

**ISBR Mentored Summer Grant Writing Program
for Research in the Social Sciences
Summer 2008**

For the past five years, ISBR has hosted a Mentored Summer Grant Writing Program. This program offers one month of summer salary for early-career researchers to expand skills in successful research grant writing or for mid-career researchers to further develop their grant writing and technical skills in one of the social sciences. The Mentored Summer Grant Writing Program is designed to build upon experiences from grant writing workshops, which ISU offers several times per year. Participants will be provided with individual mentoring as they proceed through the process of developing a grant proposal.

Participation in the ISBR 2008 Mentored Summer Grant Writing Program is open to ISU tenure-track faculty **in the Colleges of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Agriculture and Life Sciences, and Human Sciences** who: a) are eligible to serve as principal investigators; and b) wish to collaborate with researchers at ISBR. In addition, priority will be given to researchers who have previously completed a grant-writing workshop or, if mid-career, demonstrate excellent potential for successful grant writing. Funding is available to support one month of 2008 summer salary for one or two faculty members. Use of office space, a computer, and telephone at ISBR will be provided.

Participants are expected to complete a grant proposal during the summer of 2008, or by the end of the Fall 2008 semester. At least two faculty members with a successful history of external grant funding will provide consultation and detailed feedback on successive drafts as the proposal is developed. After submission, if the grant is not funded initially, mentoring will be provided throughout the revision process. It is expected that grant applications developed through this program will be submitted through ISBR. The individual's academic department and college will receive recognition if the application is funded. If the faculty member leaves Iowa State University, it is expected that the grant will remain at ISU, if possible administratively.

Priority will be given to faculty who have completed formal training in grant-writing skills, although **this is not a requirement**. Priority also will be given to faculty whose area of expertise is represented among current ISBR researchers or whose research area will extend current initiatives at ISBR. This includes, but is not limited to, topics in:

- Child and family dynamics, aging, mental health, delinquency, health psychology, close relationships, applications of social science theories to social problems, family demography, family economics, rural poverty, rural community development, and related topics.

Applications will be evaluated by a committee of scientists from ISBR. Evaluation criteria center on the probability that the project will lead to external funding. More specifically, evaluation criteria include the significance, innovation, and methodological rigor of the proposed project and the quality of the applicant's research record to date (considering the applicant's rank and seniority). Applicants will be asked to submit a

description of the project they would like to develop during the summer and a current vita.

Applications are due April 30, 2008. All social science faculty in the Colleges of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Human Sciences are eligible. Applications should be sent to:

Prof. Carolyn Cutrona, Director
Institute for Social and Behavioral Research
2625 N. Loop Dr., Suite 500
Ames, IA 50010.

Applicants will be notified of the outcome of the ISBR review process by May 5, 2008.

Project descriptions may be no longer than 5 pages (double-spaced) and should include the following sections:

- Specific Aims (specific research questions or hypotheses to be tested)
- Project Justification (selected background literature)
- Research Methods (procedures that will be used to address the research questions)
- Submission Plan (agency, and, if relevant, institute to which the grant will be submitted, with funding mechanism, e.g., small grant, B/START)
- Program of Research (future research directions and potential for continued external funding).

For more information, contact Prof. Cutrona at 294-6784 or at ccutrona@iastate.edu.