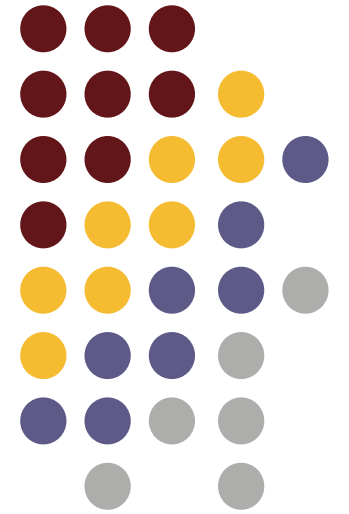# Professional Development Series:
Grant Writing and Funding
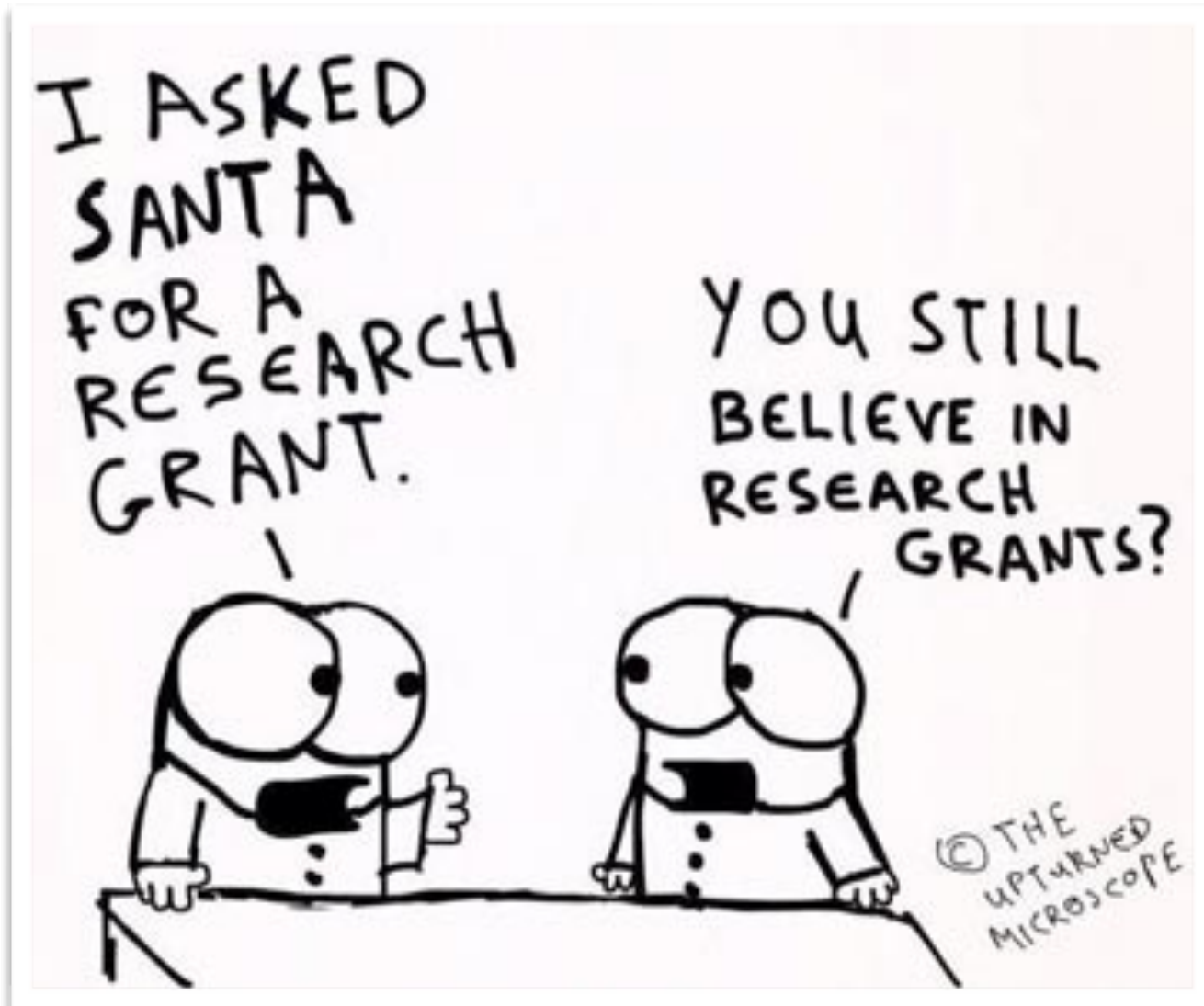
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March 7, 2018

Show Me the Money!

I ASKED SANTA FOR A RESEARCH GRANT.

YOU STILL BELIEVE IN RESEARCH GRANTS?

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Show Me the Money!

- **Who has applied or is planning to apply for a graduate fellowship or grant?**

Funding Sources

good news: there are a lot!
bad news: they are competitive!

- **Internal (local)**:
  - Department, college, university
- **External:**
  - Government, science (NIH, NSF)
  - Government, military (DoD, DARPA)
  - Private foundations (McKnight, Whitehall, HHMI, Sloan)
  - Professional societies (APA, APS, SFN)
  - Non-profits (ADAA, BBRF/NARSAD, Autism Speaks)

Funding Mechanisms

- **Travel awards**
- **Dissertation grants**
- **Research awards and prizes**
- **Diversity fellowships**
- **Graduate stipend support**
  - NIH National Research Service Award (NRSA)
  - NSF Graduate Research Fellowship
  - DoD National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship
  - NAS Ford Foundation Fellowship (Diversity)

Finding Funding Sources *(you have to hunt!)*

- APA 'Free Money for Education'
  - *http://www.apa.org/gradpsych/2011/09/cover-money.aspx*
- OGAPS funding opportunities
  - *https://ogaps.tamu.edu/Buttons/Funding-Opportunities*
- PIVOT/Community of Science
  - *https://pivot.cos.com/*
- Scholarships for Women
  - *https://www.scholarshipsforwomen.net/psychology/*

Postdoctoral Funding and Training Grants

- NIH has awards for developing scientific work force *(https://researchtraining.nih.gov)*
  - Postdoctoral NRSAs
    - Individual NRSA (F32)
    - Institutional NRSA (T32) [training grant]
  - Mentored research awards (K99/R00)

Grant Writing
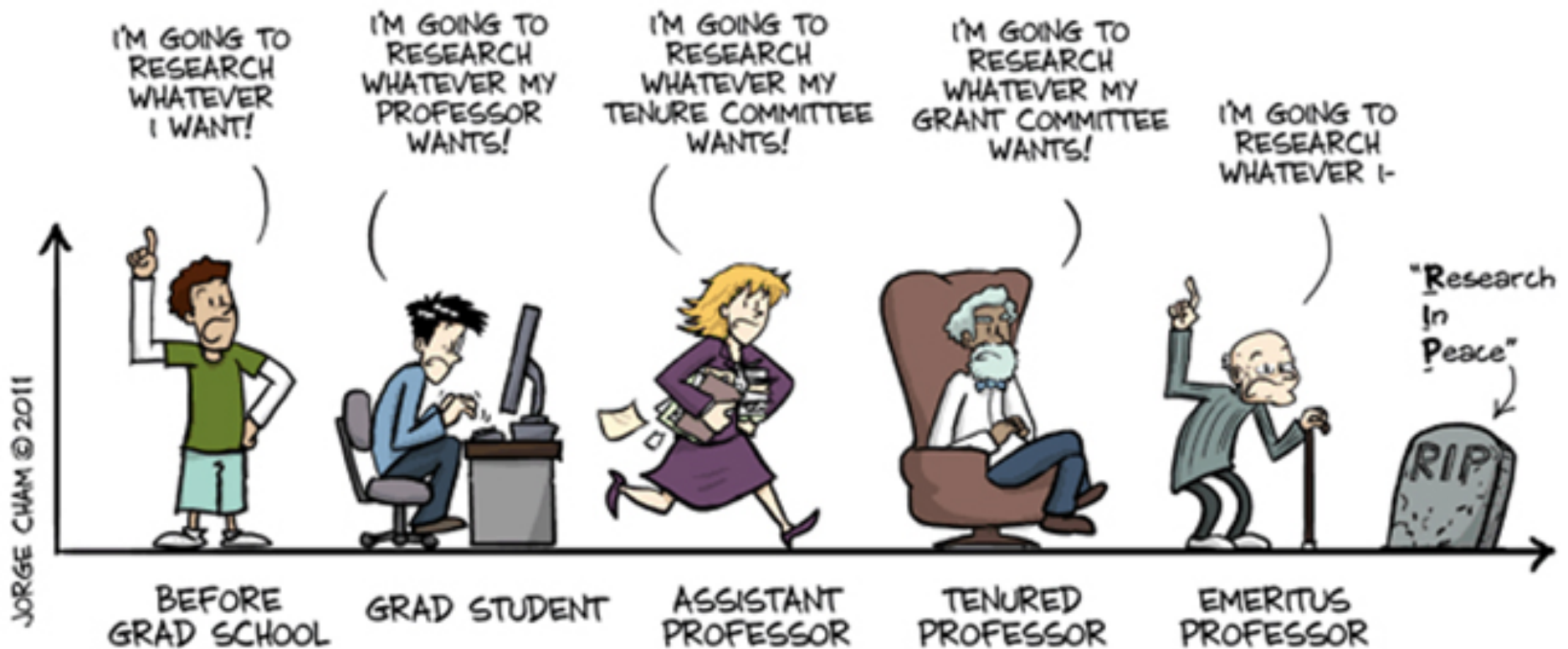
Grant Writing Begins with a Big Idea

Grant Writing 101

- ## What is *your* big idea?
  - Can you say it in 6 words?
  - Start with a 1-page summary: brief background, hypothesis, and aims to crystallize your thoughts
  - Actively involve your mentor and/or others with proposal writing experience

Grant Writing 101

- Read instructions, create timeline, and…..
  START EARLY!!
  - Notify SRS for federal grants; they help with compliance and budget
  - SRS requires final product at least 1-week before sponsor deadline
  - Give your mentor plenty of time to read and give feedback (drafts, drafts, drafts….)

Grant Writing 101

- <u>Pay attention to detail!</u>
  - Comply with all formatting requirements (font, margins, page length, etc)
  - Grammatical/spelling errors are unacceptable
  - Writing must be clear, succinct, to the point
  - Grab reader's attention—highlight transitions/sections
  - Figures should be beautiful, informative, and efficient (don't try to compress too much info at the expense of size clarity!)

Grant Writing 101

- Early (and frequent) drafts give your mentor sufficient time to provide constructive feedback.....

Grant Writing 101

- Successful grant writing requires fortitude and perseverance

- Many challenges once you hit submit:
  - Grant review panels want most outstanding science
  - Agencies have limited resources for funding
  - But…young investigators are prioritized—take advantage!

NEVER GIVE UP!