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Particularly for young scholars, but even for highly experienced senior researchers, planning, constructing, submitting, and revising a grant proposal is a difficult process with many uncertainties, whether the goal is a fellowship for pre or post doctoral research, a dissertation grant, or a small or a large research grant. Funding organizations provide helpful information on the more formal aspects of the grant submission process and a wealth of handbooks and guides describe the mechanics of constructing and writing the grant proposal. However, many of the questions scholars face in writing a grant proposal are less about the procedure per se, and more about the science and about the research culture as all come together in structuring and composing a successful proposal.

For many scientists, it is not clear how to begin to think about crafting an innovative proposal whose scope meets the demand for transformative (NSF) or translational (NIH) research. When and how should they incorporate a clinical perspective and must the proposal include the use of neuroscience methods? Can a basic research program succeed on its own or must one collaborate with clinicians? If one does behavioral research and has not gone the neuroscience route, is the outcome doomed in the review process? More generally, how essential is converging evidence from more than one methodology? For junior scholars, many of these questions are linked to the general issue of transitioning from advisor-directed to independent research.

These questions will be addressed by a panel of six participants (junior and senior scholars serving in academic and administrative positions) in a series of three meetings hosted by Women in Cognitive Science (WICS). Meetings will take place at the Psychonomic Society, the Cognitive Science Society (CSS) and the Association for Psychological Science (APS). In the past, meetings whose timing is coordinated with the Psychonomic Society have provided a public forum at which WICS has implemented a speaker-panellist format to initiate discussion about best practices for the professional advancement of women at the individual and at the institutional level; discussion that ultimately provides a model as it spreads to the home institutions with which individuals are affiliated. To meet its general goal of advancement of women, WICS will extend its outreach by also partnering with APS and the Cognitive Science Society. The annual meetings of these three societies take place at different times of the year and in different locations that draw a diverse range of cognitive scientists.

Intellectual Merit. All scholars are expected to submit grants and successful grant applications are crucial to sustain a career in science. By focusing information about grants in the domain of cognitive science and addressing issues of particular relevance to junior scholars who are embarking on their scholarly careers in a period of interdisciplinary science, the proposed initiative not only fosters professional development but also models how local discussion about best practices can spread to the home institutions with which individuals are affiliated.

The **Broader Impact** of this proposal arises from the interweaving of science and research culture that will enhance the success of all researchers but especially female researchers who continue to be underrepresented in senior academic positions in the cognitive sciences.