Slippery Rock University

Office of Grants, Research and Sponsored Programs



TABLE OF CONTENTS

| Congratulations!!! | 3 |
|---|-----|
| Staying in Good Standing | 3 |
| Award Notification and Accessing your Funds | 4 |
| Hiring Student Workers | 5 |
| Technology and Software | .11 |
| End of Project | .11 |
| Why Internal Funding is Important | .12 |

I. Congratulations!!!!

Congratulations on being awarded an internal grant!!! After the initial excitement of the award notification, (and office happy dances are complete) your next thought might be, "What now?"

So how do you make sure that you are in compliance and doing everything the correct way to not only make sure that you keep the funding to pay for the things that you need to do, but also to ensure that you develop a strong program that will be funded again? What you do after you are awarded a grant is incredibly important. The planning and organization you do right away is the difference between an easy grant management process vs. one that is stressful and chaotic. Effective grant management processes include the achievement of goals, efficient budgeting, timely reporting and positive communication with the Grants Office. This document is to help you organize and plan for the life of your funded grant and how-to's once you are funded!

II. Staying in Good Standing

- Record report dates on your calendar and make sure you don't lose track of them! Missing a deadline can severely damage your record with internal funding and also becoming ineligible for future internal grant programs.
- Take the time to re-review the Request for Proposals and award notification in detail. Don't take guidelines for granted, read them carefully and then read them again!!! Requirements for your grant are in the Request for Proposals and award notifications that will come via email. If you are following a grant's specifications closely, you should have a strong understanding of what's expected of you, especially if there are periodic milestones you need to hit throughout a grant's duration. Further, you will be in a better position to address unexpected events that may arise that could adjust or delay the deliverable timeline schedule. Sometimes that is unavoidable, and should it happen, communicate with the Grants Office.
- Make a point to read and file every grant-related correspondence so you can refer to it when needed. If you cannot find the information you need, create a list of specific questions you need the Grants Office to address via phone or email.
- Manage issues proactively. Even the best developed project plans can be significantly altered due to leadership or staff turnover, and variations during implementation, among many other factors. Communicate with the Grants Office to address any changes that impacts how you will spend the grant funding prior to implementing those changes. You will also need to contact the Grants Office if a student that was named on the grant has left the project and you need to rename a student to their place.
- Approach internal grants as you would external grants.

III. Award Notification and Accessing your Funds

Funding notifications will come to you, via email, from the Grants Office.

- When you are notified of being awarded, you will receive a Notice of Award document. This document will need to be signed showing that you have reviewed the terms and conditions of the funding and agree to them and then send the signed form back to the Grants Office.
- If your research involves human participants, you will need to submit a protocol to the IRB for review and approval. If your research involves animals, you will need to submit a protocol to the IACUC for review and approval. Projects involving hazardous materials must be approved by the Office of Environmental Health and Safety. Approvals do not have to be obtained prior to the submission of the protocol; however, funds will not be released until approval from the appropriate committee has been obtained. When you receive the approval letter from the appropriate committee, please email the letter(s) to the Grants Office Director, Casey Hyatt, via email.
- When the above documents are received by the Grants Office, paperwork will be sent to Grants Accounting to establish a cost center number specifically for your project. All supplies, wages, travel, etc., will be charged to this specific account.
- Grants Accounting will then send you an email with your cost center number to use for grantrelated expenses.
- When making purchases for your grant in Ariba SourcePoint please make sure to use the cost center number received for your grant from accounting. If your grant information includes a Funds Reservation be sure to enter that information in order for your purchase to be approved. In addition, please ensure that purchases are made using the accounts outlined in your budget submission.
- If you need to be reimbursed for any expenses please use the Direct Payment Form that can be found on the SRU website (<u>https://www.sru.edu/offices/accounting-services/accounts-payable</u>). All of the usual signatures must be obtained before sending your form to accounting for final approval before Accounts Payable processes your request.
- Please note that internal grant expenses must comply with Public Funds Policy. For example, if you are purchasing gift cards they cannot exceed \$25 each. You can access the Public Funds Policy on the SRU website at https://www.sru.edu/offices/accounting-services/accounts-payable.

IV. Hiring Student Workers

If a student has already been selected to work on a grant project, you do not need to post the job on handshake.

If a student has not been selected and you need to search for a student to work on your grant project, you must:

1.) Create position in Handshake. You will need a Handshake account, or ask your clerical person to post the job.

| | s://app.joinhand | shake.con | n/employer | registre | ations/ | new | |
|---|---|---|--|-----------|---------|-----|--|
| | plete the sign up | | | | | | |
| | haracter passwa | | ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, | | | | |
| | | ra | | | | | |
| 3.) Clic | k "Sign up" | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| i Handshake | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | Sign up on or | Employ | | | | | |
| | Sign up as an | Employe | ÷1 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | Email Address (us | e your work e | əmail) | | | | |
| | amanda.nichols | Øsru.edu | | | | | |
| | Password | | Confirm Passwo | rd | | | |
| | | | ••••• | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | Sign Up | | | | | | |
| | r Work Title and W | | | | | | |
| 5.) Select f | r Work Title and W ields that closely rep | present the | | in | | | |
| 5.) Select f | r Work Title and W | present the | | in | | | |
| 5.) Select f 6.) Click "N | r Work Title and W ields that closely rep | present the | | in Log In | | | |
| 5.) Select f | r Work Title and W ields that closely rep | present the | | | | | |
| 5.) Select f 6.) Click "N | r Work Title and W ields that closely rej ext: Employer Guide | present the clines" | | | | | |
| 5.) Select f 6.) Click "N I handshake | r Work Title and W ields that closely re ext: Employer Guida ake | present the slines" | area you work | Log in | | | |
| 5.) Select f 6.) Click "N I handshake Welcome to Handsh Before continuing, we nee Tel us the types of students | r Work Title and W ields that closely rej ext: Employer Guida ake d a bit more info you with to recruit | present the slines" | Rich, Validated Data | Log in | | | |
| 5.) Select f 6.) Click "N i handshake Welcome to Handsh Before continuing, we nee Tel us the types of students | r Work Title and W fields that closely rej ext: Employer Guida ake d a bit more into you with to recruit articulture | Present the clines" | area you work | Log in | | | |
| 5.) Select f 6.) Click "N i handshake Welcome to Handsh Before continuing, we nee Tel usthe types of students Agriculture, Poot & H Agriculture, Poot & H Agriculture, Poot & H Griss Busings, Chickgerows | r Work Title and W fields that closely rej ext: Employer Guida ake d a bit more into you with to recruit articulture | Find the | area you work | Log In | | | |
| 5.) Select f 6.) Click "N i handshake Welcome to Handsh Before continuing, we nee Tel us the types of students Agriculture, Pool & H Artis Design Susness, Entreperens Georgenizations Communications | r Work Title and W fields that closely rep ext: Employer Guide ake d a bit more into you with to recruit tracticulture inship & Human Resources | Find the | Rich, Validated Data student profiles Student profiles | Log In | | | |
| 5.) Select f 6.) Click "N i handshake Welcome to Handsh Before continuing, we nee Tel us the types of students Aris Design Suprachare, Poot 8 H Chica & Government Chica & Government Chica & Government | r Work Title and W fields that closely rep ext: Employer Guide ake d a bit more into you with to recruit tracticulture inship & Human Resources | Find ther Find ther Control of the Control | Rich, Validated Data student profiles Student profiles | Log In | | | |
| 5.) Select f 6.) Click "N i handshake Welcome to Handsh Before continuing, we nee Tel us the types of students Artis Design Usics & Government Computer Science, Ing Tel us for examinations Computer Science, Ing For the types | r Work Title and W fields that closely rep ext: Employer Guide ake d a bit more into you with to recruit tracticulture inship & Human Resources | Find the r | area you work Annuly two an account? Rich, Validated Data ight fit across 8.5 million student profiles Dk statistics students Dk marketing students Dk cyber security stude | Log In | | | |
| 5.) Select f 6.) Click "N i handshake Welcome to Handsh Before continuing, we nee Tel us the types of dudents Out the types of dudents Out a Scorerment Communications Communications Communications Communications Communications Communications Communications Communications Communications Communications Contravioura Stance, In Technology Communications | r Work Title and W fields that closely reg ext: Employer Guide ake d & bit more info you wish to recruit articuture trange & Human Resources tormation Systems & | Find the r | Rich, Validated Data sight fixers at accurate student profiles Dk statistics students Dk marketing students Dk cyber security students Ok sales students | Log In | | | |
| 5.) Select f 6.) Click "N i handshake Welcome to Handsh Betere continuing, we nee Tel ustre type of dudents Description of the selection Business, Entegenere Communications Communic | r Work Title and W fields that closely reg ext: Employer Guide ake d a bit more info you wish to recruit writeuture inship & Human Resources tormation Systems & | Find the r | area you work Annuly two an account? Rich, Validated Data ight fit across 8.5 million student profiles Dk statistics students Dk marketing students Dk cyber security stude | Log In | | | |
| 5.) Select f 6.) Click "N i handshake Welcome to Handsh Before continuing, we nee Tel us the types of dudents Out the types of dudents Out a Scorerment Communications Communications Communications Communications Communications Communications Communications Communications Communications Communications Contravioura Stance, In Technology Communications | r Work Title and W fields that closely reg ext: Employer Guide ake d a bit more info you wish to recruit writeuture inship & Human Resources tormation Systems & | Find the r | Rich, Validated Data sight fixers at accurate student profiles Dk statistics students Dk marketing students Dk cyber security students Ok sales students | Log In | | | |
| 5.) Select f 6.) Click "N i handshake Welcome to Handsh Before continuing, we nee Tel us the types of students Agriculture, Pool & H Agriculture, Pool & H Agriculture, Pool & H Grift Students Communications Communica | r Work Title and W fields that closely reg ext: Employer Guide ake d & bit more info you wish to recruit articuture inship & Human Resources britteuture inship & Human Resources britteuture inship & Human Resources britteuture inship & To recruit articuture inship & Human Resources britteuture inship & Hum | Find the r | Rich, Validated Data sight fixers at accurate student profiles Dk statistics students Dk marketing students Dk cyber security students Ok sales students | Log In | | | |

a. Instructions on how to create an employer account

| | | al an E. Strummer en en de la califi |
|--|--|---|
| | Handshaka Em | ployer Guidelines |
| Millions of students p | slace their trust in Handshake and the compan | ployer Guidelines ies on our platform. To maintain that trust, all employers on Handshake delines, in addition to our Terms of Service: |
| | ate and Trustworthy: Tell the truth about | Keep Your Commitments: When you make a |
| your comp | bany, your team and the jobs available. | commitment to e school or student, keep it. If you can't work to provide a fair and equitable path for affected students. |
| national or | o not discriminate based on ethnicity, rigin, religion", age, gender, sexual n. disability or military/veteran status or lack | Keep Student Info Confidential: Guard student information as if it were your own. Do not disclose any personal information without the prior consent of a student. |
| In addition, mo | st career service centers require employers to | abide by the full NACE Principles for Employment Professionals. |
| | Are you a 3rd party recruiter working on beha | if of another company? Yes No |
| Marwith EEOC's Title VX (h religious (r.e. a nonocry) | t to your jobs and on compute activities. In does not apply to initiations whose purpose and ch | |
| Hered EDC's Tale VII in refigure (se a context)) | ik does not apply to institutions whose purpose and of | Next: Confirm Email |
| Marwith EEOC's Title VX (h religious (r.e. a nonocry) | ik does not apply to institutions whose purpose and of | rm Handshake account |
| Hered EDC's Tale VII in refigure (se a context)) | into your email to confi into your email to confi www.une une une une une une une une une une | Read: Confirm Email |
| Hered EDC's Tale VII in refigure (se a context)) | into your email to confi into your email to confi unto your email to confi unto your email to confi unto your email to confi unto your email to your unto your email to your the Understanding of find, you an email for you up you and you contained up you you the your to your the you | rm Handshake account |
| Hered EDC's Tale VII in refigure (se a context)) | in to your email to confi into your email to confi ure un ure un ure un ure un ure ure dup for | Next: Confirm Email |
| Maryoth EEOC's Taile Vit th religious (vie. a connecty) 8.) Sign holdhole | in to your email to confi into your email to confi | Next: Confirm Email |
| Mar unit A ECC's Tails VII s' religious (i.e. a construct)) 8.) Sign notificate Const You've successfully signs Const You've successfully signs We set you've successfully signs | in to your email to confi into your email to confi | Next: Confirm Enail |
| Mar unit A ECC's Tails VII s' religious (i.e. a construct)) 8.) Sign notificate Const You've successfully signs Const You've successfully signs We set you've successfully signs | in to your email to confi into your email to confi | Next: Confirm Enail anacter are primarily Tem Handshake account Neddde-say Cutinger calabies situation Value Fam balair handa yanai ales primi Enail |
| Marwooth EEDC's Table Vite the religious give a connectivity 8.) Sign whitede Const You've successfully signs Konditable. | in to your email to confi into your email to confi | Next: Confirm Enail |

| 5 | 9.) After confirmation, you will be directed to the screen belo 10.) Enter your SRU email under "Employers & Career Cente | |
|---|--|----|
| | click "Next" <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> <i>Signing</i> | |
| | | De |
| | | |
| 4 | 11) Enten the partwood you created Click "Sign To" | |

| 6 11.) Enter the password you created, Click "Sign In" | õign In" |
|--|---|
| with block life to a public A public block life to a public to a pub | Marica Rease enter your password to sign in |



12.) Request "Slippery Rock University" 13.) Click "Next: Connect to Schools" 🖬 handshake Marica -Step 3 of 4 - Join Company Next: Connect to Schools You've selected Slippery Rock University Greatl It looks like your company is already in Handshake. Are you a part of a division within this company? No problem. First join this company, and then you'll be able to set up your division Requested within it. PAYROLL Slippery Rock University On-Campus Student Employment at Slippery Rock University Not your company? Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania, United States | https://www.sru.edu/offices/payroll The email domain you used to sign up with (@sru.edu) has already been taken. Please contact us for additional help. Unable to join? 8 14.) Click "Next: Finish" do not connect to any schools; you will already be connected to SRU 15.) An email confirmation will be received when your account is approved; accounts will be approved at 10am and 3pm M-F Hondshele handshake leis Marca Thank You for Signing up for Handshake! Your Current Status Pending approval at Signery Rock Univ Pending canteschara with Dischola Step 4 of 4 - Connect with Schools 0.5choolssalactad Net: Frid Filter Schools by Stowing 80 results Medalle College Region . 0 Adally Butsic, New York - 275P-students Molest White You Well Vorteet Arizona State University a 🖌 Suite

2.) Once the student is hired, you will need to follow the "How to hire a student" instructions:

STUDENT HIRING PROCESS for Faculty and Staff

NEW HIRES ARE NOW BY APPOINTMENT IN PERSON

Student Payroll forms and information: http://www.sru.edu/offices/payroll/student-employees

- Post your position in Handshake, select your new student employee then follow the Payroll hiring instructions below.
- 2. Check eTime to see if the student already worked in your department:
 - a. logon to eTime,
 - b. click your department
 - c. choose "Timesheets" tab
 - d. check the dropdown list of student employees. If the student is listed there, no additional forms are necessary.
- Check eTime to see if the student already works on campus but <u>not</u> in your department:
 - a. Logon to eTime
 - b. click on your department
 - c. choose the "Reports" tab
 - d. choose "Active Students" report. This search works by last name only. If the student is listed, fax 4463 or email payroll@sru.edu an "Add Active Student Worker" Form, we will add the student to your department.

4. If the student's name is not in eTime: (New Hire/No eTime Account)

- a. The supervisor emails a New Hire Form to <u>payroll@sru.edu</u> or fax to 4463 **Do not send the student to Payroll, we will email the student the New Hire packet.**
- b. Once we receive the new hire form, we will confirm the student applied thru Handshake.
 <u>Payroll will then email the new student employee the following:</u> Instructions, the Payroll Packet, the clearance application information, and a <u>link to make</u> <u>an appointment</u>. At the appointment we will collect the completed packet, check ID, and take fingerprints.
- c. When the student completes this process, Payroll will email to let you know the student is now eligible to work.

BEFORE WORK BEGINS ALL NEW STUDENT EMLOYEES MUST COMPLETE THE HIRING PROCESS OUTLINED IN STEP 4.

STUDENT HIRING PROCESS (continued)

Student Payroll forms and information: http://www.sru.edu/offices/payroll/student-employees

eTimekeeper DEADLINES:

- Approve student hours by noon the Monday following payday
- Students must enter hours by midnight on payday
- Students can sign hours by noon the Monday following payday

Approve hours at any time; they do not need to be signed to be approved.

Unapproved and/or unsigned hours DO NOT PAY. The deadline for approving is <u>critical</u> for this process. Deadline for approval is noon the Monday following payday.

Virtual Departments: If you have a large list of students the Primary Timekeeper can create "Virtual Departments" to create smaller lists of students for secondary Timekeepers.

Primary timekeepers can add secondary timekeepers on the "TimeKeepers" tab if the staff person already has the correct roles. If you need to add a new staff or faculty employee please contact payroll@sru.edu.

To assist your students, this is a partial list of required ID options, a complete list is in the Payroll Packet. The items in list A and C prove citizenship.

LISTS OF ACCEPTABLE DOCUMENTS All documents must be UNEXPIRED

| Choose 1 Item from List A | | '0 | R** | Choose 1 Item from List B AND 1 Item from List C | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|----|-----|---|----|---|--|--|
| | LIST A | | | LIST B | | LIST C | | |
| | Documents that Establish Both Identity and Employment Authorization | OR | 2 | Documents that Establish Identity | ٩D | Documents that Establish Employment Authorization | | |
| 1. | U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport Card | | 1. | Driver's license or ID card issued by a | 1. | A Social Security Account Number | | |
| 2. | Permanent Resident Card or Alien Registration Receipt Card (Form I-55 | | | State or outlying possession of the United States provided it contains a | | card, unless the card includes one of the following restrictions: | | |
| | Registration Receipt Card (Point P351) | | | photograph or information such as name, date of birth, gender, height, eye | | (1) NOT VALID FOR EMPLOYMENT | | |
| | Foreign passport that contains a temporary I-551 stamp or temporary | | L | color, and address | | (2) VALID FOR WORK ONLY WITH INS AUTHORIZATION | | |
| | I-551 printed notation on a machine- readable immigrant visa | | 2. | ID card issued by federal, state or local government agencies or entities, provided it contains a photograph or | | (3) VALID FOR WORK ONLY WITH DHS AUTHORIZATION | | |
| 4. | Employment Authorization Document that contains a photograph (Form I-766) | | L | information such as name, date of birth, gender, height, eye color, and address | 2. | Certification of Birth Abroad issued by the Department of State (Form FS-545) | | |
| 5. | For a nonimmigrant alien authorized | | 3. | School ID card with a photograph | 3. | Certification of Report of Birth | | |
| | to work for a specific employer because of his or her status: | | 4. | Voter's registration card | | issued by the Department of State (Form DS-1350) | | |

V. Technology and Software Purchased From Internal Grant Funds

The IATS Office must be consulted if requesting any type of software for compatibility, and to ensure the software (or similar) is not already available. A quote <u>issued by IATS</u> should have been attached to the proposal for any requests for software or hardware.

VI. Extension Requests

If you find that you will not be finished with your research or the spending of your funds, make sure to complete the Internal No-Cost Extension Form, found on the Grants Office webpage, at least 30 days in advance to the stated project end date on the grant proposal. You will be required to describe the results of the activities (listed in your original grant application) that have not been achieved in the expected timeframe; how any activities or the desired results changed or if you just need more time to achieve the original results; what your plans are to complete the activities and achieve the results; what the timeframe is in which you plan to complete the activities or achieve the results; and how much of the original grant funds have not been spent.

VII. End of Project

Within thirty days of the stated project end date, a final report must be submitted by the faculty member. If a student(s) worked on the project (must be named in grant proposal), they must complete a student researcher final report. The Grants Office will send email reminders pertaining to the end of your project, with the final report forms attached, at least thirty days prior to the stated project end date.

You must track your expenses on the grant and report the funds that were spent, in each category. That will then be reconciled with Grants Accounting. If the budget does not match what is stated in the system, you will be contacted in order to reconcile.

SRU Symposium

Most of our internal grants require a submission of an abstract to present the project at the SRU Symposium for Student Research, Scholarship and Creative Achievement.

VIII. Why Internal Funding is Important

Internal funding offers the stepping-stones that are needed to get projects going and build momentum. These kind of grants are invaluable. Make the absolute most of internal funding and the opportunities it can afford you, and plan to apply for external funds regularly. This kind of funding offers a chance to pilot your project to gain the knowledge needed for a larger scale project prior to apply to an external sponsor. Being able to conduct a pilot project means several important things: testing out hypotheses and critical frameworks, and giving insight into the feasibility and scope of certain kinds of work. All of these elements lead to stronger external proposals. So again, CONGRATULATIONS!!!!!!