

Update on the Berkeley Research Development Office (BRDO)

David Trinkle RAC Forum February 17, 2015



#### What We Do

The Berkeley Research Development Office was created to:

- Facilitate the development of large/complex and strategic proposals;
- Broadly increase research funding on campus;
- Decrease faculty burden in applying for funding.



#### Who We Are

Dave Trinkle, Director

Erica Whitney, Senior Research Development Analyst

Kim Baeten, Research Development Fellow

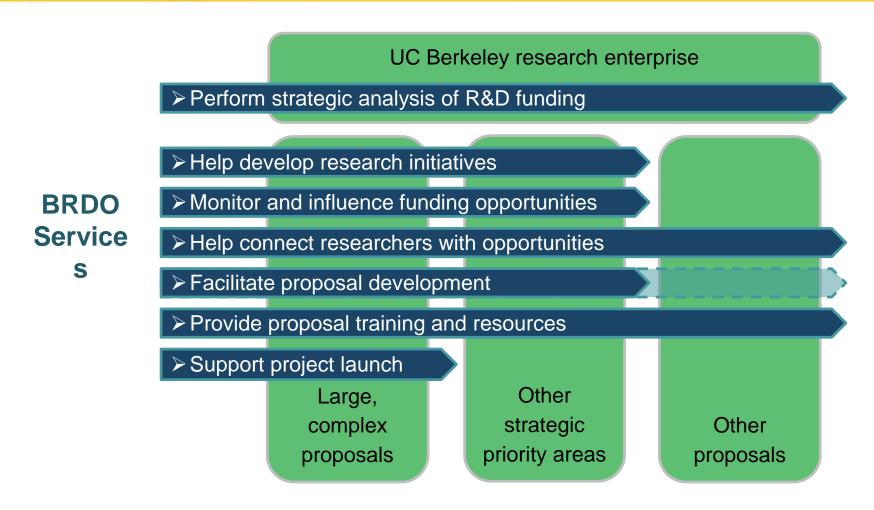
Barbara Ustanko, Research Development Analyst

Kate Spohr, Research Outreach Specialist

(Matt Andrews, Program Manager, Limited Submissions, Exceptional PI Requests)

Berkeley Research Development Office

# **BRDO Roles on Campus**



Berkeley Research Development Office **Primary Targets** 



# More specific roles

	Finding Funding	Proposal Support
Hands-on support for specific opportunities	<ul> <li>Clarify PI/group interests</li> <li>Consult on likely sponsors         (coordinate w/other offices)</li> <li>Search for funding opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Organize, contribute to, and edit proposals</li> </ul>
Longer-term, proactive support	<ul> <li>Gather intel. about sponsor needs and upcoming opportunities</li> <li>Anticipate recurring RFAs</li> <li>Influence sponsors</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Prepare group for future opportunities</li><li>Facilitate teams</li></ul>
Broad, campus- wide support	<ul> <li>Provide training and web- resources to assist use</li> <li>(Some listing of recent announcements?)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Train faculty and staff</li> <li>Provide written guides, etc.</li> <li>Develop infrastructure to facilitate research proposals</li> </ul>

Berkeley Research Development Office



#### **How BRDO** fits into the proposal process

- We avoid duplicating services of CSS or SPO.
- More of an optional service for the PI team:
  - Advise and help organize the proposal team;
  - Help interpret solicitation, agency guidelines, and reviewer comments;
  - Help with framing, editing, narrative flow, and overall consistency and polish;
  - Help conceptualize non-research aspects of the proposal (e.g., management plan, broader impacts);
  - Initial compliance checks to smooth process through CSS and SPO;
  - May help coordinate interactions with other offices.
  - Support site visits and reviews.



### **Recent BRDO-Assisted Proposals**

#### Recent proposals include:

- NSF: NSF Research Traineeship (NRT) program
- NSF: Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Site
- DOE/ARPA-E: Delivering Efficient Local Thermal Amenities (DELTA)
- NSF: All three approved Science and Technology Center (STC)
   Proposals
- NSF: All three approved Major Research Instrumentation (MRI)
   Proposals
- NASA (Sub to UCSC): NASA Academic Mission Services (NAMS)



# **Training and Proposal Writing Resources**

- Lead workshops, lectures, and other in-person training sessions.
- Provide tutorials for finding funding, writing proposals, and understanding agency review processes.
- Maintain templates for common grant sections.



# **Highlights of President's FY16 Budget**

- Administration priorities:
  - BRAIN Initiative (\$300M)
  - Low-carbon energy research
  - Advanced manufacturing
- +\$1B for NIH.
- Increases across NSF. New program: Innovations at the Nexus of Food, Energy, and Water Systems (INFEWS).
- Large increases for advanced computing at DOE.
- 40% increase for USDA's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative.
- Large increases for NOAA climate and ocean acidification research.
- New initiatives: antibiotic-resistant bacteria and precision medicine.



#### **BRDO Plans for the Future**

- Increasing research development roles:
  - Increase assistance monitoring funding opportunities
  - Continue to develop proposal-related resources, including broader impacts support
  - Provide more proposal-related training