Office of Research
Proposal Enhancement
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA
Graduate School

Training Grants: Preparing for Success

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Go/No-Go Decision

- Ready to apply?
  - No: perform thorough analysis of what it would take to be competitive
    - Develop a plan to get there
    - Timeline of 1-3+ years

  - Yes! Get in touch with Proposal Enhancement
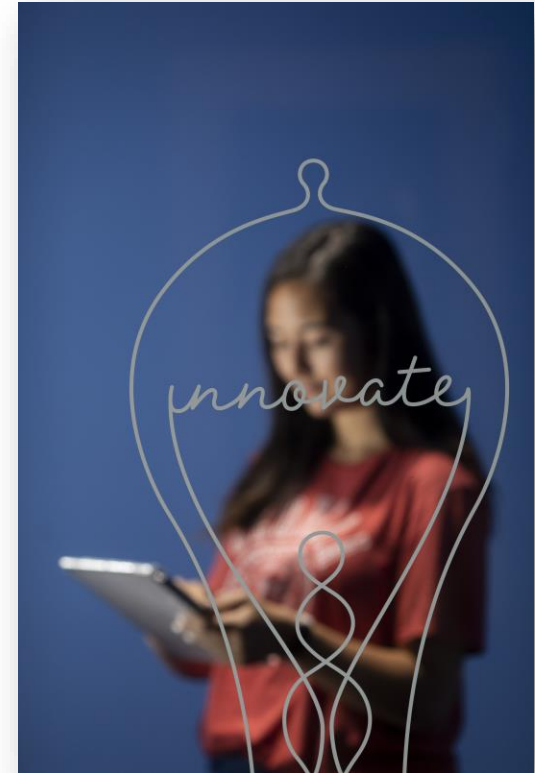   - Timeline of 6-8 months

Why would you want a training grant?

- **Pays student stipends!**
- **Encourages you to do a deep dive into your curriculum**
- **Increases prestige of your graduate program, which…**
- **…helps recruit stronger, more diverse students**
- **Promotes connection and collaboration among faculty**

Proposal Development

- **PI(s)/Director**
- **Core writing team**
- **Administrative support for data-gathering**
  - **Unit-level**
  - **Proposal Enhancement**
  - **Graduate school**
- **Red team review**

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Institutional Support and Sustainability

UNIT → COLLEGE → GRAD SCHOOL → OFFICE OF RESEARCH → PROVOST

Types of potential institutional support:
- Additional trainee slots
- "Topping off" NIH stipends
- RAIT/VIP program
- Funding for part-time admin
- Funding for student activities:
  - Speakers
  - Retreats
  - Conference Travel

WORK WITH JAKE ON INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT REQUEST!

The "Go/No-Go" Decision, in Detail

What do you need to be competitive?

1. *Large trainee pool*

2. *Strong mentors*

3. *Professional development programming*

4. *Differentiators*

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1. Potential Trainee Pool

- Size
  - You need enough potential eligible trainees to ensure a competitive application process
- Composition (diversity)
  - Balance capacity with need
- Gather this information as part of Go/No-Go

2. Strong Mentors

- *Mentoring experience*
- *Research funding*
- *Track record of collaboration and interdisciplinary/convergent research*

3. Professional Development Programming

- **Inventory current offerings**
- **Start adding and formalizing during proposal development**
- **Make a plan for PD in the grant period**
- **Emphasize "soft skills"**

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4. Differentiators/Unique Resources

- **Field sites**
- **Instrumentation**
- **Community/Industry partnerships**
- **Existing certificate or degree programs**

NSF National Research Traineeships: Logistics

- **14-16 awards/year**

- **5-year project period, not renewable**

- **Up to $3,000,000**

- **Limited submission**

- **Two deadlines: February 25 and September 6**

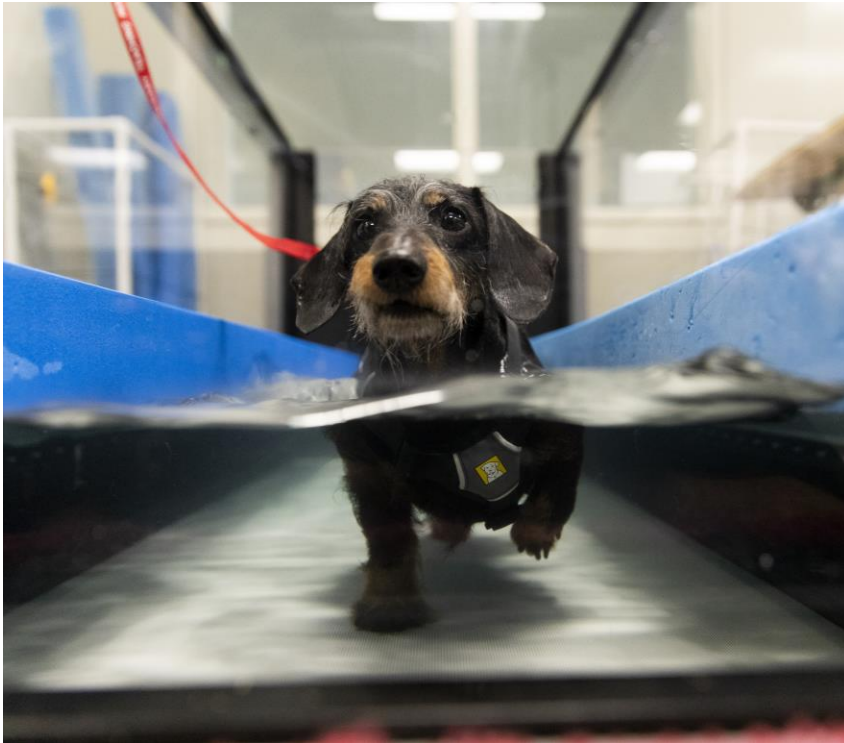**Proposal Enhancement**
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NRT Key Elements

- **Interdisciplinary/Convergent Research & Training**
- **Inclusive Workforce Development**
- **Institutional Transformation**

NIH Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) (T32) Logistics

- 5-year project period, renewable
- Both pre- and post-doc
- No total budget limit, BUT…
- …pays only 60% of stipends up to $16k and other costs are capped
- No submission limit
- Each IC has own deadlines (up to 3/year): Jan 25, May 25, Sept 25
- Each IC has own FOA

NIH T32 Key Elements

- **T32s should:**
  - Provide a strong foundation in research design, methods & analytic techniques to enhance the trainees' ability to conceptualize & pursue a research project with increasing independence
  - Enhance the trainees' understanding of the health-related sciences & the relationship of their training to health and disease.
- **Importance placed on: track record of mentor funding, training experience, student publications, student placement in workforce or academia**

Training Grant Directors

Vanessa Ezenwa, Ecology NRT (IDEAS)

Silvia Moreno, CTEGD T32

Bob Haltiwanger, Glycoscience T32

Kelly Dyer/Dave Hall, Genetics T32

QUESTIONS?

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