

Dealing with Rejections and Revisions

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Based on previous work by previous workshop leaders

The Hard Facts

- You will have proposals rejected and you may feel that the reviewer/panel have been unjust
- The only way to avoid rejection is not to submit anything

Who Here Has Been Rejected?

Take a moment to share your experience

What is the Process?

NSF

- Proposal is submitted
- Proposal is reviewed by program manager
 - It is possible to be rejected at this point (hopefully with some clues regarding how to resubmit)
- Proposal goes to reviewers
- Panel reviews the reviews
 - May reject without discussion
 - Rank after discussion
- Program officer makes funding recommendations
- NSF funds/rejects

What is the Process?

NSF Panels (USGS similar)

- Work hard to avoid conflict of interest
- Work hard to be fair to all proposals
 - We've all had proposals rejected
- Many quality proposals are not recommended
- At times the cutoff between recommended and not is very small

What is the Process?

- It is perfectly possible that a fantastic proposal might not be funded even with excellent reviews - Why?
- Proposal did not convey the awesomeness of the proposal
- Poor fit with RFP/call/funding agency
- Others may disagree about said awesomeness

**So – you didn't get funded:
welcome to the club!**

So – you didn't get funded

7/25/2018 List Search Results

RESEARCH
ADMINISTRATION
DATA + REPORTS
(RADAR)

Search Results (25 projects)

investigator is Aiyyer, Anantha;
Project ID, Descending order

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If Project ID cell is shaded, project contains subcontracts -- once the page has loaded fully, you can see the subcontracts by clicking the project's "toggle subs" link.

Project ID	Title	Investigator(s)	PI Department	Sponsor	Status	Amount Awarded/ Contract Number	Current Award Period
(0630) 2017-0639 Details	Investigation of the Interaction Between Kelvin Waves and Easterly Waves Using CYGNSS Data	Schreck III, Carl James Aiyyer, Anantha Brown, Otis B	NC-CICS	National Aeronautics & Space Administration (NASA)	Awarded	\$215,205.00 NNX17AH61G (51.5% - B -)	03/16/2017 through 03/15/2020
(1403) 2017-0906 Details	Understanding the Changing Climatology: Organizing Patterns and Source Attribution of Hazards of Hydrologic Extremes over the US Sunbelt	Anumugam, Sankarabraman Aiyyer, Anantha Schreck III, Carl James Ghosh, Sujit K. Bell, Jesse Eugene	Civil, Construction and Environmental Engineering	National Science Foundation (NSF)	Non-Funded		
(0630) 2016-1616 Details toggle subs	Multiscale Interactions Between The MJO, Equatorial Waves, And The Diurnal Cycle Over The Maritime Continent	Schreck III, Carl James Aiyyer, Anantha Brown, Otis B	NC-CICS	National Aeronautics & Space Administration (NASA)	Awarded	\$38,3431.00 NNX16AE33G (51.5% - B -)	03/01/2016 through 02/28/2019
(1786) 2014-1866 Details	Origin, Storm track Dynamics and Convective Feedback of African Easterly Waves	Aiyyer, Anantha	Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences	National Science Foundation (NSF)	Awarded	\$48,1728.00 AGS-1433763 (51.5% - B -)	08/01/2014 through 07/31/2019
(1403) 2013-2223 Details	Resilience of Natural and Built Environment in Coastal Regions Under Hazard and Climate Change Conditions	Ranjithan, Sanmugavadeivel Aiyyer, Anantha Anumugam, Sankarabraman Baugh, John W. Brill, Earl D. Fackler, Paul L. Taylor, Laura	Civil, Construction and Environmental Engineering	NCSU Research and Innovation Seed Funding Program	Non-Funded		

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So – you didn't get funded

7/25/2018 List Search Results

(1786) 2012-0923 Details	South Asian Air Quality Impacts on Climate Change: US-India Collaboration on Air Quality and Climate Research and Education	Aneja, Viney P. Aiyyer, Anantha Kelley, Stephen S	Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences	NCSU Research and Innovation Seed Funding Program	Non-Funded		
(1786) 2012-2028 Details	Estimate of Scale and Atmospheric Composition of Short-Lived Climate Forcers on Modeling the South Asian Air Quality and Monsoon Variability	Aneja, Viney P. Aiyyer, Anantha	Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences	UNC - UNC Chapel Hill (Prime)-National Science Foundation (NSF)	Non-Funded		
(1786) 2012-2225 Details	South Asian Air Quality Impacts on Climate Change: US-India Collaboration on Air Quality and Climate Research and Education	Aneja, Viney P. Aiyyer, Anantha Kelley, Stephen S	Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences	NCSU Research and Innovation Seed Funding Program	Non-Funded		
(1119) 2012-1879 Details	Mitigating the Impacts of Concentrated Food Animal Production on Greenhouse Gas Emissions? Integrated Research and Extension for Poultry and Swine Production Systems	Williams, Charles M. Aiyyer, Anantha Aneja, Viney P. Brake, John T. Cheng, Jayang Robarge, Wayne P. Robinson, Walter A. Stark, Charles R. Zering, Kelly D. Rice, John M.	Poultry Science	US Dept. of Agriculture (USDA)-National Institute of Food and Agriculture	Non-Funded		
(0630) 2012-0748 Details	Variability of Moisture and Convection During DYNAMO in Observations and Models	Schreck III, Carl James Aiyyer, Anantha Brown, Otis B	NC-CICS	National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)	Non-Funded		
(1786) 2012-0324 Details	Developing Methodologies to Extrapolate Near-Sea Level Wind Speed to Turbine Hub-Height Using Diverse Observational Datasets	Basu, Sukanta Aiyyer, Anantha	Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences	US Dept. of Energy (DOE)	Non-Funded		
(1786) 2011-0485 Details	Wind Modeling of North Carolina Coast: Implications for Offshore Wind Energy and Hurricanes	Basu, Sukanta Aiyyer, Anantha	Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences	NCSU Strategic Research Initiative	Non-Funded		
(1786)	AFRI Climate	Aneja, Viney P.	Marine, Earth	US Dept. of	Non-		

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(1786) 2009-1827 Details	Improving Inland Wind Forecasts Associated With Tropical Cyclones	Aiyyer, Anantha	Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences	University Corporation for Atmospheric Research	Non-Funded		
(1786) 2009-0148 Details	CAREER: Dynamics of African Easterly Waves: Integrating phenomenological studies and Mathematical Instruction in Atmospheric Science	Aiyyer, Anantha	Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences	National Science Foundation (NSF)	Awarded	\$556,607.00 ATM-0847323 (48.5% - B -)	08/01/2009 through 07/31/2014
(1786) 2008-1955 Details	Phenomenological Studies of Tropical Cyclogenesis in Association with the Madden-Julian Oscillation	Aiyyer, Anantha	Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences	NCSU Faculty Research & Professional Development Fund	Awarded	\$2,000.00 2008-1955	07/01/2008 through 06/30/2009
(1786) 2007-1608 Details	Nonlinear Structure and Propagation of African Easterly Waves and Their Transformation into Tropical Cyclones	Aiyyer, Anantha	Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences	NCSU Faculty Research & Professional Development Fund	Non-Funded		
(1786) 2007-1190 Details	High-Resolution Modeling to Assess Tropical Cyclone Activity in Future Climate Regimes	Lackmann, Gary M. Semazzi, Fredrick H. Aiyyer, Anantha Xie, Lian	Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences	US Dept. of Energy (DOE)	Awarded	\$649,649.00 DE-FG02-07ER64448 (46.0% - B -)	08/01/2007 through 07/31/2012
(1786) 2007-0372 Details	The Regional and Global Environmental Impacts of Gases and Aerosols Transported from Mexico City	Zhang, Yang Aiyyer, Anantha Meekhidze, Nicholas	Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences	National Science Foundation (NSF)	Non-Funded		
Total Amount Awarded:						\$2,703,616.00	

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What do you get?

- Program officer letter
- Panel summary (very useful)
 - Panel summary attempts to summarize the reviews and “neutralize” potentially unreasonable reviews
- Reviews

What do you do with this information?

- Take a moment to develop strategies individually
- Now share with a partner
- Report back to the group

Next Steps

- Take a deep breath
- Might be good to step away from the proposal for a few days
- Address all of the issues brought up – especially by the panel
- Remember – the job of the panel is to create a summary that will truly help the investigators
- Big picture: is this worth pursuing?

Make sure that you....

1. Specifically and directly address each review critique
2. Substantially revise, rewrite, or remove sections that were critiqued in earlier reviews.
3. Updates preliminary/pilot data and interpretations.
4. Incorporate new references that may have appeared since the previous submission (or were missed in the prior proposal).
5. Refined/revised list of potential reviewers based on reviews (some reading between the lines required).
6. Create a proposal that appears noticeably stronger than the prior version.

Complete your strategic plan worksheet (4-8)

- What resources do you need to be successful?
- What are some potential funding sources for this research?
- What strategies will you apply to develop your proposal?
- If funded, what is the timeline for this research?

Other Things to Do

- Ask colleagues in the same field as you about expectations for proposals in your field
- Ask trusted colleagues to read through proposals
- Ask for copies of proposals from colleagues