

# **Yvonne L. Munn Research Awards**

*Prepared by TLM Research Award Committee*

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# Today's Discussion

- Background of Munn Award
- Elements of preparing a proposal
- Why do this?
- Resources to support you

# Background

- The Yvonne L. Munn Research Award
  - Initiated in 1998
  - Recognition of MGH national nurse leader
- Award developed to fund studies by MGH staff to advance Nursing Science and improve outcomes for patients & families
- To date 19 studies have been funded

# Munn Research Projects Can Include:

- Original research
- Evaluation of Evidence-based practices
- Effectiveness initiatives
- Evaluation of pilot programs
  - Educational modules
  - Clinical innovations

# Some of the Study Topics Awarded in Past Years....

- Malnutrition in Heart Failure Patients
- Prolonged Mechanical Ventilation & Weaning
- Evaluation of the Environment of Care
- Family-Centered Care at MGHfC (Pediatric)
- Evaluation of Drug Dose Calculation
- Delirium in Acute Care Patient Falls
- Use of Music as a Therapeutic Intervention

# Impact of Funded Studies

- **Direct practice changes**
  - Staff education: Drug calculator
  - Patient and family education
  - Practice change to allow families in ED to be present during resuscitation efforts
- **Publications and Presentations:**
  - Local, national, and international
- **Academic decisions:**
  - Return to school, dissertation topic, etc

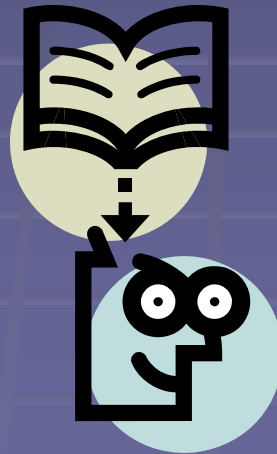
# Eligibility

- Any Nurse at MGH
  - 1 award to nurse educated at BS level
  - Other award(s) without regard to education
- PhD nurse mentor on research team
- IRB approval and IRB on-line training
  - Not required prior to submission
  - Required before beginning study

(<http://healthcare.partners.org/hrcedweb>)

***So where do you begin?***

***Information session is a  
good beginning!***



# Mentor

- Identify PhD-RN research mentor
  - Needed before proposal submitted
- Many mentors @ MGH & Munn Center
- No Mentor?
  - Committee will help guide you

# Letter of Intent

Due 12/15/09

- Short, limited to no more than 2 pages
  - Include a brief note of support from Director
- Submitted to clarify ideas, align support
- Clear, concise expression of project goal.
- Letter of intent due 12/15/09 ( for 2010 award)

# The Letter of Intent Includes:

- Title of the project
- Brief description of the proposed project:
  - Problem of interest
  - Study overview (who, what, where of study)
  - Evaluation (how study will answer the question)
- Time Frame
- Principal investigator and team members
- Mentor (PhD-RN - if identified)

# 2010 Proposal Dates

- January 15 (5pm) Proposals due
- January 22 feedback to applicants
  - Preliminary (internal) review
- February 1 (5pm) Final revision due
- February: Proposals sent (External Review)
- March: Review Board ranks proposals
- April: Funding decision to applicants
- May: Awards Presented (Nurses' Week)

# Elements of the Proposal

- Title of proposal
- Abstract
- Introduction
- Background/ Purpose/ Significance
- Hypothesis or research question
- Methodology
- Budget and other Attachments

# Abstract

- Maximum of 500 words
- Provides the first impression of your project
- Explains key elements of proposal (future tense)
- Includes summary of:
  - the purpose, importance and specific goals
  - Planned research design, methods and analysis
- Look at other abstracts for ideas
  - Previous Munn Awards
  - Published research articles
  - CRISP Database

# Introduction

(No more than 1 page)

- Engages interest of Reader
  - This is the problem
  - Area of uncertainty, what we don't know
  - Why the problem is important

# **Background / Significance**

(No more than 2 pages)

- **Clinical problem of interest**
- **Highlights of literature search**
  - What is & is not known
  - Areas of ambiguity or contradictions
- **Significance**
  - Potential contributions of study to:
    - Practice of nursing
    - Patient and family outcomes

# Purpose Statement

(2 sentence limit)

- What is the purpose of the study
  - What specific fact / insight is sought
  - Consistent with rest of the proposal
- In essence your motto
  - How you would explain your study
  - Clear, logically developed

# Aims with Research Question

(No more than 1 page)

- **Specific Aim** (general long-term objective)
  - e.g. Challenge a standard, create innovation, solve problem
- **Hypothesis or research question**
  - Tells reader what details will be studied
    - Delineate variables of interest
  - Succinct description of topic to be studied
  - Frames the study focus

# Methodology (No more than 1 page)

- Who will your study subjects be?, Where?
- How will you get them involved?
- What will you ask them; do to / for them?
  - Instruments (psychometrics if indicated)
  - Data collection methods & follow-up
- Clear description of project activities:
  - Timeline
  - Would the reader know what to do?

# **Data Analysis** (No more than 1 page)

- **Plans for data management & analysis**
  - Power analysis if indicated
  - Data Collection, Data Entry
  - Anticipated Statistical Methods if used
  - Indicate how analysis will be done
    - For each research question/hypothesis
  - Analysis is appropriate design & question

# Potential Contributions

(No more than 1 page)

- Potential contributions:
  - Improved nursing care of patients & families
  - Enhanced quality of life
  - Advanced nursing knowledge
  - Improved patient comfort/ satisfaction
  - Empowered patients, families, caregivers
- Dissemination plan:
  - Presentations
  - Publications

# Attachments (NO page limit)

- References
- Data collection instruments
- Informed consent forms or plans
- Principal Investigator's biographical sketch
- Letters of support
  - Nursing Director
  - PhD-RN Mentor
- Budget
- Theoretical framework (optional)

# Resources to support your project

- This training session
- Your mentor
- Previous Munn Award recipients
- The Yvonne Munn Center staff
- The Treadway Library staff
- Your Nursing Director and CNS
- The Munn Research Awards Committee

# The Final Decision

- When you will hear about funding
  - April, 2010
  - Public announcement / award Nurse Research Day May 2010
- Then what...
  - Planning with Munn researcher
  - 2 years to complete study
  - May 2012: present results @ Nurses' week