

Research Development Program 2008-09

The Research Development Program (RDP) helps new faculty make substantial and rapid advances in their research careers. By the end of the one-year commitment, participants will have established a mentoring relationship with experienced colleagues, developed a specific research project and discussed it with a program officer, received feedback on a proposal via a quality circle, and submitted a competitive proposal for extramural funding. Participants will receive instruction through a series of workshops and one-on-one consultations conducted by a national expert who will address such topics as developing long-term research goals, identifying appropriate funding sources, communicating with a program officer, and developing a competitive proposal.

The Vice Provost for Research will make up to ten awards.

Eligibility

Eligible faculty members are faculty who began a tenure track position after January 1, 2005 or who are in a tenure-track position but have not yet received their third-year review, and who have a demonstrable interest in grant seeking. The program is open to faculty in the humanities; behavioral and cognitive sciences; social and economic sciences; engineering; computer and information sciences; education; math and physical sciences; medical and health sciences; nursing; dentistry; communications; business; law; biological and biomedical sciences; and interdisciplinary research.

Program

RDP participants must agree to complete the following program activities during the period September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2009, unless otherwise noted:

1. Select and develop a mentoring relationship with a faculty member at Marquette University (MU) and at another institution in order to establish a network of key colleagues. At least one meeting with the off-campus mentor shall occur either at the mentor's campus or on the Marquette campus. Both mentors should have substantial external funding experience.
2. Attend three half-day workshops on grant seeking.
3. Meet with the national expert three times to discuss goals and progress.
4. Periodically meet with mentors to define a research plan and assess progress in achieving goals.
5. Make one trip to meet with a federal or foundation program officer.
6. Prepare one proposal to have reviewed by a quality circle.
7. Participate in one or more quality circle reviews and lead at least one.
8. Submit at least one proposal for federal or foundation support before December 31, 2009.
9. Submit a progress report by February 1, 2009 to the Vice Provost for Research.

Award

The Vice Provost for Research will award each RDP participant \$2,300 for travel and associated costs directly related to participation in the RDP and developing the participant's proposal. The participant's spending plan will be developed in consultation with the Office of the Vice Provost.

The participant's college or school may, at its discretion, supplement this amount.

Application Deadline

The announcement inviting applications will be e-mailed to all eligible faculty, their chairs and their deans. Prospective applicants will submit their applications to their deans no later than 5 p.m. on April 21, 2008. Applications and endorsements from the deans are due in the Office of the Vice Provost for Research by 5 p.m. on May 9, 2008. Awards will be announced in May 2008.

Application Process

A complete application will include:

1. A description of the research problem for which the RDP applicant will seek extramural funding. Please address the following areas: significance of project, the result or benefit to society, a brief review of current research or programs in the area, and the scope of work necessary to address the problem (three pages maximum).
2. A statement of sponsored funding goals (one page maximum).
3. A discussion of research goals with ORSP.
4. A list of the applicant's existing or prospective off-campus mentors and senior MU colleagues with successful grant records in the chosen area of research who would be willing to serve as a mentor.
5. A brief cover letter from the dean indicating support for the applicant, any supplemental funds they intend to issue, and their commitment to help the participant meet the requirements of the program.

For a list of past recipients, please see the Research Development Program website at <http://www.marquette.edu/orsp/announcements/ResearchDevelopmentProgram>

Review Criteria

Proposals of merit will demonstrate that:

1. The applicant's efforts are likely to lead to one or more competitive extramural proposals.
2. The applicant's interest in grantseeking convincingly demonstrates likelihood of full RDP participation.
3. The applicant's academic preparation and experience indicate appropriate expertise.

Review Process

Deans will review or designate a committee to review their college or unit's applications. The Deans will then forward to the Vice Provost for Research a rank-ordered listing of applications for funding and copies of the proposals. If the number of applications exceeds the number of awards available, the Vice Provost for Research will determine the distribution of the awards.

Questions

Please direct your application questions to Dr. William Wiener (william.wiener@marquette.edu) or Dr. Erik Thelen (erik.thelen@marquette.edu).