4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, Virginia
National Science Foundation

• Federal agency created by Congress in 1950 "to promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; to secure the national defense…"

• Social Science Research Program established in 1957

• Engages in competitive process of merit review of ~ 50,000 proposals/year (funds ~11,500)
NSF Research Directorates

- Biological Sciences (BIO)
- Computer and Information Science & Engineering (CISE)
- Education and Human Resources (EHR)
  - Education & Human Resources (EHR) includes the Tribal Colleges and Universities Program and the Graduate Research Fellowship Program
- Engineering (ENG)
- Geosciences (GEO)
  - Geosciences (GEO) includes the Arctic Social Sciences Program
- Mathematical and Physical Sciences (MPS)
- **Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE)**
  - Social, Behavioral & Economic Sciences (SBE) includes Documenting Endangered Languages, Linguistics, Cultural Anthropology, as well as a host of other programs relating to the social sciences
NSF Website

Visit the NSF website
http://www.nsf.gov

Follow NSF on Social Media
Hashtag: #SBEFunded for SBE projects like this workshop!
Merit Review

• Individual proposals are sent to peer reviewers
  – For Documenting Endangered Languages Program (DEL), reviewers typically hold a PhD in linguistics or anthropology and have expertise in the topic(s) of the proposal
• DEL panel reviews all the proposals and ranks them with regard to each other
• Program Officer reviews the proposal, analyzes reviewer and panel input, and considers other factors in whether to recommend a proposal for funding.
Official NSF review criteria

**Intellectual Merit:**
- Importance
- Qualifications
- Originality
- Transformative?
- Conception & organization
- Access to resources

**Broader Impacts:**
- Training
- Mentoring
- Diversity
- Infrastructure
- Dissemination/
  Public awareness
- Societal Benefits
SBE’s Mission

- To promote the understanding of people and their lives by supporting research that reveals basic facets of human behavior
- To encourage research that addresses important societal questions and problems

**Basic** Science
Three Divisions within SBE

- Behavioral & Cognitive Sciences (BCS)
- Social & Economic Sciences (SES)
- National Center for Science & Engineering Statistics (NCSES)
Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences (BCS)

- Archaeology and Archaeometry
- Biological Anthropology
- Cultural Anthropology
- Cognitive Neuroscience
- Developmental Sciences
- Science of Learning
- Documenting Endangered Languages
- Geography and Spatial Sciences
- Linguistics
- Perception, Action, & Cognition
- Social Psychology
Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences (BCS)

• Supports research to develop and advance scientific knowledge on:
  • Human cognition
  • Language
  • Social behavior
  • Culture
  • Interactions between human societies and the physical environment
OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUNDING

• Unsolicited competitions (standing programs like DEL)
• Workshops and conference proposals
• Special solicitations
• Dear Colleague Letter
• Rapid response research (RAPID)
• Early concept grants for exploratory research (EAGER)
• Fellowships for graduate students or postdoctoral activities
• Dissertation grants to cover the costs of dissertation research activities like fieldwork, interviews, travel
Documenting Endangered Languages

• Joint funding initiative between NSF and NEH
• Grants submitted to National Science Foundation for merit review
• Base NSF DEL budget for FY16 $2.3 million, but with funds from other programs at NSF and NEH, $4.5 million in awards
  – NSF internal partnerships include Polar Programs, CISE and TCUP (Human Resource Development)
• Note: DEL does not directly fund language revitalization. But many projects include revitalization activities as part of "broader impacts"
DEL Program Page at NSF

• http://1.usa.gov/1gryRP9

• Resources, solicitation link, announcements
DEL Outreach Videos

• Series of DEL Outreach videos freely available on YouTube

• Expert advice for how to design effective projects and write competitive proposals.

• https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLx12labZqbzGbA0rQU0xg5cMzz9rp_dqY
  – Video production supported by NSF-DEL grant #BCS 1500695.
3 Areas of Emphasis

• **Language Description:** fieldwork, documentation, preparation of dictionaries, grammars, and databases

• **Infrastructure:** digitization and creation of access to documentary materials, workshops, and conferences

• **Computational Methods:** development of standards and tools to make materials widely available in Web-based formats, often in collaboration between theoretical and field linguists and computational linguists
Competitive Proposals

• Between 20 – 24% of DEL senior research grants are funded
• DEL solicitation allows $150K/year, up to $450K total over three years
  – Most DEL proposals are funded for less than $450K (look at awards to see amounts and topics on Fastlane)
• Proposals that review well and are ranked highly by the DEL panel may still not end up funded
• NSF Fact: **Principal Investigators submit on average about 2.3 proposals for every award they receive.**
NSF and Broadening Participation

• NSF “mission calls for the broadening of opportunities and expanding participation of groups, institutions, and geographic regions that are underrepresented…NSF is committed to this principle of diversity and deems it central to the programs, projects, and activities it considers and supports.”

• What are ways that DEL contributes to this?
Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUP)

- Submissions by TCUP-eligible institutions and by collaborations between TCUP-eligible and non-TCUP institutions
- Funding stream designed to build capacity and research skills at TCUPs (and to foster relationships with non-TCUP partners that support tribal colleges and their students and faculty)
TCUP Funding Stream at DEL

• Building research and scholarly training capacity in documentary and descriptive linguistics, computational methodology, archiving and preservation.
• Attracting, retraining, and supporting TCU students in independent research endeavors.
• Providing research training by non-TCU institutions to enable the successful transition of TCU students to major research universities.
Supporting Training

• Today's workshop funded by DEL, TCUP, Linguistics and Science of Broadening Participation
• Training in descriptive linguistics and in new technologies for documentation
• National Breath of Life Archival Institute for Indigenous Languages (National BoL)
  – PIs Daryl Baldwin and Leanne Hinton
  – Award #: BCS – 1561167, awarded in 2016
  – Also funding the upcoming National BOL in 2017
Training

• 2016 Institute on Collaborative Language Research (aka "CoLang 2016")
  – PIs, Lawrence Kaplan, Alice Taff and Siri Tuttle
  – Critical training for students and members of indigenous communities
  – New technology, interdisciplinary methods, best practices in ethical community collaborations, language description and documentation

Award number: BCS - 1500841, awarded in 2015
http://www.alaska.edu/colang2016/
Arctic Social Sciences Program (GEO)

• Program page:  
  https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=13425

• Funds all social sciences supported by NSF, including, but are not limited to anthropology, archaeology, economics, geography, linguistics, political science, psychology, science and technology studies, sociology, traditional knowledge and related subjects.

• Areas of particular interest include culture and environment, resources and economic change, development of social and political institutions, ethnic (cultural) and regional identities, and knowledge systems.

• The Arctic Social Sciences Program especially encourages projects that are circumpolar and/or comparative; involve collaborations between researchers and those living in the Arctic; or form partnerships among disciplines, regions, researchers, communities, and/or students (K-12, undergraduate, or graduate). Dissertation research proposals will be accepted.
Tribal Colleges and Universities Program (in EHR Directorate)

Program page: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5483
TCUP, the eligible institutions…

• Tribal Colleges and Universities

• Alaska Native-serving IHEs

• Native Hawaiian-serving IHEs
TCUP supports…

• Faculty Development
• Curriculum Development
• Undergraduate Research
• Student Stipends
• Equipment
• Facilities
• Travel and…
TCUP…What’s available?

NSF 16-531

- ICE-TI (our signature capacity-building track)
- TSIP (a limited version of ICE-TI)
- SGR (principally research)
- PAGE (promotes success in geosciences)
- PEEC (promotes success in engineering)
- PADLE (promotes success in linguistics)
- SEA-PHAGES in TCUs (with HHMI)
- Pre-TI (to develop a strategic plan)
TCUP Solicitation link 16-531

Incredibly prestigious and generous multi-year fellowship funding to support outstanding graduate students in NSF-supported disciplines who are pursuing research-based master's and doctoral degrees at accredited United States institutions.

Undergraduates can apply, as can students early on in their graduate career.

Deadlines are October and November annually.
GRFP Goals

• To select, recognize, and financially support individuals who have demonstrated the potential to be high achieving scientists and engineers, early in their careers.

• To broaden participation in science and engineering of underrepresented groups, including women, minorities, persons with disabilities and veterans.
GRFP Key Elements

Five Year Award – $138,000

• Three years of support
  – $34,000 Stipend per year
  – $12,000 Educational allowance to institution

• Professional Development Opportunities:
  GROW: International Research
  GRIP: Federal Internships

• Supercomputer access: XSEDE

• Career Life Balance (family leave)
GRFP Unique Features

- Awarded to individual
- **Flexible**: choice of project, advisor & program
- **Unrestrictive**: No service requirement
- **Portable**: Any accredited U.S. institution
  - MS, MS and PhD, PhD

- **2010 - 2016**: 2,000 fellowships/year

  2016: ~16,800 Applications
  ~12 % success rate
GRFP Solicitation

Provides the following information:

- Deadlines
- Program description
- Award information
- Eligibility requirements
- Application preparation
- Submission instructions
- Application review criteria
Application Review Process

• Applications are reviewed by panels of disciplinary and interdisciplinary scientists and engineers.

• Applications are assigned to panels based on the chosen Primary Field of study.

• Applicants are advised to select the Primary Field of Study that is most closely aligned with the proposed graduate program of study.

• Holistic evaluation.

  Uses the same merit review criteria, Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts, as used for all NSF proposals.
• NSF Graduate Research Internship Program – eligibility
limited GR Fellowship recipients
• 2 to 12 month internships at Federal Agencies and
National Labs
• Current Hosts:
  – Smithsonian Institution
  – Office of Naval Research*
  – U.S. Geological Survey*
  – National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
  – U.S. Census Bureau
  – Department of Homeland Security
  – Federal Bureau of Investigation
Inclusion across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science (NSF INCLUDES)

PROGRAM SOLICITATION
NSF 17-522

The long-term goal of NSF INCLUDES is to support, over the next ten years, innovative models, networks, partnerships, and research that enable the U.S. science and engineering workforce to thrive by ensuring that women, blacks, Hispanics, and people with disabilities are represented in percentages comparable to their representation in the U.S. population.

Webinar for NSF INCLUDES January 12, 2017
Preliminary Proposals due February 14, 2017
Big Picture Advice

- Read the solicitation
- Talk to the Program Director
- Many people write up a 1 pager for program officers, pitching their proposed activity and framing it within the particular program, to see if it is viable.
- Look at available resources on NSF grant-writing outreach videos, office hours, abstracts of awards
- Put together a team that can carry out the proposed research --- have a research question
- Write a proposal that conveys the scientific merit of the project in terms of intellectual merit and broader impacts
- Why should your project be funded over another one?
- Competitive DEL proposals make a compelling case for why this language, why this community, why this project should be funded over other projects.
Contact Info

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences
Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences

Colleen M. Fitzgerald, Ph.D.
Program Director
Documenting Endangered Languages

4201 Wilson Boulevard
Suite 995N
Arlington, Virginia 22230

phone: (703) 292-4381
fax: (703) 292-9068
e-mail: cfitzger@nsf.gov
http://1.usa.gov/1gryRP9