Grants and Fellowships
Guide and ideas for Grad. Students

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• Background
  • Bachelors in 2004 in MAE and Physics from U.Va.
  • Ph.D. in 2008 in MAE from U.Va.
  • Spent 2008 – 2011 at Sandia National Labs in Albuquerque, NM in a Truman Postdoc Fellowship Program
Where can professors get grants?

- National Science Foundation (NSF)
- Department of Defense (DOD)
- National Institutes of Health (NIH)
- Industrial Funding
- Private Foundations (Packard, Whitaker, etc.)
- NASA
- Department of Energy (DOE)
- Department of Transportation (DOT)
- State (CTRF) and Center for Innovative Technology (CIT)
- Internal Funding (FEST and Ivy Foundation)

Note: this is short list!
Typical grants written by professors

- Government agency grants are on average 15 pages
- Describe proposed project
- Funding is requested to fund research (equipment, supplies, samples, service, etc) and MAINLY to try to fund graduate students

Who can write grants???

- The PI and co-PI’s of grants are most commonly professors, but can be research scientists and sometimes, but rarely, postdocs
- Graduate students CAN NOT PI a grant to the agencies listed in previous slides
Graduate student funding

- TA – have to teach or help with a class
- RA – does not have to teach or help with a class
- Fellowship – does not have to teach or help with a class

Why can’t grad students write grants to secure their own funding???

- The government agencies don’t allow it
- However, there are ways to secure funding for your salary (i.e., how you get your paycheck and how you are able to be a student at U.Va.)
- There are not many ways to directly fund your research since you personally can’t PI a grant (i.e., get money for supplies, travel, etc)
Graduate student grants
(i.e., money to fund your research)

Good place to start is the Graduate studies
and postdoctoral programs office
http://www.virginia.edu/vpr/gradstudies/

Double-Hoo research grant (internal to U.Va.)
http://www.virginia.edu/cue/research_opportunities.php?go=6
Graduate student fellowship
(i.e., money to fund your time/salary so you don’t have to TA)

Grad studies office at UVA
http://www.virginia.edu/vpr/gradstudies/students.html

Virginia space grant consortium
http://www.vsgc.odu.edu

National fellowships
(i.e., NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, NDSEG, etc.)
http://grad.berkeley.edu/financial/deadlines.shtml
Or just google “graduate fellowship” or “graduate research fellowship”