Be Careful What You Ask for – You May Get IT!

From “Idea” to “Implementation” and “Management” of a Grant
Perspective of A . . . .

• **Participant** – at an NSF funded workshop
• **Advisory Board Member** for NSF Grants
  – Chair and reporting
• A **Reviewer** for Grants
• A **Co-PI** “after the fact” – taking over a grant
• A “**Director**” of a grant (non-NSF) signed on “after the Fact”
• A **Co-PI** - early participant from the Idea to Reality and Management
An Idea is Born
From Idea to Reality – THINK Business Plan
Grants – Going from an “Academic” with a good idea to a CEO of a Business with a “Product” to produce
Budgets, Purchasing, Facilities Management, IT coordination, Hardware purchase, installation, Accounting, Payroll, Reporting, Scheduling, Human Resource Management – All within the structure of a Community College
Before the Proposal

• Do you have a Grants office?
• Do you have an “oversight” foundation or other organization that handles funding?
• See who has had a grant at your college
  – Talk to them about
    • Management – what they learned
    • Problems and solutions
• Ask, Ask, Ask
If you think you are busy now, wait . . . .
As a Business – create a Business Plan

- Mission, Vision, Objectives, Goals –
  - Identify your “customers” – and remind yourself often who they are
  - Determine what “products” they need
  - Determine how those “products” can be produced
  - Determine the budget to create your “product”
  - Determine how your product will make it better, faster, easier, . . .
  - Your outcomes are MEASURABLE (evaluation)
  - Your goals are “realistic” when you get down to funding availability and sources
- Needs Assessment – what do you have to acquire to meet your needs
- Resource Assessment – what do you already have that can be used
- Define the “structure” of your business – an “organization chart”
  - Who is the LEADER – the final word – THE CEO!
  - Who does what – title and assigned duties and tasks
    - Staff qualifications to complete those tasks
Submitting Your Proposal

• Create a Timeline to finish the Proposal and BACK OFF a MINIMUM of 3 days
• Create an “executive summary” and provide it to anyone that you want to “support” your grant – and request letters at least 2 weeks before you need them
• READ the rules – length, font, what must be included
• Submit at least 3 days prior to due date!
Know the “Laws”

• What are the “laws” of the college
  – Accounting process, procedures and people
  – Who can do what – and what can they do
  – Who will you answer your requests/questions

• What are the “laws” of the granting organization
  – What can you spend your money on and how do you document it
Radom thoughts

• Grant staff – if you help write a grant, and believe you will be part of it, be sure to be named or identified
  – Subcontractors or other people – especially evaluator(s)
  – State procurement rules will RULE

• The INSTITUTION “owns” the grant, the staff manages it
  – PI, Co-PI’s and others can be removed, added, changed with permissions
  – Only the college can agree to move grant to another institution
  – All need approval from Granting Agency (usually)
Politics and Policy

- Propinquity – be there or be forgotten
  - Office space and meetings
- Press Releases and processes – good news or bad news
- Document, document, document
  - Any permissions or clarifications MUST be in writing from the source (NSF, college, IT, etc.)
- IT Support – who will provide it
  - Web Site
    - Who creates, designs, updates, hosts, backup system, maintains it and sets security issues
Obama Announcement on CC’s

• Obama. . . announcing a plan to substantially boost funding for the nation's community colleges, with an aim of helping more workers get the job-training they need in the coming decade.

• Rahm Emanuel, . . . "In the next couple of weeks, . . . a major announcement on community colleges and job training and the rewriting of all the legislation related to job training and community ed. . . but, most importantly, in the area of community colleges,'"

• . . . proposing a redirecting of funding - "going from subsidies in higher education to a direct lending of the federal government,'"

• Goal . . . five million more workers through the community college system than might otherwise be the case in the next 10 years.

• "What's been forgotten is how important our community college system is" to the economy," "As a competitive advantage for the United States, the community college system is essential,' . . . boosting funding for growth of the system.