Discussion of reading 8: Research plan and broader impacts

• Example research plan on pages 76-78 of “The Grant Application Writer's Workbook” (also look at the “Planned research” section of the example NSF proposal that was handed out earlier)

• Broader impacts:
  - “Writing a strong broader impacts statement” at https://www.lib.ncsu.edu/broader-impacts/writing
  - Examples from page 7-11 of “Perspective on broader impacts” (https://www.nsf.gov/od/iia/publications/Broader_Impacts.pdf)
Research plan

Introductory sentence

Specific Aim 1: Title

1.1 Introduction
1.2 Research Design
   1.2.1 Study 1 (heading)
   1.2.2 Study 2 (heading)
   1.2.3 etc.
1.3 Expected outcomes
1.4 Potential problems and alternative approaches

Specific Aim 2: Title

2.1 Introduction
   etc.
   etc.

Timetable

Source: Grant Application Writer's Handbook
Class activity

• Write a bulleted outline of one “specific aim” in your “research plan” section (note that you only need to write bullet points, not whole sentences!)
Specific Aim 1: Title

1.1 Introduction
• Add bullets to give a conceptual overview of the aim (objective, working hypothesis, approach, justification, expectation)

1.2 Research Design
1.2.1 Study 1 heading
• Add bullets to give details of what you will do in study 1

1.2.2 Study 2 heading
• Add bullets to give details of what you will do in study 2
1.3 Expected outcomes

- Summarize expected outcome and importance for each study and how they collectively attain the aim’s objective

1.4 Potential problems and alternative approaches

- Mention what could go wrong (e.g., remote possibility that hypothesis not correct) and briefly how you would deal with this
Class activity

• Write a bulleted outline of one “specific aim” in your “research plan” section (note that you only need to write bullet points, not whole sentences!)

• Read your neighbor’s outline and critique (positives and negatives)

• Share with the class one bullet that worked well or that you had trouble with

• Optional: finish your “specific aim” outline at home and send it to Prof. O’Gorman for feedback

Read the following subsections:
• Equipment
• Underrecovery
• Personnel Costs
• Sample budget justification

Facilities and Administrative (F&A) costs: https://osp.mit.edu/rates/facilities-and-administrative-fa-rates/about-fa