PUTTING ONE FOOT IN FRONT OF THE OTHER... Building a Research Program
The most common first question – *How do I write a great proposal?*

The approach Sally described has made a huge, huge difference, many, many times.
Additional Thoughts:

Volunteer to review proposals / serve on panels. Why?

Don’t you hate it when students turn in work that does not match the assignment and grading rubric?
Additional Thoughts:

Consider linking research to teaching / “broader impacts” and vice versa.

Even if it is not required, it can be a significant competitive advantage and is often helpful for T&P.
Lesson 1: It’s not about what you think is most important

things you’d love to do

things important for T&P

things they want to fund
Investigate a range of funding sources for THIS: the ‘sweet’ spot
Lesson 2: walk, jog, run

1991 Murray Center $5,000
1994 ARP $20,000
1996 SSHRC $86,000
1999 Sloan Foundation $399,000
2000 DoD $8.3m

Over-achieve on the initial small grants to show funders you provide great return on investment!
Lesson 3: Maximize Your Odds

- **Submit multiple proposals to multiple sources per year**
  - Frequent, high quality shots on goal
  - Shoot at several goals and always look for new goals that pop up
  - Revise & resubmit, revise & resubmit
  - Join / make teams for some proposals
Lesson 4: Build Teams
why interdisciplinary teams?
( semantics - they are usually transdisciplinary )

- How many grand challenges can be solved using only one discipline? The previous generation did all of the easy stuff within the discipline, the new frontier is …
- Most funding agencies have increasingly focused $ on interdisciplinary teams
- It’s fun and productive to bring new methods and perspectives to your work through collaborators
- It opens up new funding sources and new areas for your interests and talent that would not be possible on your own

*But don’t you have to be sole PI for T&P?*
Don’t just say it, do it …

My co-authors and co-PIs have included:

- Psychiatry
- Health and Kinesiology
- Sociology
- Management
- Epidemiology
- Adolescent Development
- Social Work
- Nutrition

Relationships can take years to build. Usually, I know someone for at least two years before we collaborate. USE CONFERENCES STRATEGICALLY.
You are starting a wonderful adventure!

ENJOY IT!!!
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