Show Me the Money:
Using COS Pivot to Find Doctoral Student Funding Opportunities

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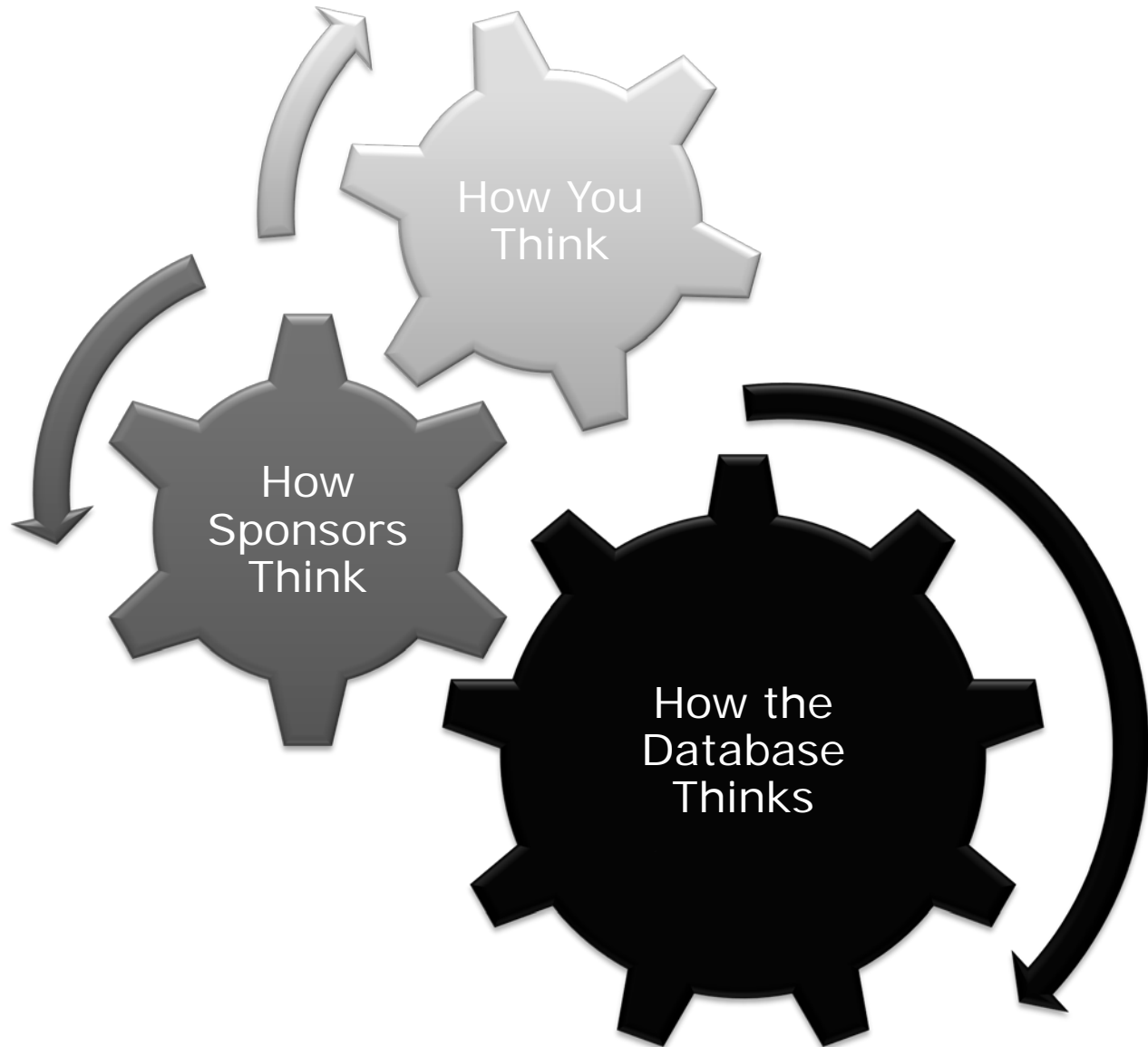*jcvenable@vcu.edu*

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Workshop Objectives

- Discuss and demonstrate web-based funding databases.

  - Set up a COS Pivot account and run through its features.

  - Review other funding opportunities search resources relevant to doctoral students.

- Discuss search strategies.

Prepare for Your Search

- **Write a lay-language prospectus**.

  - Keywords, target population, methodologies, areas of innovation, collaborating disciplines, outcomes and impact.

- Determine type of funding needed.

- List priorities.

- Consider timing and deadlines.

- Consider pros and cons of Public and Private funding.

- Review University proposal submission procedures.

Getting in the Right Mindset

It's not an ATM.

pivot.cos.com

Ways of Searching Pivot

Quick Search
- Search across all available funding opportunities.

Sponsor Search
- Search for all programs in the database attached to a specific sponsor.

Search Advisor
- Find funding matches based on expertise profiles.

Advanced Search
- Constructs a targeted, field-specific search using search boxes, browsing windows, and pick lists.

Managing Your Results: Account Benefits

LIVE DEMONSTRATION OF COS PIVOT

Funding Advanced Search

Find Opportunities matching

◉ Match *all* of the fields   ◯ Match *any* of the fields ⓘ

Search   Clear All

| All Fields ▾ | | or | | or | | ⓘ |

and | All Fields ▾ | | or | | or | |

and | All Fields ▾ | | or | | or | |

+ Add another row   Clear

▸ Amount

▸ Deadlines

▸ Limited Submission

★ ▸ Activity Location   **Select:** United States; Virginia; Unrestricted; Unspecified

★ ▸ Citizenship or Residency   **Select:** Country/ies of citizenship and residency; Unrestricted; Unspecified

★ ▸ Funding Type   **Select:** Dissertation or Thesis; Training, Scholarship or Fellowship

★ ▸ Keyword   *Browse for terms*

★ ▸ Requirements   **Select:** Graduate Student; Minority; Women; Persons with Disabilities; etc...

★ ▸ Sponsor Type   **Select:** if you want to limit to a certain type of sponsor

308 Results Sort-

Deadline | Amount

Predoctoral Residential Research Fellowships — 01 Dec 2013 — $40,000
University of Virginia
Woodson Institute for Afro-American and African Studies, Carter G.

Mark B. Bain Graduate Fellowship Program — 18 Mar 2013 — $16,000
Hudson River Foundation for Science and Environmental Research
Hudson River

Eugene Garfield Doctoral D... — $3,000
Beta Phi Mu

Mark B. Bain Graduate Fellowship... X

ABSTRACT
The Foundation awards full-time research fellowships to advanced graduate students conducting research on the Hudson River system.

ELIGIBILITY
Applicants must be enrolled in an accredited doctoral or master's program, must have a thesis advisor and advisory committee (if appropriate to the institution), and must have a thesis research plan approved by the student's institution or...

George and Marion Plossl D — $2,500
APICS The Association for Operatio...
APICS Educational and Research (E

Mathematical Sociology Ou... — $1,000
Progress Award
American Sociological Association (
Section on Mathematical Sociology

Stuart L. Bernath Dissertation Grant — 01 Oct 2013 — $4,000
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR)

Fellowship Program — 15 Nov 2013 — $20,000
Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union
George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate, Museum & Gardens
Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington at Mount Vernon

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Submission type
Limited Submission: 16

Top funding types
Dissertation or Thesis: 308
Research: 183
Training or Scholarshi...: 72
Travel: 35
Equipment or Materials...: 23

Top sponsor types
Professional Society o...: 145
Other Nonprofit: 53
Private Foundation: 40
Federal, U.S.: 36
Academic Institution: 30

Top requirements
Graduate Student: 308
PhD or MD or Other Pro...: 106
New Faculty or New Inv...: 79
Academic Institution: 22
Nonprofit: 15

Top keywords
Nursing: 37
American History: 30
Nurse Practitioner: 30
History: 27
Social Sciences: 20

Funding Opportunities Details

Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowships

Opp ID: 101069 | Dissertation or Thesis | Last edited on 05 Feb 2013

Full Details

Website	http://www.acls.org/grants/Default.aspx?id=512
Sponsor	American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) Andrew W. Mellon Foundation/ACLS Early Career Fellowship Program
Amount	**Upper $33,000** ACLS will award 65 Fellowships in this competition for a one-year term beginning between June and September 2013 for the 2013-2014 academic year. The total award of up to $33,000 includes a stipend plus additional funds... more »
Requirements	Graduate Student
Citizenship or Residency	United States
Activity location	Unrestricted
Abstract	ACLS invites applications for the seventh annual competition for the Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowships, which support a year of research and writing to help advanced graduate students in the humanities and related social sciences in the last year of Ph.D. dissertation writing. For the purpose of this competition, the humanities and related social sciences include but are not limited to American studies; anthropology; archaeology; art and architectural history; classics; economics; environmental studies; film; gender studies; geography; history; languages

- Always go to the sponsor's website for full information

- If you like the opportunity, set to "Active" and add tags

- Share the opportunity with others

Keywords	Geography	Musicology or Music Theory	Political Science
	Dramatic or Theatre Arts	Social Sciences	Architecture History
	Arts and Humanities	Archaeology	Communications	Anthropology
	Sociology	Economic History	Religious Studies	Language or Literature
	Film or Cinema or Video	Psychology	History	Linguistics or Philology
	Law	History and Appreciation of Art	Rhetoric	Philosophy

- Use the keywords of one good record to learn how the database works.

If you have a profile...

- **Update your Profile**:
  1. Log into your account
  2. Claim Profile
  3. Click on your name and select Update Profile

- **Create a Profile**:
  1. Go to a profile search results page
  2. Click Suggest a Scholar

Weekly Funding Alerts

COS Funding Alert for Jessica Venable
fundingalert to: jcvenable

Services (HHS)
National Institutes of Health (NIH)
National Institute on Aging (NIA)

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2   **Youth Leadership Program With Sub-Saharan Africa**   New

Sponsor:
United States Department of State (DOS)
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA)

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3   **Gallagher Koster Innovative Practices in Culturally Competent Health Care**

Sponsor:
American College Health Association
American College Health Foundation

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4   **Diversity Initiatives**

Sponsor:
Mellon Foundation, Andrew W.

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5   **NIDDK Education Program Grants (R25)**

Tips for Using Pivot

- Consider also using "old" keywords.

- Look for keyword patterns.

- Pay attention to notes within individual records.

- Look for an opportunity you know and replicate its description.

- Look up your mentors' and colleagues' funding matches.

- Use notifications features (alerts come once a week).

- Use the Support Guides as needed.

Tips for NOT Using Pivot

- The database **DOES NOT** contain "everything."

- **OR**, the database does contain "everything," and we are not searching correctly.

- When looking for a particular opportunity, go to the source.

- There is no substitute for word-of-mouth.

OTHER GRANTSEARCH TOOLS

Grants.gov

- Find and apply for more than $400 Billion in Federal grants.

- Basic search, browse, and advanced search options.

- Sign up for daily email alerts.

- I use grants.gov when:

  1. I am looking for a particular funding opportunity that I know the name/number of.

  2. An agency only posts its opportunities on grants.gov.

  3. A field has a limited number of opportunities.

http://grants.gov/

Agencies of Interest: **NIH**

- **Doctoral students: Predoctoral Individual National Research Service Award (F31).**

- Search for funding opportunities using the NIH Guide.

    - Basic and Advanced search options

    - Search for unsolicited opportunities

- Sign up for weekly funding alerts and Extramural Nexus.

- Get guidance on NIH-specific grant writing, the application process, and the review process.

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/oer.htm

Agencies of Interest

- **AHRQ**

> **http://www.ahrq.gov/fund/**

- **CDC**

  - All funding announcements posted at **grants.gov** or use COS Pivot Sponsor search

> **http://www.cdc.gov/about/business/funding.htm**

  - National Prevention Information Network funding opportunities

> **http://cdcnpin.org/scripts/search/fundSearch.aspx**

Agencies of Interest

- **HRSA**

http://www.hrsa.gov/grants/index.html/

- **USDA**

  - Use **grants.gov** or COS Pivot Sponsor search

http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?navid=GRANTS_LOANS

- **Department of Defense**

  - Use COS Pivot or **grants.gov**

Other Organizations' Search Tools

- **National Academies of Sciences**

  - The Fellowships Office (FO) of the National Academies administers predoctoral, postdoctoral, and senior fellowship awards on behalf of government and private/foundation sponsors.

  http://sites.nationalacademies.org/pga/fellowships/

- **FundSource**

  - A free online database of research funding specific to behavioral and social science research.

  http://www.decadeofbehavior.org/intro.html

Other Organizations' Search Tools

- **MSU Libraries**: Grants and Related Resources

  - By academic level, by population group, or by subject.

  - Lists of funding opportunities, databases, and print resources.

http://staff.lib.msu.edu/harris23/grants/index.htm

- **VCU Libraries**: Research Guides

  - Grants and Funding tips in health sciences, STEM fields, and other disciplines for graduate students.

http://guides.library.vcu.edu/home

SEARCHING FOUNDATIONS

The Foundation Center: The free side

- Gathers and analyzes data and provides training on private giving worldwide.

    - Webinars, self-paced tutorials, on-line courses.

    - Search general information about private funders, including tax records.

- Access news and RFPs by discipline through *Philanthropy News Digest.*

- Also hosts **www.grantspace.org**.

http://foundationcenter.org/

IN SUMMARY

Search Strategies

- Review the literature.

  - Emerging areas of study, opportunities for collaboration

  - Emerging sources of funding (check acknowledgements)

- Search for a funding opportunity that you know, then work backwards.

- Look for keyword patterns, ideas.

- **Start broad, then narrow** (especially for graduate funding).

- Explore alternative disciplines, think about where the money is.

- **Think about characteristics of you**.

Grant Search and Development Assistance for Students

- **The Graduate School:** for individual assistance identifying funders.

- **The National Scholarship Office:** for assistance applying for prestigious national and international scholarships.

    http://www.honors.vcu.edu/nationalscholar/

- **The Writing Center:** for assistance writing and editing grant proposals.

    http://uc.vcu.edu/learning-support/writing-center/

QUESTIONS?

I am most often asked...

- How often do I have to search the databases?

- How many results should I expect on any search?

- How many grants should I apply for?

- When should I apply for a grant?

- Can I contact a program officer?

- Where can I get examples of funded proposals?