CIHR – Information and Updates

April 13, 2017

Mark Filiaggi

Associate Vice-President Research

CIHR University Delegate

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Some Changes at the Top

- Dr. Rod McInnes – Interim CIHR President
- Dr. Ann Martin Matthews – Interim VP, Research, Knowledge Translation, and Ethics (May 2017)
- Dr. Jeff Latimer – Associate VP; Program Operations

Project Grant Updates – *Fall 2016*

- Some statistics:

    2884 Applications

    1331 peer reviewers

    >12,000 reviews

- 43% of applications moved forward based on whether they:

    - Were within the top-ranking (~30% **across** clusters);

    - Were within the top ~30% **within their cluster**;

    - Had large discrepancies between reviews; *or*

    - Were flagged by the Competition Chairs (and not captured as above)

- In addition, all (100) applications in the Indigenous Health Researcher Cluster moved on to Stage 2

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Project Grant Updates – *Fall 2016*

- Notification regarding Stage 2 the week of March 20th

- Notification did not include written reviews or ranking information

- Full reviews and decision documents will be available on **May 15, 2017**

- Face-to-face reviews are taking place April 19th – May 5th
    - 16 to 30 reviewers per panel depending on original cluster size
        - Primary and secondary reviewer for each application

- Talk of at least maintaining 13-14% success rates
    - Possible "re-distribution" of funds (Foundation to Project)

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Project Grant – *Spring 2017*

- No substantive changes from the Fall application process

- KEY DATES:

    Registration: May 8th – May 30th, 2017

    Application Deadline: June 13, 2017

    Anticipated Notice of Decision: November 23, 2017

    Funding Start Date: **October 1, 2017**

- NOTE: CIHR is working towards 6-month cycles between competitions (2 per year); no dates yet for a Fall 2017/Winter 2018 Competition but expect December deadline.

Foundation Grants – *Fall 2016*

- 234 Applications were approved for Stage 2, with 229 received (53 ECI)

Applications Submitted (% of total submitted)

Applicants	New/Early Career Investigator **	Mid Career Investigator ***	Senior Career Investigator ***	Total
Female *	38 (32.8%)	70 (35.4%)	64 (22.4%)	172 (28.7%)
Male	78 (67.2%)	128 (64.6%)	222 (77.6%)	428 (71.3%)
Total	116 (19.3%)	198 (33%)	286 (47.7%)	600 (100%)

Invited to Stage 2 (% invited)

Applicants	New/Early Career Investigator **	Mid Career Investigator ***	Senior Career Investigator ***	Total
Female *	21 (36.8%)	24 (43.6%)	24 (19.7%)	69 (29.5%)
Male	36 (63.2%)	31 (56.4%)	98 (80.3%)	165 (70.5%)
Total	57 (24.4%)	55 (23.5%)	122 (52.1%)	234 (100%)

- Anticipated NOD – **August 3, 2017**

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Foundation Grants – *Fall 2017*

- No substantive changes have been made to either the application or peer review process

- KEY DATES:

    Registration Deadline – August 8, 2017

    Stage 1 Application Deadline – September 12, 2017

    Anticipated NOD, Stage 1 – December 7, 2017

    Stage 2 Application Deadline – February 6, 2018

    Anticipated NOD, Final Assessment – July 17, 2018

    Funding Start Date – July 1, 2018

- NOTE: Can apply to June 2017 Project Competition even if intending to apply to Fall 2017 Foundation competition

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College of Reviewers

- Enrollment commences June 2017
- College members will be supported through predictable workloads, meaningful recognition programs, and learning / mentoring opportunities
- First round of invitations: Meet criteria + recent reviewer

Membership selection criteria

	Review experience	Knowledge, expertise and lived experience	Research/Professional experience	
	Participated in at least two peer review roles at CIHR or other recognized organization	Knowledge, expertise and lived Experience (within CIHR mandate)	Academic/ Professional appointment	At least one federally funded (or equivalent) peer reviewed grant as a Principal Investigator
Indigenous Health Research	Under development: Will be based on criteria and processes proposed by Reference Group on Appropriate Review of Indigenous Health Research			
Knowledge User	✓	✓	As appropriate	Not applicable
Academic	✓	✓	✓	✓

College of Reviewers

- College Chairs will be directly involved in overseeing the enrollment process
- College Chairs are also advising CIHR on peer review practices, with strong focus on second and third project competitions
- Competition (i.e. "Cluster") Chairs to be solicited for feedback at Spring College Chairs meeting
  - Matching; Review Quality; Capacity Building
- See http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/50292.html (April 7th Update) for more details on decisions and next steps

Internal Peer Review Process

- Important to ensuring that only high-quality applications are submitted to CIHR

- A collaborative (Health Faculties; IWK; NSHA; DRS) internal peer review process was piloted *(under a bit of duress!)* in the Fall 2016 Project competition

- Will utilize a "Panel" of experienced researchers as reviewers (we're aiming for 50!)

- Panel "Chair": Gerry Johnston

Internal Peer Review Process

- Researchers will communicate through their respective research offices
- Reviewers will NOT be anonymous
- Timelines

  ~6 weeks in advance: Title, lay summary, expertise key words

  ~5 weeks in advance: Draft proposal to research office

  ~3.5 weeks in advance: Written, informal (bulleted) feedback provided based on Project grant criteria (2-3 reviewers);

  ~2.5 weeks in advance: "Meritorious" applications proceed to face-to-face panel discussion (with applicant present); notes generated by scientific officer will be provided to applicant

- Applicants will be expected to respond to comments and meet with the primary reviewers as necessary

Some Key Internal Peer Review Dates

New / Unsuccessful Stage 1 Fall Project Applications

- Wednesday, May 3 – "Registration" with structured summary
- **Monday, May 8 – Application Draft due**
- May 24 to May 26 – Internal F2F panel discussions
- Monday, June 5 – Internal DRS Deadline

Unsuccessful Stage 2 Fall Project Applications

- **Tuesday, May 16 – Application submission with CIHR comments**
- May 24 to May 26 – Internal F2F panel discussions
- Monday, June 5 – Internal DRS Deadline

Timelines

CIHR Project (Fall 2016)	Internal Peer Review	CIHR Project (Spring 2017)
	May 3: Registration	**May 8 – 30**: Registration
	May 8: Draft Application (New/Resubmissions)	
May 15: NOD with comments	**May 16**: "Stage 2" applications	
	May 17: Reviewer Comments	
	May 24-26: Panel Reviews	
	June 5: DRS internal deadline	
		June 13: Application Deadline

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Need Some Incentive?

33 of 74 applications overall (Dal + Hospitals) moving to Stage 2: **45%** [National success for stage 2 – 44%]

20 of 32 **internally peer reviewed and submitted applications** moving to Stage 2 – 63%

20 of 29 "positively" internally reviewed and submitted applications to Stage 2 – **69%** *(if 3 triaged applications hadn't been submitted anyway!)*

15 of 19 **face-to-face (panel) review and submitted applications** moving to stage 2 – **79%**

(Note: not all applications submitted for internal review went to an additional face-to-face panel, mostly for logistical reasons)

13 of 42 applications NOT submitted for internal peer review moving to Stage 2 – **31%**

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DRS Review & Deadlines

- Internal DRS deadline is **June 5th** for Project Grants, *if participating in peer review*.
  Non peer-reviewed grants are due **May 29th**

- Our review focuses more on the following:
  - * eligibility of the researcher
  - * completeness
  - * budget and budget justification
  - * Knowledge translation
  - * general lay person comments

- Please contact Sara Lavender at sara.lavender@dal.ca with any questions.

Moving Forward

Stay tuned to the DRS newsletter for updates and complete instructions for the internal peer review process.

Questions?

Please contact Mark Filiaggi at
mark.filiaggi@dal.ca

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