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

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Your Status Changed Over Night

New Investigator

Established Investigator

Expectations for Established Investigators

- … successfully manage your R01
- … bring in additional money
- … publish
- … lead
- … participate and serve

To succeed it's important to learn how to balance these expectations.

Successfully Manage Your R01

- Your R01 has elements akin to managing a small business
  - Manage budget
    - Enlist a fiscal administrator who will track the money; review monthly expenditures
  - Organize your environment
    - Research needs structure – space, management of files/data (electronic, paper)
  - Staffing
    - Plan how to manage and organize your team; plan for a project coordinator or assign a trusted experienced research associate
  - Plan
    - What your major grant products will be in advance - set goals of the award
      - Some investigators plan each aim as one or two papers

Successfully Manage Your Research Team

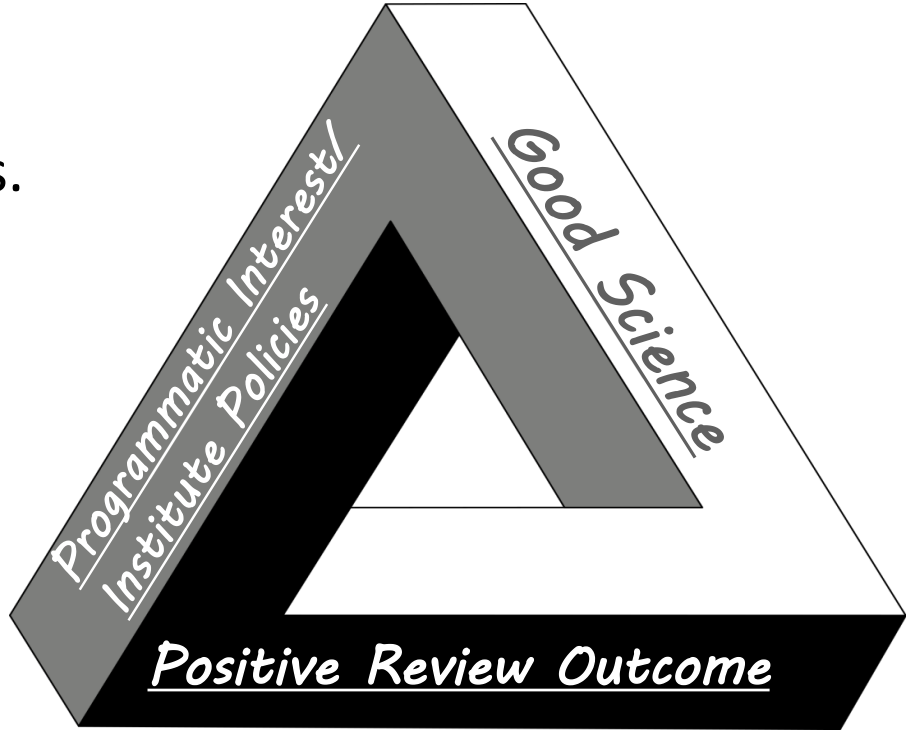
- Managing your research team —
  - Don’t assume:
    - … that everyone knows what the research goals are
    - … that your collaborators or sub-awards work the same way
    - … that your research design can be implemented exactly as written
    - … that you only need to say it/demonstrate it once
  - Do:
    - Develop SOPs and manuals, including how data will be reproduced, to ensure that everyone is on the same page
    - Communicate

Bringing In More Money

Keep in mind:

No secret formula for success.

Most grant applications fail.



Start Thinking About The Next Grant

- New/different area or an extension of funded work?
- Think about what's needed
  - Preliminary data, publications, new collaborators
- Know what's available to you
  - Local resources to help build preliminary data; editorial help
    - Other funding mechanisms and agencies
  - Collaborators; NCI Program Staff
    - Learn to pitch and practice presenting your ideas – what you're trying to do, why it's important, why you should do it

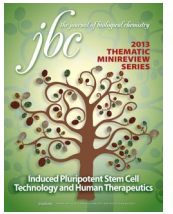
Writing The Next Grant Application

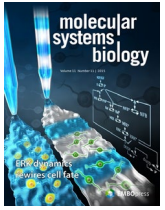
- Plan it out
  - Make a time line – stick to it
- Let the science drive the application
  - Have a clear focus – don't try to solve everything
  - Demonstrate feasibility with well-considered preliminary data and rationale
- Grant applications allow for speculation
  - Test hypotheses
  - Acknowledge limitations
- Practice good grantsmanship
  - Put yourself in the shoes of reviewers
  - Connect with readers by story telling your science
  - Consider your formatting and use clear language
  - Add pictures and schematics
  - Follow complex, technical sentences with one that sums up the big picture
  - Personalize biosketches
  - Read successful proposals
  - Don't try to guess what reviewers want
- Learn from negative feedback
  - Learn how to read critiques

Expectation to Publish

- Know what your Department expects of you

- What's preferred by reviewers?
  - Number or quantity? One top tier or several lower tier papers?
- Advice
  - Publish relevant data papers, not just reviews, in respected journals, in a timely fashion as senior author
  - Consider and value your time and limited resources when trying to satisfy reviewers
    - One more experiment … or move on to another journal?





Expectations to Lead, Participate, and Serve

- As Employer and Team Lead
  - Postdocs, students, technicians, lab manager, administrative staff
  - 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
  - Institutional committee service, teaching
  - Easy to become overcommitted with non-science activities
- As Academic Researcher
  - Collaborator, reviewer, meeting organizer/speaker, advisory board member
  - 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 Renewals Often Have …

- Reported progress on previous Aims
  - Are there new directions that arose from observations made during the execution of the original aims or is the direction the next *logical step* and not just an incremental one?
    - Explanations for aims that worked and those that didn't; how new areas arose
- Publications and Preliminary Data
  - Did the published data papers arise from the goals of the original aims/proposed directions?
  - Are the Preliminary data from recently published or in press work?
  - Does the preliminary data demonstrate feasibility?
- Appropriate Expertise

Take Home Messages

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

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