Pre-submission Grant Review Program

This program was jointly developed by the SDM Research Office and the SDM Office of Faculty Affairs. For further information or to participate, please contact Laura Didden at ldidden@uchc.edu

Rationale:

Since extramural grant funding is highly competitive, pre-submission reviews of grant applications can increase chances of success. Many PI’s obtain such feedback from their colleagues and contacts both internal and external to UConn. This includes discipline-specific internal programs (such as those run by the UCH Bone group and BME) that provide such feedback to applicants. However, some applicants, especially junior faculty, may not have access to an appropriate reviewer for such pre-submission reviews in a particular area of expertise. This voluntary program is intended to help such applicants obtain such pre-submission scientific reviews for extramural grant applications to funding agencies such as NIH, NSF, DoD, etc.

Program Description:

1. The PI contacts the SDM Research Office approx. 90 days before the submission deadline, with a request to participate in this program, a draft abstract of the grant application, and names of suggested internal or external reviewers, who may be suitable for the planned grant application.

2. The SDM Research Office will contact the potential reviewers and identify one who is agreeable to review the grant within the requested time-frame.

3. The PI submits the scientific section(s) of the draft grant application to the SDM Research Office approx. 45-60 days before the submission deadline. The SDM Research Office will forward the draft to the identified internal or external reviewer, with a request to provide the review within 15 days.

4. After the review is received, the SDM Research Office will send the review to the PI, ideally about 30 days or more before the submission deadline, so there is time to make any changes in response to the review.

5. For reviewers that are external to UConn, the SDM Research Office will offer them a stipend to conduct the review.