



**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**  
O'Brien Institute for Public Health

# **The long game: career planning and your grant application strategies**

William Ghali – Scientific Director

Panel – Christine Friedenreich,  
Brenda Hemmelgarn, Lynn McIntyre



**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**  
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# The grant funding game:

Strategies that might help your funding applications

William Ghali

Scientific Director

(with the Returning Panel)

# The IPH Grant Strategy Series

- Introductory session
- Revision & resubmission
- Grant budgets
- Knowledge Translation
- Peer review: do it! (well...)
- Programmatic grants
- The “Beautiful Grant”
- And today...





**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**  
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# **The long game: career planning and your grant application strategies**

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# The long game

- What are we talking about?



Free Photoshop PSD file download  
Resolution: 1280x1024 px  
[www.psdgraphics.com](http://www.psdgraphics.com)



# The long game

- Stepping back and thinking strategically
  - Who are you? }
  - Your context? } should you apply?
  - When and how?
  - To what competitions?
  - With what initiatives?
  - Career award applications?
  - Foundation scheme?
  - Your 'small business'



# Who are you?

(In relation to the research mandate)

- What is your training?
- Where are you in your career?
  - Late in training
  - Very early career
  - Mid-career
  - Later career
- Your personal track record?
- Research time allocation?
- “Fire in your belly”?





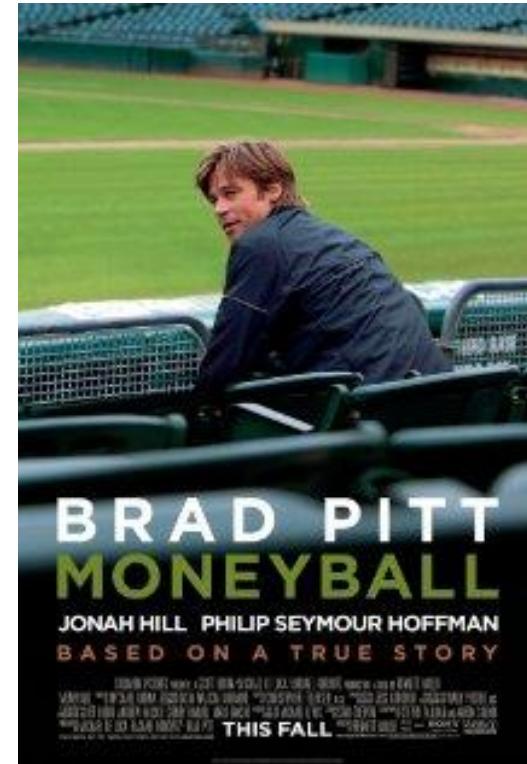
# Beware!

Research time allocation vs. 'Fire in belly' for research?



# Some 'smart' analytics

- Time protection and application/success rates:
  - >70%:  $28/114 = 24.5\%$
  - 40-70%:  $16/64 = 25\%$
  - <40%:  $3/36 = 8.3\%$
- Number of faculty (app rates):
  - >70%: N=84 (1.36/member)
  - 40-70%: N=112 (0.57/member)
  - <40%: N=244 (0.14/member)



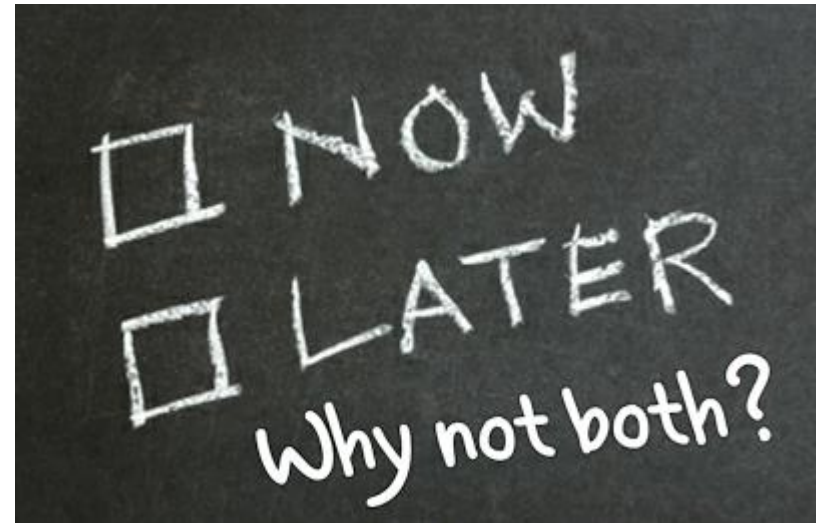
# Your context?

- HUGE importance
- If early in career: even more important than you
- Mentorship? (if junior)
- Colleagues? (if more senior)
- Expertise?
- Infrastructure?
- Your institution (and institute)
- Partnerships? Integrated KT?



# When and how?

- Grant writing takes time
- (LOTS of time)
- (and preparation)
- Your small business
  - (more on this later)
  - Deciding on scale
  - Ramping up or downsizing?
- Think and plan continuously
- Balancing papers vs. grants
- Anticipating rejection
- Revision & resubmission
- Your role in your enterprise



# To what competitions?

- CIHR (the top 'prize')



# To what competitions?

- CIHR (the top 'prize')
  - Open grants
  - Special competitions
  - (Foundation scheme)



[Search Opportunities](#)
[View All Current Opportunities](#)
[Browse Current Opportunities](#)
[Browse Archived Opportunities](#)

Opportunity Name	Registration/LOI Deadline	Application Deadline
<b>Catalyst Grant</b> <a href="#">News Feed</a>   <a href="#">Catalyst Grant: HIV/AIDS Community-Based Research (2015)</a>	N/A	2015-04-15
<b>Chair</b> <a href="#">News Feed</a>   <a href="#">Chair: GlaxoSmithKline Partnered 2014-2015</a>	N/A	2015-03-31
<b>Clinician-Scientist Salary Award</b> <a href="#">News Feed</a>   <a href="#">Clinician-Scientist Salary Award: 2014-2015</a>	TBD	TBD
<b>Doctoral Research Award</b> <a href="#">News Feed</a>   <a href="#">Doctoral Research Award: 2014-2015</a>	TBD	TBD
<b>Fellowship</b> <a href="#">News Feed</a>   <a href="#">Fellowship: 2014-2015</a>	TBD	TBD
<a href="#">Fellowship: KRESCENT / CIHR Post-Doctoral Fellowship (2015)</a>	N/A	2015-02-15
<b>Foundation Scheme</b> <a href="#">News Feed</a>   <a href="#">Foundation Scheme: 2014 1st Live Pilot</a>	2014-06-23	<a href="#">View Details</a>
<b>Knowledge Synthesis Grant</b> <a href="#">News Feed</a>   <a href="#">Knowledge Synthesis Grant: Spring 2015 Competition</a>	N/A	2015-05-15
<b>Master's Award</b> <a href="#">News Feed</a>   <a href="#">Master's Award: 2014-2015</a>	TBD	TBD
<a href="#">Master's Award: Dr. James Rossiter MPH Practicum Awards Program (Winter 2015 Competition)</a>	N/A	2015-02-17
<b>New Investigator Salary Award</b> <a href="#">News Feed</a>   <a href="#">New Investigator Salary Award: 2014-2015</a>	TBD	TBD
<a href="#">New Investigator Salary Award: KRESCENT / CIHR New Investigator Award (2015)</a>	N/A	2015-02-15

<a href="#">Other: Environments, Genes and Chronic Disease</a>	N/A	2015-09-17
<a href="#">Other: ICRH Community Development Program Grants - Resuscitation Clinical Research</a>	2015-01-13	2015-04-01
<a href="#">Other: ICRH Community Development Program Grants - Sleep and Circadian Rhythms and Venous Thromboembolic Diseases Clinical Trials</a>	2014-11-18	2015-04-01
<a href="#">Other: Institute Community Support Grants and Awards (2014-2015)</a>	N/A	2015-02-28
<a href="#">Other: Planning and Dissemination Grants - Institute Community Support (Winter 2015 Competition)</a>	N/A	2015-02-17
<a href="#">Other: Rapid Funding for DSEN Targeted Research - 2014-2015</a>	N/A	2015-03-31
<a href="#">Other: SPOR Networks in Chronic Disease</a>	N/A	2015-10-15
<a href="#">Other: SPOR PIHCI Network: Management &amp; Operations Grant</a>	N/A	2015-04-01
<a href="#">Other: Science to Business (2015)</a>	N/A	2015-02-20
<a href="#">Other: Travel Awards - Institute Community Support (Winter 2015)</a>	N/A	2015-01-26
<b>Partnerships for Health System Improvement</b> <a href="#">News Feed</a>   		
<a href="#">Partnerships for Health System Improvement: 2014-2015</a>	TBD	TBD
<b>Proof of Principle</b> <a href="#">News Feed</a>   		
<a href="#">Proof of Principle: Phase I (Winter 2015 Competition)</a>	N/A	2015-02-17
<a href="#">Proof of Principle: Phase II (Winter 2015 Competition)</a>	N/A	2015-02-17
<b>Team Grant</b> <a href="#">News Feed</a>   		
<a href="#">Team Grant: DOHaD - Implications for Men, Women, Boys and Girls</a>	N/A	2015-04-13
<a href="#">Team Grant: E-Rare-3 Joint Transnational Call (2015)</a>	N/A	2015-02-17
<a href="#">Team Grant: Epigenomics of Complex Diseases</a>	N/A	2015-01-30
<a href="#">Team Grant: National Hepatitis C Collaborative Network</a>	N/A	2015-03-23
<a href="#">Team Grant: Pathways Implementation Research Team - Component 2</a>	N/A	2015-09-15
<a href="#">Team Grant: SU2C Canada Cancer Stem Cell Dream Team Research Funding</a>	N/A	2015-04-27
<b>Undergraduate</b> <a href="#">News Feed</a>   		
<a href="#">Undergraduate: CIHR Health Professional Student Research Award (2014-2015)</a>	2013-12-20	2015-02-02
<a href="#">Undergraduate: CIHR Health Professional Student Research Award (2015-2016)</a>	N/A	2016-02-01



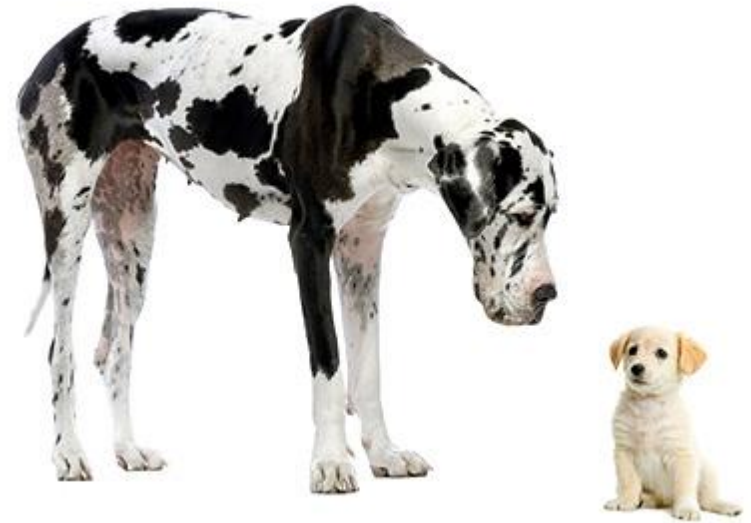
# To what competitions?

- CIHR (the top 'prize')
  - Open grants
  - Special competitions
  - (Foundation scheme)
- Other agencies/competitions
  - AI-HS
  - Disease foundations
  - Private foundations
  - Ministries/government
  - Local competitions & seed grants
  - Remember UofC bridge funding!!
  - Contract opportunities
- Team grants



# With what initiatives?

- Bigger grants
- And smaller grants
- Meeting grants
- Seed grants
- Project grants
- Program grants
- Team grants
- Partnership grants



# Career Award Applications

- Pursue them when you can
- Solidify your position
- CIHR (New Investigator and some Chairs)
- Canada Research Chairs
- Disease Foundations
- New Investigators within team grants
- Some other opportunities
- **Based on operating grants...**



# CIHR Foundation Scheme

- CIHR's new funding model
- Our IPR team learning +++
- Anxiety for many +++





**DOOM**

**GLOOM**



# IN THE DOOM AND GLOOM OPPORTUNITY LOOMS

JULIAN HALL

ULTRAPRENEURSAYINGS.COM



# CIHR Foundation Scheme

- CIHR's new funding model
- Our IPR team learning +++
- Anxiety for many +++
- Great opportunity...



# CIHR Foundation Scheme

- CIHR's new funding model
- Our IPR team learning +++
- Anxiety for many +++
- Great opportunity...for some





# CIHR Foundation Scheme

- CIHR's new funding model
- Our IPR team learning +++
- Anxiety for many +++
- Great opportunity...for some
- About **YOU** & your projects
- Leadership criteria (key factor)
- Training and partnerships
- (Somewhat enigmatic <5y)



# Your small business

- How big or small do you want it to be?
- What do you want to achieve?
- How much money is being spent each month?
- How much revenue do you need to sustain it?
- Need to account for some grant failures in timing
- Diversify income sources
- Can't let the tank get empty.

