



Now you have your first R01, what's next?

Joanna M. Watson, PhD
Cancer Cell Biology Branch
Division of Cancer Biology

Your Status Changed Over Night ...

New Investigator



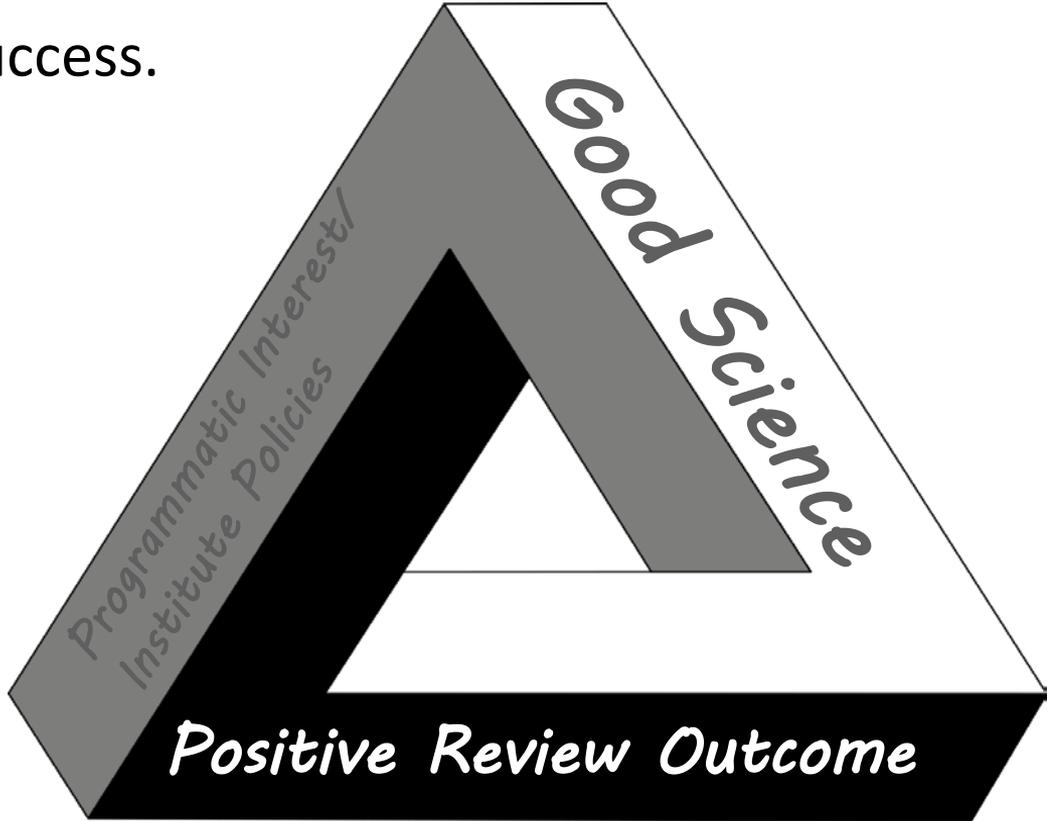
Established Investigator

Expectations for Established Investigators

- ... to bring in additional money
 - ... to publish
 - ... to lead
 - ... to participate and serve
-
- To succeed it's important to learn how to balance these expectations.

Bringing In More Money – Getting The Next Grant

No secret formula for success.



Getting the next grant....

- Put the science first - all good grant applications should be driven by the science.
 - Know what makes a good grant
- Know what's available to you
 - Local resources to help build preliminary data
 - Collaborators
 - NCI Program Staff
- Identify ways to pursue new exciting observations –
 - Funding mechanisms and opportunities (individual vs. collaborative)
 - Small mechanisms, supplements, Program Projects, Cooperative Agreements

What Makes a Good Grant Application?

- Great ideas and solid, well-considered rationale and premise
- Proposing to test hypotheses (rather than prove them)
- Demonstrations of feasibility
 - Show why you're excited about the ideas and that you can do the proposed studies
- Publications
- Collaborators
- Good grantsmanship
 - Never underestimate the power of a well-written application.

Common Mistakes

- Scientific errors
 - Ideas not thought through
 - Lack of feasibility
 - Missing preliminary data
 - Outdated approaches
 - Lack of expertise
 - Too focused or too broad/ambitious
- Grantsmanship errors
 - Submitting too early
 - Technical/ poor writing
 - Administrative
 - Budgets/Justifications don't match or are unrealistic and vague
 - Personnel too extensive for science proposed
 - Personnel effort is underestimated

Expectation to Publish ...

- What's preferred?
 - Number or quantity? One top tier or several 2nd tier papers?
- Advice
 - Relevant data papers, not just reviews, in respected journals



Common Mistakes...

- Too few publications as senior author
- Spending too much time and limited resources on trying to satisfy reviewers
 - One more experiment ... or move on to another journal?
- Publications not related to the grant they are ascribed to
- Publications on diverse topics without an obvious theme

Expectations to Lead, Participate, and Serve

- As Employer and Team Lead
 - Postdocs, students, technicians, lab manager, administrative staff
- As Employee
 - Institutional committee service, teaching
- As Academic Researcher
 - Collaborator, reviewer, meeting organizer/speaker, advisory board member

When Leading, Participating, and Serving ...

- As Employer and Team Lead
 - Need a good team – build carefully; don't take on more trainees than you can handle
 - Know who can help you (e.g., business office, go-to mentor)
- As Employee
 - Easy to become overcommitted with non-science activities
- As Academic Researcher
 - Beware of one-sided collaborations that don't really align with your interests
 - Reviewing papers and grants is beneficial, but takes time

Competing Renewal – general comments

- It's never too early to begin thinking about your renewal, but do you have to renew?
- In deciding whether to renew, consider progress made and obstacles tackled/overcome
 - Know your department chair's expectations
- When to submit?
 - If you're not successful first time, will there be a potential funding gap?
 - Talk with your Department Chair and your Program Director

Successful Renewal “must-haves” ...

- Progress on Aims
 - Are there new directions that arose from observations made during the execution of the original aims or logical next steps?
 - Explain aims that worked and those that didn't; how new areas arose
- Publications
 - Data papers should be relevant to the goals of the original aims/proposed directions
- Preliminary Data
 - Demonstration of feasibility; solid premise and rationale
- Appropriate Expertise

Common Mistakes in Competing Renewals

- Budget
 - Requesting more than allowed
 - NCI Cap policy
- Limited Productivity
 - Few publications resulting from previous aims; few senior/corresponding author
- Incremental science proposed

Take Home Messages

- Don't lose sight of the big picture
 - Why you love the science you do and how you fit into your communities
- Build your team and resources wisely
- Know your Institution's expectations and policies
 - Learn to balance expectations – know what works for you
- Don't be afraid to ask questions or ask for help
 - Institution business people
 - Mentors
 - NCI Program staff or Grants Management Specialists



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