**Grant Connection**

**WE ♥ GRANTS!**

This month, the GRSC is celebrating Valentine’s Day by declaring our love for funding foundations. Funding that comes from foundations is unique, because foundations are often more flexible in their funding decisions than governmental sources of funding. If you have an out-of-the-box research idea, try approaching one of these great foundations!

1. **Ford Foundation**

   Grants are made primarily within three broad categories: (1) asset building and community development; (2) knowledge, creativity, and freedom; and (3) peace and social justice. Local needs and priorities, within these subject areas, determine program activities in individual countries. Its goals are to: strengthen democratic values, reduce poverty and injustice, promote international cooperation, and advance human achievement.

2. **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation**

   The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is devoted exclusively to health and health care and concentrates its grant-making in four areas: assuring access to quality health services for all Americans at reasonable cost; improving quality of care and support for people with chronic health conditions; promoting healthy communities and lifestyles; and reducing the harm caused by substance abuse – tobacco, alcohol, and illicit drugs.

3. **Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust**

   The great majority of grants are given to organizations located in, and for projects to be conducted within, the state of Iowa and portions of Illinois, as well as to other organizations in which Mr. Carver had an interest during his lifetime. Generally speaking, the Carver Trust supports biomedical and scientific research, scholarships, and programs addressing the educational and recreational needs of youth.

4. **Spencer Foundation**

   The Spencer Foundation grants funds to support research which contributes to the understanding and improvement of education. Grant programs include funding for faculty research and a variety of fellowship programs.

5. **William T. Grant Foundation**

   The foundation invests in research that use evidence-based approaches. Current grant making is restricted to the three interrelated topics that follow: 1) Youth Development; 2) Improving Systems, Organizations, and Programs; and 3) Adults’ Use of Evidence and Their Views of Youth.

6. **W. K. Kellogg Foundation**

   The foundation targets its grants toward health, food systems and rural development, youth and education, and philanthropy and volunteerism. Within these areas, attention is given to exploring learning opportunities in leadership, information and communication technology, capitalizing on diversity, and social and economic community development.
Grant Connection

February Deadlines

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Adah Johnson/Otilia Maria Fernandez Scholarship

This $2000 scholarship is awarded to a graduate student on the basis of academic performance and commitment to issues relevant to women of color.

MORE INFO: tinyurl.com/axbpl26

Jane A. Weiss Memorial Dissertation Scholarship

This $4000 scholarship is awarded to a Ph.D. candidate whose dissertation focuses on issues pertaining to women. Graduate students from all disciplines are encouraged to apply.

MORE INFO: tinyurl.com/axbpl26

Henry P. David Grant

These $1500 grants support young professionals with a demonstrated interest in behavioral aspects of human reproductive behavior or an area related to population concerns. Applicants must be graduate students conducting dissertation research.

MORE INFO: tinyurl.com/aqfg475

PAGs Travel Grant

The PAGs committee will fund students up to $300 for travel to conferences and professional and academic gatherings where the student will present their work.

MORE INFO: tinyurl.com/6nn9yy3

FOR MORE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:

Check out the GRSC’s Student Funding Database!

HERE: tinyurl.com/9o6cahr

Follow us on Twitter!
twitter.com/uiowagrsc
Describe your research with Dr. Henfield.

The research study is about counselors’ professional identity development. Specifically, the purpose of the study is to create an instrument that can be used to help advance the counseling field by producing the next generation of counselors with strong professional identities.

How did you attain your research assistantship?

First, I am very passionate about the topic of counselors’ professional identity development. Because I frequently share my research interests with my advisor, Dr. Henfield, he knew that I would be definitely interested in working with him to develop an instrument that measures counselors’ professional identity. Second, under Dr. Henfield’s supervision, I have been involved in a number of research studies that require advanced research skills and capabilities. …

Knowing my skill set and knowledge would be helpful to the project, Dr. Henfield selected me to serve as his research assistant.

How has your research helped you grow as a student?

As a function of the assistantship, I have been thoroughly involved in all aspects of the study. For example, in the early stages of the project, I invested a significant amount of time collecting and extensively reviewing information relevant to the topic of professional identity.

As the project developed, I was also deeply involved in the instrument construction process, as well. What I found to be most interesting was the data collection and analysis process, which required me to collect and analyze both quantitative and qualitative data. As a result of this research assistantship, I have learned a tremendous amount about how to construct surveys, which has prepared me for the work required of my dissertation.

What advice would you give students who want to get funded through research?

Share your research interests and topics with professors in your program. They are the source of feedback, insight, and various resources, including funding information, that are invaluable to your research in the present and well into the future. Also, take the initiative to develop your research skills and let the professors, particularly your advisor, aware of your research strengths. At that point, the onus is on the faculty to mentor you as you develop into a competent researcher. Once you have proven your skills, this mentoring relationship may lead to formal research assistantship opportunities and/or chances to apply for large and small research grants with your mentor.

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