The Center for Excellence in Research (CER) is a faculty-initiated activity at USC designed to increase the impact and prominence of scholarly research throughout the university. Under the auspices of the Vice President of Research and the University Research Committee, the CER promotes advancement, leadership and excellence in the pursuit of all areas of research, university-wide. The primary activities of the CER are a series of faculty-led research events and training workshops organized by the Office of Research.

Grant Proposal Mentoring: The Center for Excellence in Research offers a peer-to-peer proposal review service for faculty applying to external funding sources. Further information on this program is available at the CER website (http://research.usc.edu/about/vp/cer/).

In addition to grant proposal mentoring, the Office of Research offers administrative support for preparing large interdisciplinary/multi-school proposals.

Additional courses on grants submission, management and administration are offered by the Office of Compliance and the Department of Contracts and Grants (see: http://research.usc.edu/for-investigators/training/).

Catalogs and course descriptions are available at the CER website. Inquiries can be directed to the Office of Research: 213-740-6709 or usccer@usc.edu

http://research.usc.edu/
http://research.usc.edu/for-investigators/training/
Developing Funded Research Programs
Learn the proposal process, including the development of funding resources, building relationships with funding agencies & targeting research capabilities.

Target Audience: New/junior faculty & postdocs
January 15, 2017 1:45 - 4 PM HSC NML West Auditorium
January 19, 2017 1 - 3 PM HSC NML East Conference Room
Randolph Hall, Vice President of Research, USC

Communicating Your Research to the Media
Learn about the importance of public & private relations, using effective communication with the media during an interview. Tips on preparation, delivery & the raising of your research profile.

Target Audience: All levels of faculty, postdocs & PhD students
January 23, 2017 9 - 10:30 AM UP DMC 240
Carl Marzilli, Former Director of Research Communications & Assoc VP for Media Relations, USC

Reproducible Research, Open Science & Digital Scholarship: Learn to Write Scientific Papers of the Future
Learn modern tips to create an open & reproducible science, get credit for research products, increase paper citations, augment vitae with data & software, write compelling Data Management Plans for proposals & comply with new funder & journal requirements.

Target Audience: All levels of faculty, postdocs
February 1, 2017 10:30 - 2 PM UPC DMC 240
March 25, 2017 10:30 - 2 PM HSC NML 210
Yolanda Gill, Director of Knowledge Technologies, Information Sciences Institute (ISI), USC

Obtaining Funding from Foundations & the USC Process
Focuses on the steps needed to develop a relationship with a foundation that can lead to funding your proposals. Learn about the USC process & resources.

Target Audience: All levels of faculty, postdocs & research administrators
February 8, 2017 1 - 2 PM, UPC VPD 302
Hassan Pourmand, Senior Executive Director, Corporate & Foundation Relations

Writing Winning Proposals
This three-session workshop is hands-on & requires you to bring a draft proposal for development. Each session covers different topics: understanding the announcement, best language to use, what to include and omit, writing strategies to get funded & peer review.

Target Audience: Faculty who are currently writing or revising a proposal
February 9, February 23, March 9 1 - 4 PM HSC NML West Conference Room
Brenda Lundy, Professional Grant Writer & Owner of The Writing Company

Developing & Submitting a Successful Mission Agency Grant
Objectives are to educate & empower research administrators, using best study design, assessment & publication, & incorporation of education research into clinical teaching. Discussion on the basics of understanding the grant application process, including the mission agency’s review process.

Target Audience: New/junior faculty
February 15, 2017 1 - 2 PM UPC VP 302
James Murday, Associate Director, Office of Research Advancement, Washington DC

Protecting Your Intellectual Property (IP)
Intro course to tips on protecting your idea, patents, copyrights, trade secrets & their differences will be presented. Pitfalls of the provisional patent application will also be discussed.

Target Audience: All levels of faculty & postdocs
February 22, 2017 9 - 12 PM HSC NML 210
Fikret Kirkby, Manager, Intellectual Property Analysis & Assessment, AMI-USC

Research Computing at USC: Resources for Analyzing Large Datasets
Learn about the High Performance Computing (HPC) computer, software & facilities resources available. Explore opportunities with others now to HPC & learn how to get started.

Target Audience: New/junior faculty, postdocs, especially those from STEM disciplines
March 1, 2017 1 - 2 PM CHLA Saban Auditorium
Erin Shaw, Advanced Cyber Infrastructure Research & Education Facilitator, HPCC

Revising Strategies for Proposal Success
Learn to revise your draft final in an intensive workshop setting, by applying top-down revising strategy, review draft against RFP & argument development, assess key points, language usage, edit style & tone, format. Some NVivo & Atlas.ti training & relationship to grounded theory method.

Target Audience: All levels of faculty who are in the final stages of a proposal
March 30, 2017 12 - 3:30 PM UPC LR 120
Bonnie Lundy, Professional Grant Writer & Owner of The Writing Company

Securing Corporate Funding for Your Research
Learn how to engage with industry & obtain funding. Discussion on the commercialization process & how the USC Stevens Center will help to find a partner, negotiate a license, & assist with developing & marketing the product.

Target Audience: All levels of faculty, postdocs & grad students
April 5, 2017 1 - 2 PM UPC VP 205
Lawrence Lau, Associate Director, Corporate Collaborations, USC Stevens Center

How to Conduct Qualitative Research Studies Using the Grounded Theory Method
Seminar on how to formulate a research question, including steps in data collection & analysis. Some NVivo & Atlas.ti training & relationship to grounded theory method.

Target Audience: All levels of faculty & postdocs
April 13, 2017 1 - 3 PM UPC TCC 227
Elton Olszewski, Professor & Chair, Nursing, Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work
Charles Kaplan, Associate Dean for Research, Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work

RSVP (required): uscer@usc.edu
Information on sessions at: https://research.usc.edu/for-investigators/training/

Developing NIH Grant Applications
The objective is to educate in investigators in the complete process of conceptualizing an NIH grant proposal & getting it funded: identifying which NIH Institute to target, NIH’s funding priorities, how to prepare for the review process & building relationships with funding agencies.

Target Audience: All levels of faculty
April 19, 2017 9 - 2 PM UPC VP 302
Steve Molin, Executive Director, Office of Research Advancement, Washington DC

Research Data Management for Reproducible Research in the Sciences, Social Sciences & Health Sciences
Introduction to best practices in research data management throughout the research life cycle: identifying data, setting up directories for data management, writing effective data management plans, documenting data for replication & sharing & validating data for your study.

Target Audience: New/junior faculty & postdocs
March 4, 2017 1 - 2 PM, UPC VP 205 (social sciences session)
April 20, 2017 1 - 2 PM HSC NML West Conference Room (health sciences session)
April 23, 2017 12 - 2 PM UPC DMC 240 (social sciences session)
Contributors: Jennifer Dinello, Information Sciences Librarian, Katharine Peter, Social Sciences Data Librarian & Zoe Petway Unno, Sciences & Engineering Librarian, USC

Preparing & Submitting NSF CAREER Award Proposals
Workshop to provide an insight to the proposal program & requirements for the prestigious Faculty Early Career Development Program at NSF. Previous award recipients will be present.

Target Audience: New/junior faculty
April 27, 2017 1 - 2 PM UPC VP 302
Randolph Hall, Vice President of Research, USC

Educational Scholarship & Research: A Primer for Medical Educators
Allied with designing & conducting research studies, assessment, design, analysis & presentation of educational research into clinical teaching. Discussion on the basics of understanding the grant application process, including the mission agency’s review process.

Target Audience: Junior & mid-career faculty particularly clinicin-educators & educational scholars
April 28, 2017 9 - 4 PM CHLA Page Conference Room
Organizers: Randolph Hall, Julie Flynn, Chief, Pediatric Hospital Medicine Fellowship, CHLA
Panelists: Rita Burke; Todd Chang, Jeffrey Upperman, Marianne Ward, Stephanie Zia, Kenneth Yates

Developing Faculty Through Unique Peer Networking Activities
Boosting senior leader to shape successful peer mentoring strategies. Goals are to develop relationships, foster collaborations & encourage mentoring.

Target Audience: All levels of faculty from CHLA & USC
April 17, 2017 9 - 4 PM Rockwell 1714 N. Vermont Ave., LA, 90027
USC Faculty Development Program, CHLA

UPC  SSL 108  (sciences session)
April 11, 2017
Panelists: Steven Lifton, Daniel S. Greenberg, Associate Dean for Research, Medical Education, CHLA

UPC SSL 108  (Humanities session)
April 11, 2017
Panelists: Rand Hall, Vice President of Research, USC; Robert L. Neisler, Vice Dean for Research, USC; Randolph Hall, Vice President of Research, USC

UPC SSL 108  (social sciences session)
April 11, 2017
Panelists: Jennifer Dinello, Information Sciences Librarian, Katharine Peter, Social Sciences Data Librarian & Zoe Petway Unno, Sciences & Engineering Librarian, USC

UPC SSL 108  (health sciences session)
April 20, 2017
Panelists: Jennifer Dinello, Information Sciences Librarian, Katharine Peter, Social Sciences Data Librarian & Zoe Petway Unno, Sciences & Engineering Librarian, USC