

What Grant Funders Desire

Deborah K. Nakagawa

University of Hawai'i Community Colleges
International Education Director
Executive Assistant to Vice President for Community Colleges



Hawai'i Library Association Annual Conference

December 5-6, 2014

Honda International Opportunities Fund Grant



Original: Study Abroad Scholarships

- \$2,000 - \$8,000

New: Broaden Reach



- Piloted funding for international activities
- Up to \$5,000 per Community College campus
- Achieved success with heartwarming results

Brainstorming innovative ideas to expand international awareness

Successful Grant Components



Summary/Abstract

- 1-2 pages
- Outlines essential content and components of entire proposal

Statement of Need

- Background info of specific issue to be addressed
- Define in quantifiable terms (statistics and data)



3

Successful Grant Components



Goals and Objectives

- Goal
 - ❖ Long-term, broad, global statement
 - ❖ Dream with a deadline
- Objective
 - ❖ Specific, measurable steps to achieve goal



4

Successful Grant Components



- **Project Design**
 - Describes actual methods and day-to-day activities
 - Timeline
 - Management and staffing needs
 - Evidence of planning



5

Successful Grant Components



- **Organization Capacity**
 - Previous successful accomplishments
 - Staff qualifications
 - Financial capacity
- **Budget and Budget Narrative**
 - Summary of needed expenditures
 - Clear justification for each budget line item




6

Successful Grant Components



● Evaluation and Accountability

- Determine if project was a success or not
- Identify strengths and weaknesses

● Sustainability

- Plans and ability to continue project
- Demonstrates commitment to a project



7

Tips and Tricks for Success



● Clues and Calamities

- Put yourself in funders' slippers
- Write for person who has no clue who you are and what you do
- Understand guidelines thoroughly
- Explain – Do not DECLARE
- Keep charts, tables, and diagrams clear and simple



8

Tips and Tricks for Success

Clues and Calamities (cont.)

- Avoid jargon and A.C.R.O.N.Y.M.S.
- Establish timetable and checklist
- Be innovative, be passionate, be realistic, be specific
- Show return on investment
- Write positively – negativism hurts you



9

Tips and Tricks for Success



Clues and Calamities (cont.)

- Complete all forms
- Check grammar, spelling
- Follow format rules: font size/type, paper size, spacing, margins
- Is it truly doable?




10

Tips and Tricks for Success

One Last Look

- Read proposal aloud
- Ask someone to review proposal
- Double check your math
- Triple check your attachments
- Quadruple check your checklist



11

Equation for Success

S SPECIFIC

M MEASURABLE

A ACTION-ORIENTED

R REALISTIC

T TIME-BOUND



WHO?

WHAT?

WHERE?

WHEN?

WHY?

HOW?









12

Now you know...

What Grant Funders Desire

Pōmaika'i (Good Luck)



Deborah K. Nakagawa
debn@hawaii.edu