Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program

Where Are Our Awardees?

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Chair, CAREER Coordinating Committee

http://www.nsf.gov/career
Support for New Investigators

• All NSF programs support new investigators as part of the regular ("core") research competitions.

• About 2/3rds of new investigators are supported by the “core” programs.

• Some Directorates have special programs for new investigators (e.g., BIO Research Initiation Awards, BRIGE-Broadening Participation Initiation Grants in Engineering)

• Faculty Early-Career Development (CAREER) Program
  – Most prestigious awards to help a junior faculty member develop activities that can effectively integrate research and education within the context of his/her organization.
Goals of the CAREER Program (NSF 08-557)

- Provide stable support for five years ($\geq$400K in most Directorates, BIO is $\geq$500K) to allow the career development of outstanding new teacher-scholars in the context of the mission of their organization.

- Build a foundation for a lifetime of integrated contributions to research and education.

- Increase participation of those traditionally underrepresented in science and engineering.

- Provide incentives to Universities to value the integration of research and education.

- Awardees may be selected for the Presidential Early-Career Awards in Science and Engineering (PECASE)
CAREER varies across NSF

• Number of submitted CAREER proposals vary widely across NSF

• Review and Funding methods vary according to Directorate and Division practices

• Many CAREER proposals compete with other research proposals in the most appropriate research program

• CAREER Coordinating Committee members serve as liaison between the programs and the Directorate (see their names in the CAREER website)
Proposals Submitted by DIR
Proposals Submitted – NSF vs. EPSCoR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>NSF all</th>
<th>EPSCoR</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 06</td>
<td>2700</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 07</td>
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<td>550</td>
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<td>FY 08</td>
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<td>FY 09</td>
<td>2850</td>
<td>650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 10</td>
<td>2900</td>
<td>700</td>
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Success Rate by DIR

[Bar chart showing success rates by DIRECTORATE (BIO, CISE, ENG, GEO, MPS, SBE, EHR) for years 2004 to 2010.]
% of Awards to EPSCoR states

![Graph showing the percentage of awards to EPSCoR states from FY 06 to FY 10. The percentage increases from FY 06 to FY 09, then decreases slightly in FY 10.]}
Some Generalities

• Survey of ~2000 active Awards in March 2009
  – Approximately 15% are in EPSCoR states
  – > 40% of awards were co-funded by EPSCoR
  – % of relocated awards in less than 10% and consistent with normal rate for NSF awardees

• 1 in 20 NSF PECASE nominees (2008)
• 4 in 20 NSF PECASE nominees (2009)
• Number of CAREER proposals by EPSCoR state varies, but it is steady within each state
CAREER Submissions Per Year *

* Average of last 5 years
Success Rate for EPSCoR states *

* Average of last 5 years
Things to Consider for Early-Career PIs

- Encourage investigators to call Program Officers and ask what is competitive in the program (CAREER or ‘core’)
- Find in-house mentors or encourage your early-career investigators to seek an outside mentor that has been successful receiving grants recently in area of interest
- Encourage them to attend NSF Regional Conferences and NSF Days (some other workshops available)
- Encourage your Chairs to value the time that early-career PIs spend on education pursuits
- Encourage your early-career PIs to submit a proposal for CAREER