TIPS FOR PROPOSAL WRITERS APPROACHING FOUNDATIONS

- Please contact Devon Stein, Director of Foundation Relations, to assist you with the process and to make sure that you have clearance from Clemson University to submit your proposal. **Clemson does not want to send more than one proposal to the same foundation at the same time, which can lead to instant dismissal of such proposals. It is also important that we protect existing relationships with program officers, who prefer to work with one contact person at Clemson: the Director of Foundation Relations.** Devon may be reached at 656-2165 or dastein@clemson.edu.

- Make sure that your proposal concept addresses an important problem. Your problem and approach to solving that problem should pass the “So what?” question.

- Research the previous work on your topic/issue and become an expert with the literature.

- Put together a high-quality and interdisciplinary team that has the experience, interest and ability to successfully accomplish project goals. Unless you are responding to a specific call for proposals, most foundations do not support individual (research) projects.

- Plan ahead of time. Many foundations take at least six months to make a decision on a proposal.

- Work with Devon Stein to identify the best funding opportunities for your project. She can make the whole process much easier and more manageable for you!

RESOURCES FOR PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT


- Stanford Friedman, S. (University of Wisconsin–Madison), “Writing Effective Grant Proposals in the Humanities and Social Sciences.” This article offers good advice for writing proposals to organizations/agencies such as NEH, Guggenheim, and the American Council for Learned Societies.


