



**NSF Cultural Anthropology Program
Doctoral Dissertation
Research Improvement Grants
NSF CA-DDRIG**

Dr. Adrienne P. Stephenson, Director
Carson Bay, Assistant Director
Office of Graduate Fellowships and Awards (OGFA)



Application Checklist

Have you ...

- ✓ *Drafted your budget?*
- ✓ *Identified additional sets of eyes to review your proposal and budget?*
- ✓ *Signed up for an NSF ID?*
- ✓ *Started an application in the FastLane portal?*
- ✓ *Given access to the appropriate person(s) in the Sponsored Project Office (SPO)?*



Sponsored Research Administration (SRA)

FSU's Office of Sponsored Research Administration (SRA) handles all aspects of NSF grant proposals. They will serve as the Sponsored Project Office (SPO) for your application. Your PI will also work with them to submit the grant proposal on your behalf.

- See the SRA website for the types of [Resources & Training](#) available
- [Request](#) on-site training and guidance
- Access a number of [forms](#) needed to complete your application on their website.
- SRA can provide assistance with NSF policy questions and with reading the [PAPPG](#)

Located 847 Traditions Way

Contacts for Religion, Education, Anthropology, and Social Work:

Laura Schaecher (Grants Officer)
(850) 644-8676 – lschaecher@fsu.edu

Susan Fell (Grants Officer)
(850) 645-2172 – sfell@fsu.edu

Dale Meeks (Grants Officer)
(850) 644-8662 – dmeeks2@fsu.edu

Jan James (Grants Manager)
(850) 644-8663 jjames@fsu.edu



How Can OGFA Help?

- MOSTLY with document review and feedback
 - *Find 2-3 sets of eyes to look over your application materials*
- Proposal-writing tips and guidance
 - *Check out of [Proposal Writing and Writing Well presentations](#) on our website*
- Assistance with on-campus connections and other helpful resources
- Moral support (you can do this!)



Departmental Support

- Can help with document checks, budget review, and proposal submission
 - RELIGION: Susan Stetson, Office Administrator – (850) 644-1021 – sstetson@fsu.edu
 - SOCIAL WORK: Mae Roth, Grants Compliance Analyst – (850) 644-5504 – meroth@fsu.edu
 - EDUCATION: Kerry Caudill, Grant Manager – (850) 644-4005 – kcaudill@fsu.edu
- Applications are routed through the department chair/college dean first
 - RELIGION: Aline Kalbian, Chair – (850) 644-1021 – akalbian@fsu.edu
 - SOCIAL WORK: James Clark, Dean – (850) 644-4752 – jclark5@fsu.edu
 - EDUCATION: Damon Andrew, Dean – (850) 644-6885 – dandrew@fsu.edu
 - ELPS: Tamara Bertrand Jones, Interim Chair – (850) 645-9558 – tbertrand@fsu.edu

Other faculty at FSU with experience in anthropological or social/human-science fieldwork may be a resource to you! Find several people who can look over your proposal and/or budget.



Review: Program Objectives

- Welcomes proposals for *empirically* grounded, *theoretically* engaged, and *methodologically* sophisticated research in all subfields of cultural anthropology.
- NOTE: “A proposal that uses anthropological methods to understand a social problem *but does not propose to make a theory-testing and/or theory expanding contribution to anthropology* **will be returned without review.**

Translation: Your research must demonstrably move the field forward



Program Research Priorities

- Socio-cultural drivers of anthropogenic processes: e.g., deforestation, desertification, land cover change, urbanization, poverty
- Resilience and robustness of socio-cultural systems
- Conflict, cooperation, and altruism
- Economy, culture, migration, and globalization
- Variability and change in kinship/family norms and practices
- Cultural/social drivers of health outcomes and disease transmission
- Social regulation, governmentality, and violence
- Origins of complexity in socio-cultural systems
- Language & culture: orality & literacy, sociolinguistics, and cognition
- Human variation via empirically-grounded ethnographic descriptions
- Mathematical/computational models of sociocultural systems



Application Timeline

Time Prior to Deadline

Task to Complete

Right Now

[Register](#) on FastLane / Research.gov
Meet with OGFA, PI, and SRA about award

2-4 Months

Begin gathering raw data for application
Make contacts at host site and request letter
Construct bibliography
Begin work on budget

1-3 Months

Get materials from any collaborators
Draft application documents in FastLane

1-2 Months

Enlist help with reviewing application documents

1 Month

Obtain all required signatures
Complete all application components

2-4 Weeks

Double-check materials with SRA and your PI.
Route proposal form through proper channels

1-2 weeks before the deadline

Application/proposal transmittal form due to SRA



Application *Need-to-Knows*

1. Your FastLane/Research.gov ID will follow you throughout your research career – it is a permanent identifier
2. You and your PI both register as PI's on FastLane. You will complete application components in your account and transfer them to your PI's project, as FSU will submit the application *on behalf of your* PI
3. You do *not* need to have human subjects (IRB) approval at the time that your application is submitted (but you should review the [guidelines](#) and register for the [Human Subject Review System](#) [HSRS])



Nuts & Bolts: Application Restrictions

- Total direct costs may not exceed \$20,000
 - (this does not include applicable indirect costs)
 - Indirect costs will depend on budget (this information comes from SRA)
- Funding period may not exceed 24 months
- Funds *must* be used for valid research expenses only
 - No stipend, but you can (must) budget for modest living expenses
 - You can budget transportation of any kind (car, bike, donkey)
- Funds *may not* be used for educational or salary-related expenses
- No cost sharing (do *not* mention other funding sources in budget)
- Unpaid collaborators should be mentioned in facilities statement
 - You need a short, signed statement from any of these (*only* stating role)



\$ Budget & Monetary Policies \$

Costs which **may** be covered by DDRIG include:

- Travel, access, and data-collection activities
- Necessary, standard-quality field equipment
- Explicitly allocated participation incentives
- Research assistance (when essential to the study's execution)
- Necessary research services not otherwise available
- Travel-specific insurance
- Modest living expenses for Co-PI when away from usual residence
- Cost of obtaining the visa required for research



\$ Budget & Monetary Policies \$

- Costs which **may not** be covered by DDRIG include:
 - Stipend/salary for PI (advisor) or Co-PI (doctoral student)
 - Tuition, fees, textbooks, journals, dissertation preparation
 - Basic (i.e., non-travel) health insurance
 - Childcare or other costs pertaining to relatives and/or dependents
 - Transcription costs
 - Expensive cameras or computers unless justified by research goals
 - Equipment insurance
 - “Gifts” or “tokens” requested by and/or given to informants in line with cultural norms of gift exchange



Writing a Successful Application

Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts

The NSF seeks *only* to fund projects of the *highest* quality and significance, and these are assessed via two overarching criteria:

1. Does the project possess the potential to advance, if not transform, the frontiers of knowledge? Is it field-shifting? Is it a 'breakthrough'?
2. Does the project contribute to the broader endeavors involved in working to achieve societal goals? Will it affect the larger world?



Intellectual Merit: What it means to NSF

1. “What is the potential for the proposed *research* to advance knowledge and understanding within its own field or across different fields?”
2. “To what extent does the proposed *research* suggest and explore creative, original, or potentially transformative concepts?”
3. “Is the plan for carrying out the *research* well-reasoned, well-organized, and based on a sound rationale? Does the plan incorporate a mechanism to assess success?”
4. “How well-qualified is the individual, team, or organization to conduct this *research*?”
5. “Are there adequate resources available to the PI – either at the home organization or through collaborations – to carry out the proposed *research*?”



Broader Impacts: What it means to NSF

1. “What is the potential for the proposed *activity, program, or initiative* to benefit society or advance desired social outcomes?”
2. “To what extent does the proposed *activity, program, or initiative* suggest and explore creative, original, or potentially transformative concepts?”
3. “Is the plan for *establishing* the *activity, program, or initiative* well-reasoned, well-organized, and based on a sound rationale? Does the plan incorporate a mechanism to assess success?”
4. “How well-qualified is the individual, team, or organization to *implement* this *activity, program, or initiative*?”
5. “Are there adequate resources available to the PI – either at the home organization or through collaborations – to carry out the proposed *activity, program, or initiative*?”



Contacts at Florida State

Office of Graduate Fellowships & Awards

- Dr. Adrienne Stephenson (Director) – (850) 644-8132 – apstephenson@fsu.edu
- Carson Bay (Assistant Director) – (850) 644-2947 – cbay@fsu.edu
- ogfa-info@fsu.edu / 850-645-0850

Sponsored Research Administration

- RELIGION: Laura Schaecher (Grants Officer) – (850) 644-8676 – lschaecher@fsu.edu
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- NSF SPECIALIST: Susan Fell (Grants Officer) – (850) 645-2172 – sfell@fsu.edu
- NSF SPECIALIST: Dale Meeks (Grants Officer) – (850) 644-8662 – dmeeks2@fsu.edu
- SRA-pre@fsu.edu / (850) 644-5260 / [SRA FORMS](#)



Contact Information

NSF CA-DDRIG Program Staff

- Deborah Winslow (Director) – (703) 292-7315 – dwinslow@nsf.gov
- Jeffrey Mantz (Director) – (703) 292-7783 – jmantz@nsf.gov
- Don Rimon (Specialist) – (703) 292-2960 – drimon@nsf.gov

FastLane Help & Support

- Help Desk: 1 (800) 673-6188 – fastlane@nsf.gov
- [FastLane Application Demo](#)