhD, Director**
  - Communication, IPR, Kellogg, Law, SESP, SPS, Weinberg—Social Sciences

- **Heidi Jurgens, PhD, Senior Associate Director**
  - Communication—CSD, Limited Submissions, McCormick—Biomedical Engineering and Chemical and Biological Engineering, Weinberg—Life and Physical Sciences

- **Chloe Taft Kang, PhD, Senior Associate Director**
  - Bienen School of Music, Block Museum of Art, McCormick—all other departments, University Libraries, Weinberg—Humanities, Department of History

- **Maureen Scherrer, Assistant Director**
  - Prospect research, reporting and analytics, student life and scholarships

- **Michael Marino, Program Assistant**
  - Gift/grant processing, stewardship support
FY2018 Private Foundation Funding

• $54.7M in private foundation commitments to Northwestern

• 326 proposals submitted, requesting a total of $134.4M

• 161 proposals awarded
  – Average Grant: $262,435
  – Median Grant: $75,000
  – Largest Grant: $5M

• Assistance to every Northwestern School
What Private Foundations Fund

- **Research/programs** that align with their **mission** and current areas of interest

- Many have programs for **early-career investigators** (windows of eligibility)

- Applying for funding:
  - Open Requests for Proposals (RFPs)
  - Invited/Limited RFPs
  - “Not accepting unsolicited proposals” (but may accept inquiries)
  - Restricted Foundations
**OFR Services**

- **Identify Potential Funding Sources** - monitor 500+ foundations in our portfolio, disseminate new Requests for Proposals (RFPs)

- **Faculty Outreach/Support** – group/individual meetings, discuss research projects and funding needs; OFR can plan/staff foundation site visits

- **Customized Prospect Research** – PI/project-specific foundation opportunities (fit, eligibility, timing/strategy)

- **Proposal Consulting** – work closely with faculty (strategy/writing/editing) to develop compelling proposals specifically tailored to the foundation audience
Resources

- **OFR Website** – RFPs
- **Restricted Foundations** – contact OFR first!
- **Sign up** for Email/Listserv for upcoming funding opportunities
- **Foundation Directory Online (FDO)**
- **Other Funding Databases/Resources**
- **Grant Writing Guide**
- **Institutional Documents Provided by OFR**
Contact OFR

Please contact our office with any questions you may have about private foundations or whenever a faculty member you are working with is interested in seeking foundation funding.

foundationrelations@northwestern.edu

(847) 491-4590

www.northwestern.edu/foundationrelations