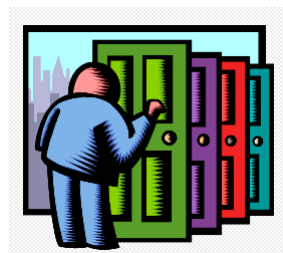


Writing grant applications

The applicant

Benedicte A. Lie



■ Debatt

Skal, skal ikke

Risikoen for å få avslag på søknader om forskningsstøtte er så stor at det til tider kan virke bortkastet å prøve.

Viten

Eli K. Rueness forsker, Institutt for Biovitenskap, Universitetet i Oslo

Oppdatert: 30. apr. 2014 09:47



Som midlertidig vitenskapelig ansatt ved Universitetet i Oslo og andre statlige forskningsinstitusjoner forventes det at man bringer inn egne lønns- og driftsmidler. Dette gjelder en gruppe, som når man ikke regner med stipendiater og postdoktorer, [ytgjorde over 2000 årsverk i 2013](#). For de av oss som driver med grunnforskning kommer disse midlene i stor grad gjennom å konkurrere om penger til [frie prosjekter hos Forskningsrådet](#).

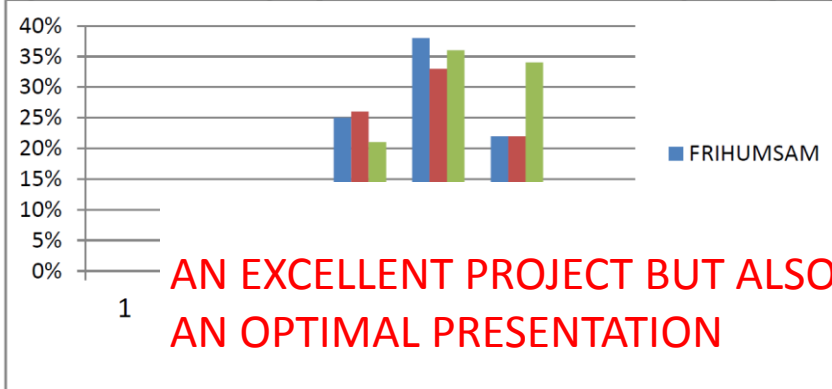
” Skall jeg risikere at også 2014 ender i et førjulsmareritt av brystne drømmer?

Faktum er at siden jeg hadde personlig stipend fra Forskningsrådet for å ta doktorgrad, så har jeg aldri har fått innvilget en eneste søknad om et selvstendig prosjekt. Det er ganske nøyaktig elleve år siden jeg disputerte med en avhandlingen som ble belønnet med Kongens gullmedalje for yngre



http://www.aftenposten.no/viten/Skal_-_skal-ikke-7537563.html

Figur A: Karakterfordelingen i prosent blant søknadene om forskningsmidler per fagkomité



Bare tre av ti søker forskningsmidler

Få forskere kaster seg inn i konkurransen om midler fra Norges forskningsråd.

Forskerforum
26.11.2013



NORSK REVMATIKERFORBUND

HELSE SØR-ØST

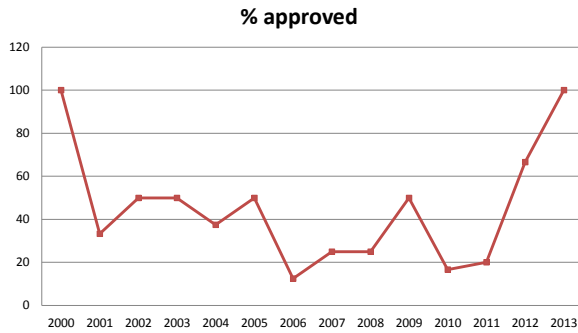
diabetesforbundet



GRANT APPLICATION CALENDER

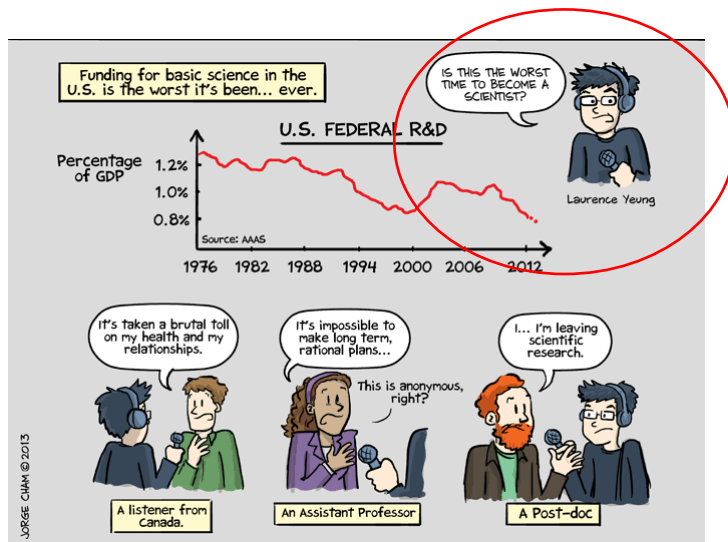


The funding situation has changed



Smaller funds
Smaller groups

Larger funds
Larger groups and networks



Grant writing tips



Plan ahead

- Allow yourself enough time to give a grant application the time it deserves.




<http://www.scilogs.com/expiscor/the-emotional-roller-coaster-of-grant-writing/>

Plan ahead

- The application is not only the project description
 - Confirmation from collaborators
 - Application form
 - SUMMARY and OBJECTIVES
 - Milestones
 - Budget

Follow the guidelines in the grant call

- The program and call
 - Format
 - Strategic documents
- 
- Remember that a structured checklist of criteria is used to score applications
- Every application and project description should be tailor-made

Not only write, remember to review

- Leave time to review
- Proof reading
- Have someone else read and give feed back
- Are the arguments logical?
- Have you left out something obvious?

Writing style

- Simple and short sentences
- Active voice
- Energetic, concise, direct writing
- Subheadings
- Mimic the words in the call without repeating them, build them into your proposal
- Do not brag, but dare to highlight you strengths
- Clearly and explicitly state the connections between your research objectives, research questions, hypotheses, methodologies, and outcomes

The composition

- A very common mistake is for applicants to give you a list of what they're going to do without saying why and how they're going to do it



The composition

- OBJECTIVES: Be specific and realistic [**S.M.A.R.T.** objectives: **Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Time-bound**]. State the objectives in outcome (not process). Word limitation is a friend!
- INTRODUCTION: Be focused; show the knowledge gaps and how you will fill them
- PROPOSAL: Show your expertise
- MATERIALS AND METHODS: Show your knowledge, availability and collaborators
- RELEVANCE: The bigger picture



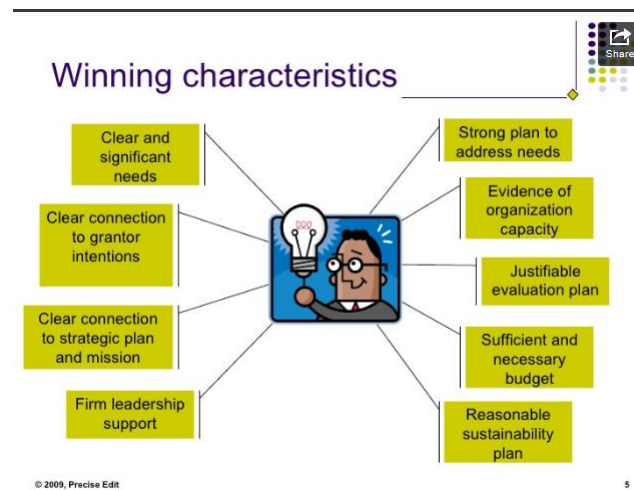
The balance

- Don't oversell or promise too much
- But highlight your strengths and what is novel and ...
- Be realistic about the time frame
- Don't make assumptions. Don't leave things out of your application because you assume the reviewers already know them.
- Make direct links in your application between the background and what you will do.

Use illustrations

- A picture says more than a thousand words
- Gives the reviewer an immediate understanding of the project
- Highlight the strengths of your proposal
- First page – most important





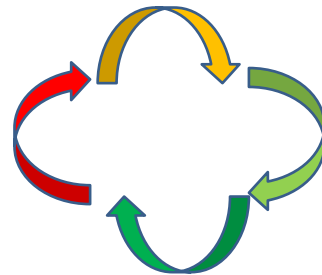
<http://www.slideshare.net/preciseedit/basics-of-grant-writingpublic>

Your CV

- Be co-supervisor (get masterstudents)
- Collaborate but also focus on own work
- Get a network, travel, research visit abroad
- Be visible

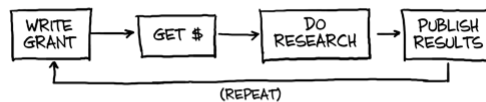
Re-use

- Adjust to the current call and its format
- Make last years rejected application even better and update (external literature and own preliminary findings)
- The reviewers' comments



THE GRANT CYCLE

HOW IT'S SUPPOSED TO WORK:



HOW IT REALLY WORKS:



JORGE CHAN © 2011

WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

Use the writing process positive

- Systematic view of project plans
- Help you spot weaknesses, but also opportunities
- New ideas
- Update on literature



«Forskningsstøtte»

Ekstern finansiering

Det finnes en rekke nasjonale og internasjonale finansieringskilder for forskning. Avd. for Forskningsadministrasjon gir råd og veiledning om nasjonal og internasjonal finansiering av forskning

- Informasjon om utlysninger og finansieringsmuligheter
- Gjennomlesning av søknader, råd og tips
- Hjelp med budsjettering
- Administrative formaliteter
- Kontraktsgjeldelser, internasjonale kontrakter
- Informasjon og veiledning ifm. rapportering

Horizon 2020 »

Framework Programme 7 »

Prosjektetableringsstøtte »

National Institutes of Health »

Helse Sør-Øst »

Forskningsrådet »

Kreftforeningen »

ExtraStiftelsen Helse og Rehabilitering »

Legater »



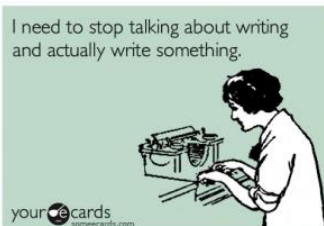
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By Next Wave and Science Staff

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http://www.oslo-universitetssykehus.no/fagfolk_/forskning_/forskingsstotte/