

Enhancing Research Capacity: Faculty Grant Writing Boot Camp



Why Boot Camp?

The Enhancing Research Capacity and Opportunity goals of the ADVANCE Project TRACS is to institutionalize systematic support for women faculty in STEM/SBS fields through

- grant pre-proposal assistance,
- nurture a mentoring network of successful grantees, and
- support needed infrastructures to facilitate women engaging in interdisciplinary research.

Dissatisfaction with research support is strongly associated with women faculty's intentions to leave their university (Xu, 2008).

As reported in *Beyond Bias and Barriers* (2007) NIH grants and contracts awarded in 2004 showed that only 24% of R01s were awarded to women, and that when awarded, women faculty receive less funding than men, especially for center grants.

In a study of postdoctoral fellowships awarded by the Swedish Medical Research Council, researchers compared publication records of applicants to reviewer assessments of competency; women needed to be twice as productive as men to receive the same competency rating (Wennerås and Wold, 1997).

At MSU our data tell a similar story.

- Grants awarded between 2000-2014 totaled \$348,363,980 for women faculty at MSU and \$1,095,330,098 for men, translating into 31.8% of all authorized research dollars going to women faculty over that time.
- Since 2010, MSU received a total of 2332 grants with 26.2% of them going to women as compared to the overall percentage of women faculty ranging from 32.2% (FY10) to 37.3% (FY14). The average authorized yearly amount awarded for those grants was \$180,879 for women and \$194,784 for men at MSU.

The Grant Writing Boot Camp, developed using a model from MSU's College of Education, Health, and Human Development, allows female faculty better understanding of the grant writing process in its entirety, enabling them to feel more competent and autonomous while building relatedness and fulfilling connections as they engage in research.

Women are specifically invited to participate in Boot Camp, but all faculty and researchers are welcome.

To Consider:

What is the biggest stumbling block for you in writing grants?

Upcoming Events:

ADVANCE(D) Boot Camp – May 18-19, 2015 – Learn about re-writing and re-submitting grants

Grant Writing Boot Camp – Starting September 18, 2015 – Join us for the next Boot Camp experience!

What is Boot Camp?

The Grant Writing Boot Camp is designed to train faculty to successfully seek research grant funding in their field.

- Six-week workshop to produce a solid, review-ready proposal
- Interact with grant-successful senior faculty
- Work with peer support in writing groups
- Introduction to a team of proposal support personnel on campus
- Weekly two-hour sessions, the first hour of the session is devoted to lecture or discussion, and the remaining hour consists of hands-on writing and workshop activities.

BOOT CAMP SESSIONS

1: Finding Funding

- Finding Time to Find Funding
- Campus Resources/ Finding funding opportunities
- How to: Request Applications/Request for Proposals; SPIN Searches; Prepare for Grant Writing Process in your workload

2: The Grant Writing Process

- Institutional Process & Forms
- Agency Requirements/Working with Agencies
- Preparedness and Organization Plans

3: The Submission Process

- Abstracts, Summaries & CVs, accessing Guides
- Research Support Options
- Project Summary reviews

"I also networked with other faculty from STEM, that still I am in touch with."

4: The Proposal Team

- Working with Program Officers & Mentors
- Responding to Review Critique
- Working with Co-PIs & Other Institutions

5: The Proposal Narrative

- Crafting, Revising & Re-drafting Narratives
- Preparing for submissions

6: The Next Steps

- Broader Impacts/Education Support Team and Ongoing Programs
- The Grant Facilitator Network and Your Collaborators
- Setting up a work schedule & staff support
- Outlining Project Management & Evaluation

"As a new faculty I was overwhelmed by the idea of writing grants, but after attending the GWBC I submitted an NSF grant."

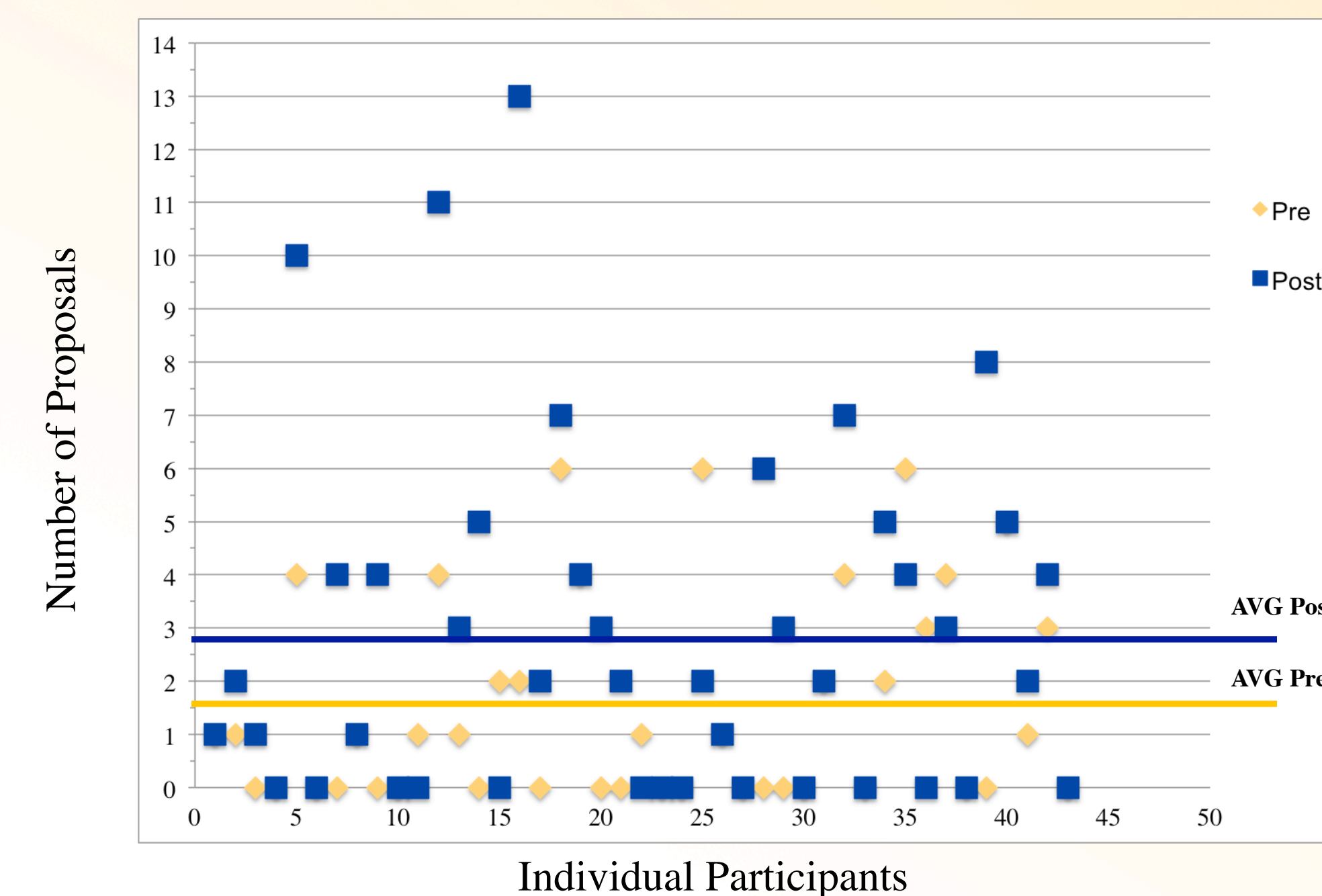


Grant Writing Boot Camp!

Boot Camp Impact

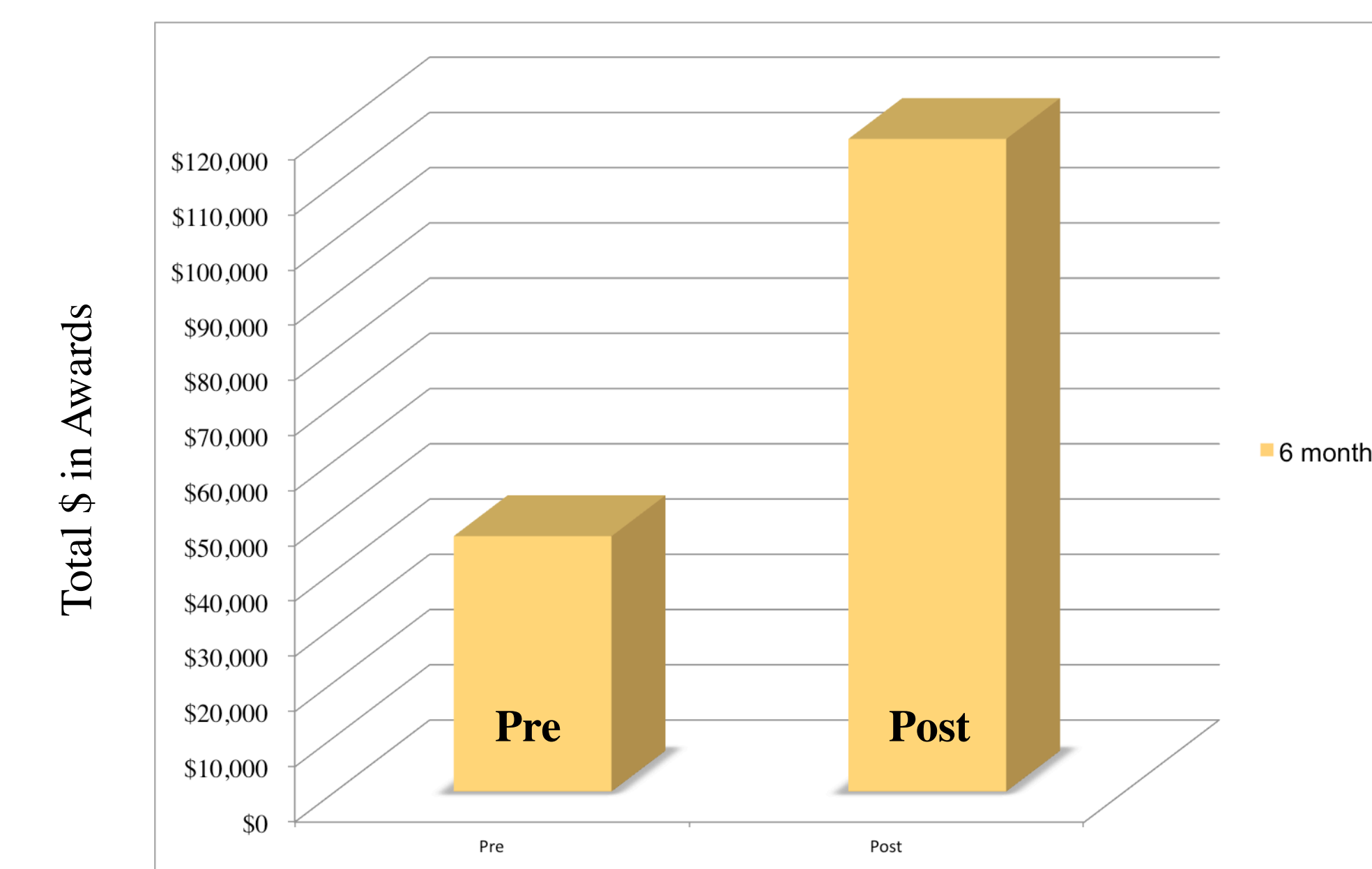
- There is an **overall 60% grant award success rate of Boot Camp**, with 91 proposals still pending. A total of 44 people (18 women in STEM, 17 non-STEM women, 9 men) have now attended one of our 3 boot camps, and of those attendees, 33 have submitted 125 proposals (94 by women in STEM) with 22 having been funded (10 to women in STEM), 12 having been reviewed favorably but not funded (9 women in STEM).
- After attending Boot Camp, **17 of the 18 women in STEM have submitted grant proposals**. 12 faculty (9 STEM women; 3 men) have submitted a proposal for the first time.
- Looking at the PI and Co-PI combinations on **8 proposals shows that attendees are collaborating on grants with people that they hadn't collaborated with in the year prior to their Boot Camp experience**.

Proposals 1 year Pre and Post Attending Boot Camp



- Attendees submitted an **average of 1.51 proposals in the year prior to Boot Camp, and an average of 2.91 proposals in the year following** the course. Boot Camp attendees have thus submitted a significantly higher number of grant and contract proposals within the year following Boot Camp than within the year preceding Boot Camp, $t(43)=3.09, p < 0.01$.

Awards 6 months Pre and Post Attending Boot Camp



*Because it can take up to a year for grant agencies to conduct proposal evaluation and issue official award notifications, these data are incomplete. We will continue to verify award funding results with Boot Camp PIs and OSP over time.

