



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

NSF CAREER Award

# NSF Faculty Early Career Development Program (CAREER)

April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014

Sponsored by Research Development Services

Vidusha Devasthali

[vidusha@uoregon.edu](mailto:vidusha@uoregon.edu)

541-346-6391



# CAREER: Integrating Teaching and Research

- Provide stable support for 5 years
- ~ \$400k in most Directorates (~ \$500k for BIO and PLR)
- Career development of outstanding new **teacher-scholars** in the context of the mission of their organization
- Build a foundation for a lifetime of integrated contributions to research and education
- Provide incentives to Universities to value the integration of research and education
- Increase participation of those traditionally underrepresented in science and engineering



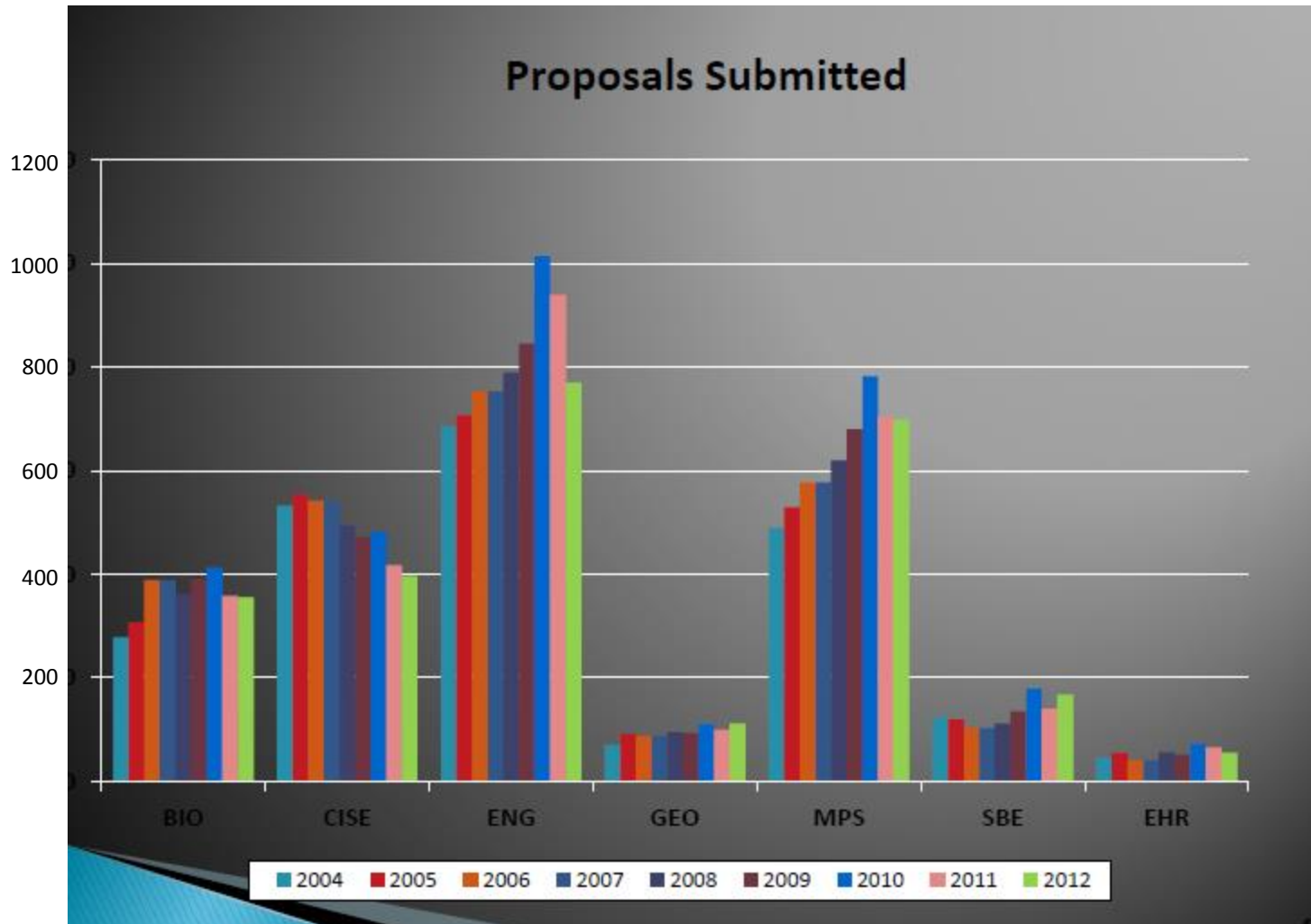
# What Does “Integration of Teaching and Research” Mean?

- Demonstrate how your research will impact your educational goals and vice versa
- Involve others (students, teachers, public) in your research- get creative
- Partner with communities traditionally underrepresented in Sciences
- Disseminate your results using innovative methods to reach more people
- Using your community to gather data (“citizen science”)

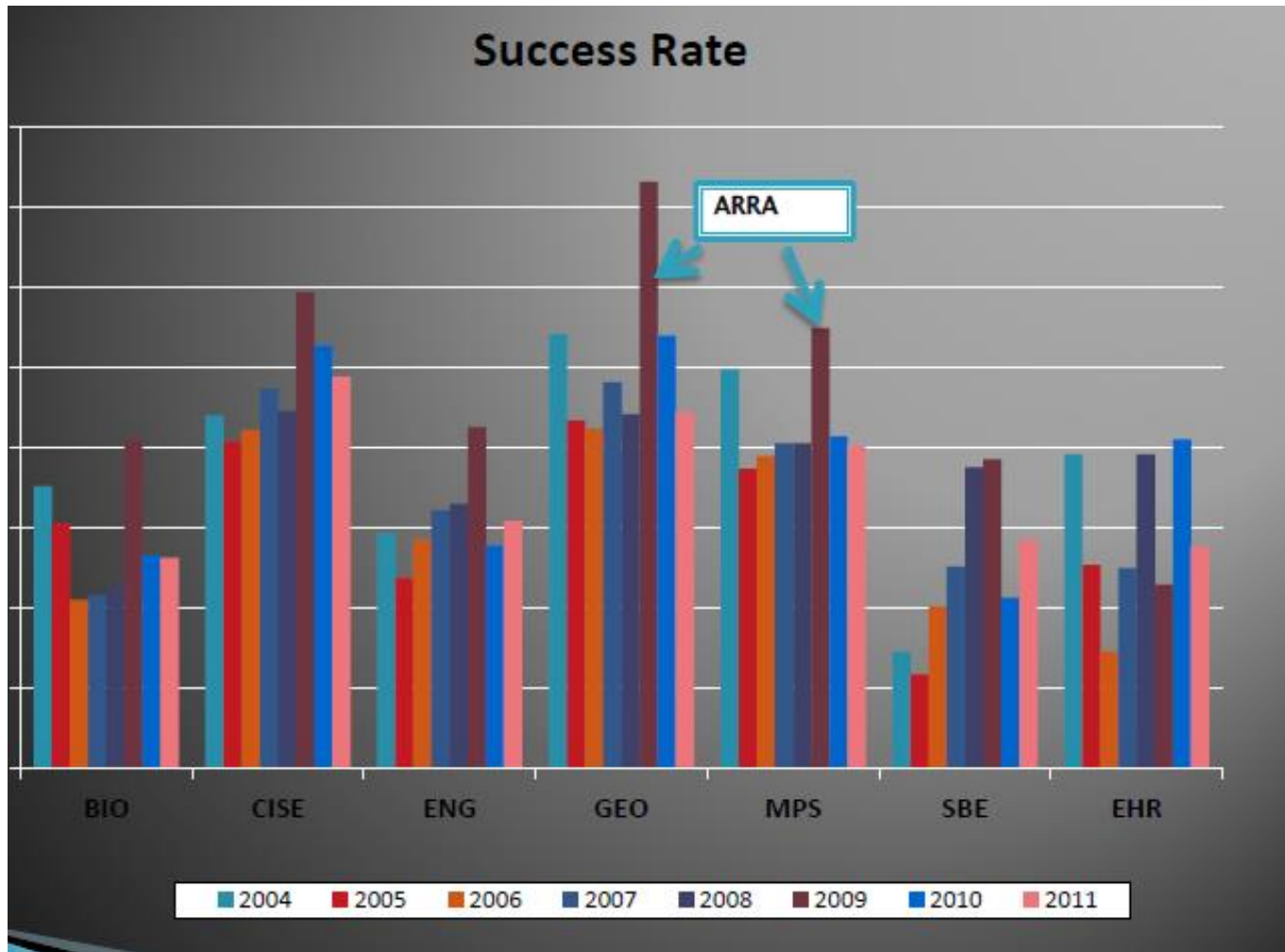


# Should you apply?

- Do you have an appropriate project?
- Have you discussed your ideas with mentors, colleagues and program officers?
- Is your Department/Organization supportive?
- Are you at the right stage of your career?



More info: <http://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/advancedSearch.jsp>



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# What Happens After You Submit?

- CAREER proposals are submitted to a disciplinary unit or program
- Reviewed according to Program/Division individual practices
- Award sizes vary in each Program and/or Division
- Expectations for scope of research and education plans vary by Program/Division
- Departmental letter matters-part of the review criteria
- Funding rates follow trend for regular proposals in the program of interest

*“What about Sequestration?”*



# Merit Review of CAREER Awards:

- **Intellectual Merit: How will your field benefit from your proposed research?**
- **Broader Impacts: How will society benefit?**
- *Ad hoc* + Panel (along with other proposals in the program)
  - Most of GEO (except ATM), BIO, SBE
- Mostly dedicated CAREER Panels
  - ENG, CISE, EHR, OCI
- MPS varies by division
  - AST: panel only
  - CHE, DMR: mix of *ad hoc* and panels
  - DMS: mostly panels, some *ad hoc* only





# What Goes Into an Education Plan?

- Should go beyond what is expected of you as an Assistant Professor
- Reasonable workload
- Informed by what has been successful- should have intellectual merit
- Plan for assessment
- Resources at UO
  - Terri Ward- Center for Educational Policy Research (terri@uoregon.edu)
  - Bryan Rebar- STEM CORE (brebar@uoregon.edu)



# What should your departmental letter address?

- Commitments by department to your research and educational activities
- Description of how your professional goals align with the department and institution
- Professional development and mentorship available to you
- Verification of eligibility



# Recipe for Success

- Write with your reviewers in mind (talk to your Program Officer)
- Address a gap in knowledge in your field
- Make sure the scope of your proposed work is reasonable given the time frame (5 years)
- Go beyond your minimum requirements for tenure
- Strike a balance between relatively low and high risk pursuits



## CAREER Award myths:

- *“You can’t apply if you already have another award”*
- *“Apply to CAREER first”*
- *“I read on the web that to succeed you should...”*
- *“The educational component does not matter”*



# Help!

- Proposal review including planning, conceptualization
- Administrative tasks like formatting support letters, biosketches
- Coordinate an external review by a content expert in your field
- For advice and support for developing educational component contact Bryan Rebar at STEM CORE



*“Ask Early, Ask Often”*