

HSIs Webinar

Hosted by

National Institute of Food and
Agriculture

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AGENDA

- Welcome
- Housekeeping Issues-Future Webinars
- Doing Business with *NIFA-Andrea Brandon, (OGFM)*
- Opportunities at Foreign Agricultural Service, Marielsie Avila, *FAS*
- Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) Funding Opportunities at NIFA, *Mark Poth, Director, Division of Bio-energy*
- *Annual Conference*
- *Comments and Questions*



NIFA Office of Grants and Financial Management (OGFM) Grantee Outreach Program

Program Orientation, 4.19.12

Grantee Outreach Program Document #2012-02

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OGFM Agenda

- Introduction
- OGFM Outreach Program Purpose
- OGFM Outreach Program Structure
- Value Added by the OGFM Outreach Program
- Roles and Responsibilities
- Collection of High Priority Topics
- Communication and Feedback
- Q&A

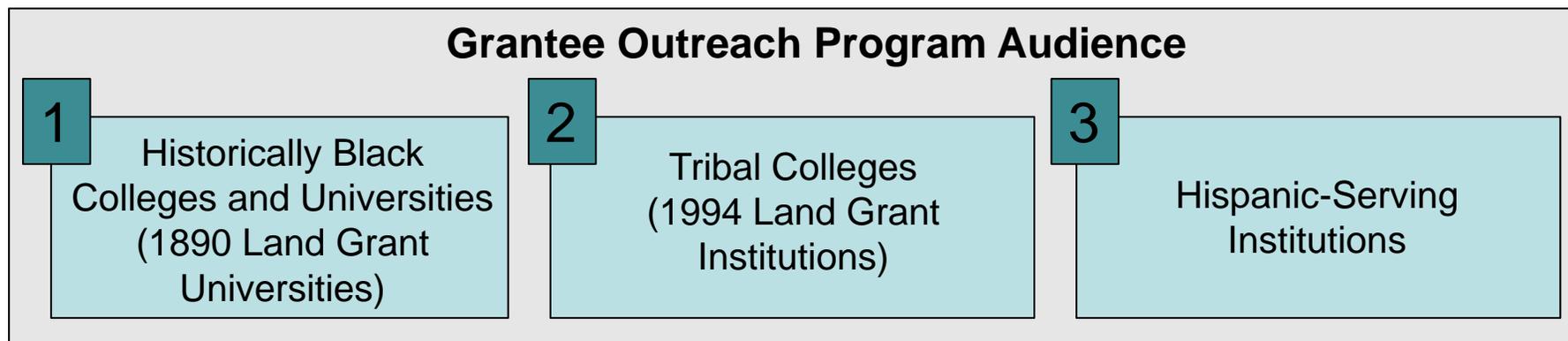
OGFM Outreach Program Purpose

- Consistent with OGFM's newly implemented Vision-Based Strategic Plan, OGFM is focused upon the following:
 - Enhancing communication, collaboration, and cooperation with external business partners and stakeholders
 - Increasing stakeholder outreach and education
 - Engaging stakeholders in two-way dialogue
- As part of OGFM's strategy to achieve its related goals, OGFM is piloting the Grantee Outreach Program in order to (1) strengthen the overall grant lifecycle experience for grantees and, more specifically, (2) address high priority issues/topics specifically identified by you, our customers and partners, as necessary

OGFM Outreach Program Structure

The following elements are planned as part of the Grantee Outreach Program piloted by OGFM:

- Orientation Call/Suggested Topic Collection
- OGFM Outreach Segment on standing HSI Monthly Calls
- 1890 Land Grant Institution “Pilot” Live Outreach Meeting



Value Added by the OGFM Outreach Program

OGFM Strategic Goals

- Enhancing communication, collaboration, and cooperation with external business partners and stakeholders
- Increasing stakeholder outreach and education
- Engaging stakeholders in two-way dialogue



Value to Grantees

- Increase communication with/from OGFM
- Provide a forum for feedback/questions on a monthly basis
- Enhance existing knowledge on high priority topics/issues for your organization
- Gain insight on where to direct questions/requests for action

Roles and Responsibilities

Roles	Responsibilities
Grantee Institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide input on high priority issues/topics of interest within OGFM's grantee communities • Complete a feedback questionnaire after each outreach session attended in order to help OGFM optimize the outreach program material
OGFM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tailor communications and outreach to best suit grantee institution needs • Present on the identified topics during the monthly calls • Develop presentation agendas and materials for outreach calls/meeting
OGFM Assistant Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversee the Grantee Outreach Program and address needs and concerns of grantees as necessary

Collection of High Priority Topics

- OGFM aims to specifically tailor its communications and outreach activities throughout the program in order to best suit the needs of your respective organization and your grantee community more broadly
- In order to do this, OGFM will solicit high priority topics/areas of interest directly from grantee institutions during the orientation call and in advance of future outreach program activities

Communication and Feedback

- Throughout the program, communication about the OGFM outreach segments on the standing monthly HSI calls will be disseminated to grantees on a regular schedule in order to allow for review of materials and submission or preparation of questions in advance of the call
- Any other program updates and news will be disseminated on an as-needed basis via e-mail from OGFM
- If you have any feedback or wish to communicate with OGFM about the Grantee Outreach Program, please contact the OGFM Grantee Outreach Program Leads:
 - Andrea Brandon, NIFA Assistant Director, OGFM, abrandon@nifa.usda.gov
 - Wanda Walker, wwalker@nifa.usda.gov



Q&A

Grantee Outreach Program Document #2012-02

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OGFM Contacts

Andrea Brandon, NIFA Assistant Director, OGFM,
abrandon@nifa.usda.gov

Wanda Walker, wwalker@nifa.usda.gov



Agriculture and Food Research Initiative FY 2012: Finding Your Competitive Advantage

Keys to Competitive Success

- Understand NIFA mission
- Explore the full range of programs
 - **Many options (find your advantage!)**
- Communicate with the National Program Leader or Leaders in your area of interest
- Participate
 - Ad hoc Reviewer to Panelist
 - Grantsmanship Workshops
 - Applicant to Awardee!

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative

Largest NIFA Program (\$264 million)

Five **Challenge Area** RFAs

1. Childhood Obesity Prevention
2. Climate Change
3. Global Food Security
4. Food Safety
5. Sustainable Bioenergy



Agriculture and Food Research Initiative

Foundational Program RFA: estimated
\$65 M

1. Plant Health and Production and Plant Products
2. Animal Health and Production and Animal Products
3. Food Safety, Nutrition, and Health
4. Renewable Energy, Natural Resources, and Environment
5. Agriculture Systems and Technology
6. Agriculture Economics and Rural Communities

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative

NIFA Fellowships Grant Program RFA: \$6 M

1. Offer individual fellowships for pre- and postdoctoral students – *NIFA Fellows*
2. Focus on the broad Challenge Areas
3. Anticipated release in Fall 2011

Who Gets Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Grants?

FY 2010 Success Rates proportional to Applications Rates!

1. Land Grant Universities: 80% of applications and 75% of grants
2. Non-Land Grant Public Universities: 5% of applications and 5% of grants
3. Private Colleges/Universities: 5% of applications and 7% of grants
4. Private Research Organizations: 4% of applications and 4% of grants
5. Others (federal, Industry, Individual): the balance

Letters of Intent

- Required for most program areas.
- Take care to follow the guidelines.
- Applications submitted without a prior Letter of Intent submission will not be reviewed.

FASE Grants:

- Pre-doctoral Fellowship Grants – **New**
- Postdoctoral Fellowship Grants
- New Investigator Grants (Restricted eligibility)
- **Strengthening Grants** (Restricted eligibility)
 - **Sabbatical Grants**
 - **Equipment Grants**
 - **Seed Grants**
 - **Strengthening Standard and Strengthening CAP Grants**

Standard Strengthening

- A regular research or Integrated proposal (includes CAPs)
- The proposal has two chances to be funded!
- First chance if the proposal ranks high enough (top 10-15) it is funded out of the regular program funds
- Second chance from strengthening funds (Awards made according to ranking, but only of eligible proposals. First eligible proposal may rank substantially below 20.)

Strengthening Eligibility AFRI

- Now eligible in research and integrated programs! (previously limited to only research programs)
- Now eligible every year in research and integrated programs! (previously only once every 5 years)
- Now only the lead Project Director needs to be eligible in research and integrated programs! (partner with larger institutions and take the lead!)

Strengthening Strategy

- Plan your work to link awards and leverage Capacity Building Grants or other resources
- Evaluate where you are and what you need
- Equipment = (equipment grant) Training or a collaborator = (sabbatical award) Preliminary data =(seed/sabbatical)
- What is your three year plan?
(equipment>seed>standard or sabbatical>standard or other)
- Take the lead! When larger institutions call to partner explain the advantage of your taking the lead making your combined application strengthening eligible!

Understanding the level of competition in AFRI

- Programs is asking for just CAP awards?
- Look closer...for your advantage.
- All programs will take Strengthening Grant applications from MSIs
- Includes Equipment, Seed, Sabbatical and Standard strengthening (including CAP) grants
- Contact the NPL for your program of interest to discuss before submission of a LOI

Panel Participation

- Panelists from minority serving institutions are especially needed
- Faculty from all levels (Assistant, Associate and Full Professor)
- In 2001 less than 2% from MSI, in 2009 5.6%, in 2010 7.6%!
- The best way to understand the review process and what makes a good application.

Grantsmanship Workshops

- Provides overview of programs to applicants
- Mock Peer Review Panel
- “Face time” with National Program Leaders
- Tips on grant-writing from experts
- Travel fellowships for attendees from minority-serving institutions
- Currently being restructured and offer dates TBD.

Administrator's Role

- Deans, Directors and Department Chairs can foster success
- Must support release time for panel participation
- Must support attendance at Grantsmanship workshops
- Use other assets strategically (capacity building grants and other resources)
- Apply!

Questions?

- Contact: Dr. Mark Poth
- Division Director
- Sustainable Bioenergy
- 202-401-5244
- mpoth [@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:mpoth@nifa.usda.gov)

• Thank
You!!



Foreign Agricultural Service-FAS

Presented by: Marielsie Avila

Africa & Middle East, International Training Specialist
Cochran Fellowship Program, FAS/OCBD

Sharing Knowledge to Promote Sustainability

Trade and Scientific Exchanges (TSE)

Facilitating cooperation and knowledge sharing between American and foreign researchers, educators, and international policy-makers.

- Two week to six month training and research opportunities
- Targeted activities to meet specific needs
- Primarily U.S.-based training
- Supports strategic objectives and priorities of the Administration



Joseph Anikwe and his mentor, Dr. Aijun Zhang conducting insect olfactory analysis.

Sharing Knowledge to Promote Sustainability



TSE Programming Tools

Cochran Fellowship Program

- U.S.-based short-term targeted technical training related to market development and trade capacity building

Norman E. Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology Fellows Program

- Fellowships for scientific training and research in the United States to potential leaders from eligible countries.

International Graduate Studies Program

- Graduate degree program for agricultural professionals from developing and post-conflict countries with the goal of building prosperous, market-oriented agricultural sectors that are fully integrated in the global economy

Scientific Cooperation Exchange Program

- U.S.- China bilateral exchange program promoting agricultural cooperation in a variety of areas

Faculty Exchange Program

- Up to 6 months at a U.S. institution to increase their knowledge of, and ability to teach agricultural fields

Scientific Cooperation Research Program

- Projects link U.S. scientists with researchers worldwide and make practical use of new technologies and other tools to help address trade, food, and agricultural issues.



Borlaug Fellowship Program



Purpose:

- Build relationships to advance agricultural trade and capacity building through scientific exchanges
- Helps developing nations strengthen agricultural practices by providing scientific training and collaborative research

Priority Research Areas:

- Agricultural/Veterinary Sciences, Agricultural Economic/Policy, Food Safety/SPS, Natural Resources Management, Biotechnology

Training Venues:

- Academia, USG research facilities, not-for-profit institutions, and international agricultural research centers

Length of Fellowships:

- 6 to 12 weeks

Cochran Fellowship Program

Purpose:

To provide short-term, high quality training resulting in knowledge and skills that will assist eligible countries in developing their agricultural systems and strengthen and enhance trade linkages between eligible countries and the U.S.

Training Focus:

- Field observations, industry visits, university courses and seminars, hands-on experiences (i.e. meat inspection)



2011 Cochran Fellows from Haiti at University of Puerto Rico – Mayaguez (Mango Export Program)

Faculty Exchange Program

Purpose:

- To improve the institutional capacity of participating universities to provide quality agricultural economics and science education

Priority Training Areas:

- Animal health, food quality, food inspection, pest risk assessment; agricultural marketing, agribusiness, agrarian law



2010 Agricultural Science Faculty Exchange Program Participants Pictured with FAS Leadership

Training Venues:

- Academic Institutions

Length of Fellowships:

- Up to 6 months

Fellow Profile:

- Agricultural professors employed at universities in the former Soviet Union, Latin America, and AGOA countries

- Questions?

FAS Contacts:

Trade and scientific exchanges division

Karina Ramos-Hides, Deputy Director, (202) 720-3736, karina.ramos@fas.usda.gov

Ed Gerard, International Affairs Specialist, (202) 690-1983, edward.gerard@fas.usda.gov

Marielsie Avila, International Training Specialist, (202) 720-2151, marielsie.avila@fas.usda.gov



FUTURE WEBINARS

MAY 17, 2012	2:00pm EST
JUNE 14, 2012	2:00pm EST
JULY 19, 2012	2:00pm EST
AUGUST 16, 2012	2:00pm EST
SEPTEMBER 12, 2012	2:00pm EST



***HSIs Education Grants Program Mandatory Annual Meeting
Free Registration--Register Early by April 30, 2012***

Who must attend: Grantees from open grants from FY 2008-FY 2011;
Bring 1-2 underrepresented students—free lodging for first 30 students

When: May 30-June 1st, 2012

Where: University of Texas-Pan American, Edinburg, Texas

Registration: http://portal.utpa.edu/utpa_main/daa_home/cosm_home/usda_home

Please Read: (Click OK 3 times to get to the registration form. NOTE: We are having a slight problem with the registration form that we are working to fix. You might get an error trying to access the registration form, “Word cannot start the converter mswrd632.wpc”. Please click on “OK” 3 times and the form will pop up. We are sorry for the inconvenience, we will fix it ASAP.)

Comments and Questions

Thank You!!