

DEMYSTIFYING (HUMANISTIC) RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT

Grant-Writing & Research Development Institute

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OVERVIEW

- This session will focus on developing a research project, unpacking and exploring your approach to research, and exploring research development as a professional career
- Some broad questions we will explore are:
 - What is research project development?
 - How do you define research?
 - How do you start developing a research project (of any scale)?
 - What methods and strategies can you use to develop your research in ways that you can easily communicate to various audiences?
 - What is Research Development as part of the research support/administration infrastructure in universities?

TERMINOLOGY

- Research development refers to how you, as a researcher, approach developing your research project(s)
- Research as the process of creating scholarly knowledge
- Dissertation, articles, podcasts as products of that research and how scholarly knowledge is disseminated

“RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT”

- Research Development is a specific professional role in the university that is part of the research support and administration infrastructure
- According to the [National Organization of Research Development Professionals](#), Research Development activities include
 - Strategic research advancement, such as:
 - Collaborate with institutional leadership to identify areas of institutional research priorities
 - Serve as institutional representatives to the university community and external visitors
 - Manage or contribute to internal funding competitions and decisions
 - Provide information and analysis to support formal partnerships with external entities
 - Network and serve as liaison with institutional federal relations
 - Communicate research and research opportunities (e.g., hum-grads announcements, at workshops, etc.)
 - Enhance collaboration (e.g., Building Intellectual Community grants)
 - Help faculty and graduate students develop research project plans and proposals for the purpose of external funding applications (1-1 consultations)

1. DEVELOPING A

RESEARCH PROJECT

DEFINING

RESEARCH

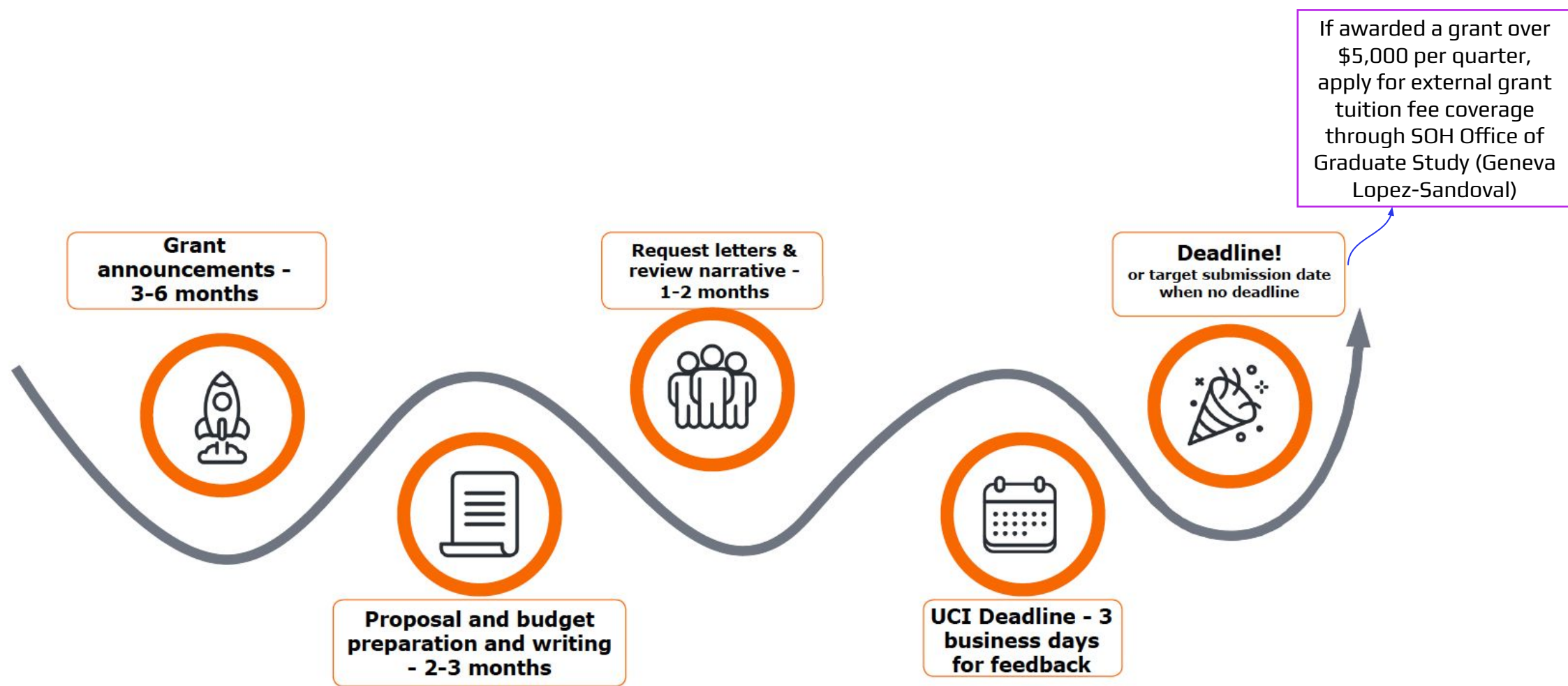
- Different definitions w/in disciplines
- Data collection
- Prelim questions
- Dora the Explorer – objects and exploration; orienting theories
- Time with object/subject
- “Thinking”
- Networking – using people as resource in your own thinking/research
- Risk taking, discovery/revelation, caring
- Space
- Methodologies
- Materials -> methods
- Acquisition – language and data
- Product
- Discovery

HOW DO YOU DEVELOP YOUR RESEARCH?

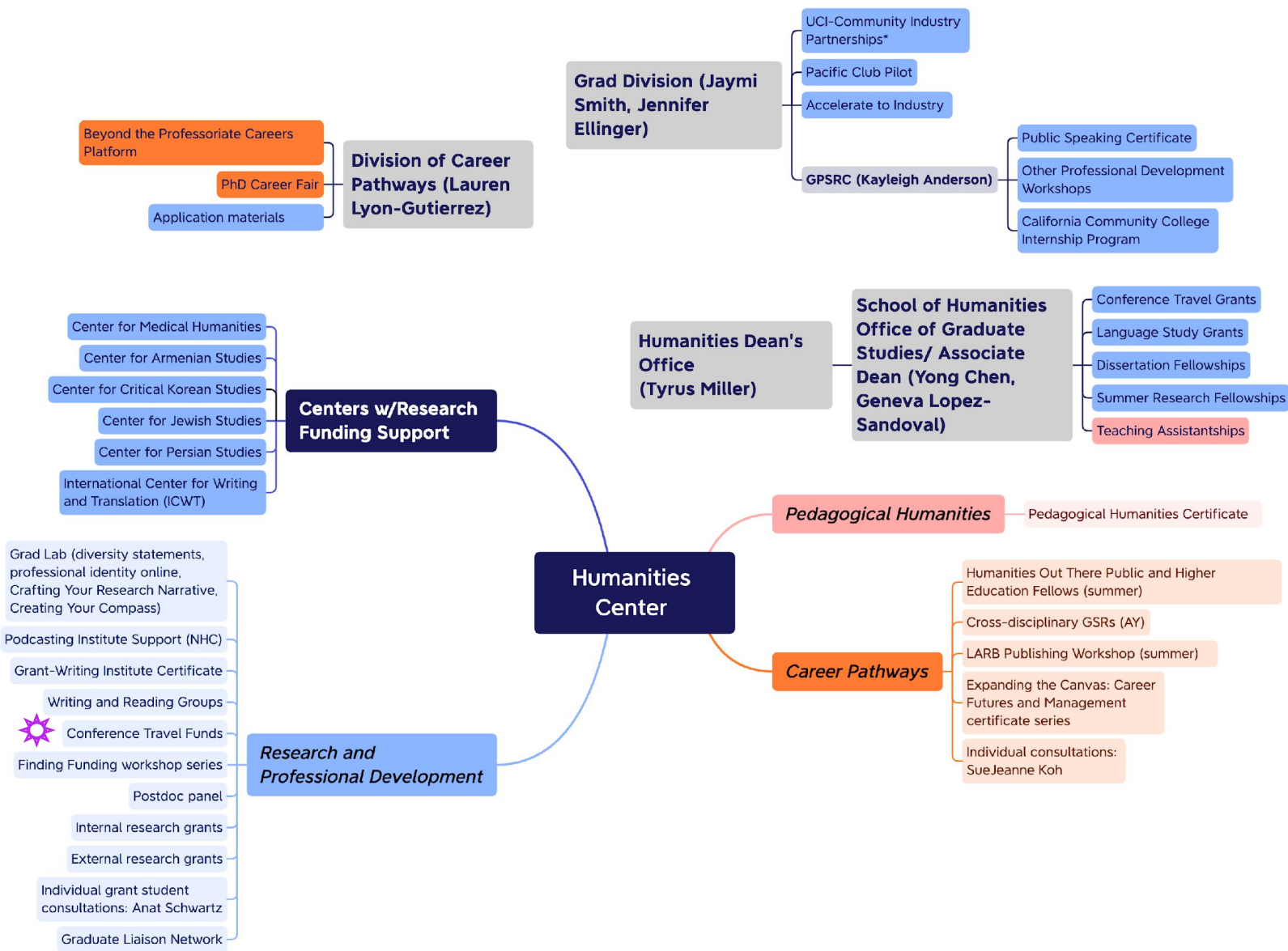
- Dissertation:
 - During coursework/Pre-ABD – preliminary research questions (broad and general)
 - During exams – exploratory (primarily aimed at anticipating committee's questions and answering them to pass)
 - Post-ABD – what does this look like to *you*? Archival research? Human subject/ethnographic/oral history interviews?
- Public-facing research
 - Podcasts, nonprofit and volunteer opportunities, etc.
- Articles
 - May include dissertation excerpts, secondary projects, etc.
- Creative forms of research
 - Poetry, chapbooks, art installations, translations, etc.

HOW DO YOU DEVELOP A PROJECT?

- Brainstorm!



Grant Application Workflow



WHERE CAN I FIND RESEARCH SUPPORT?

- Faculty mentors (in your department, other departments and schools at UCI, and external institutions)
- Peers! Create your own research and writing cohort(s)
- [Graduate & Postdoctoral Scholar Research Center](#) (GPSRC) – career advising & writing appointments
- How can I (and the Humanities Center) support your research?
 - Create a timeline of funding goals and priorities across your career trajectory
 - Identify internal and/or external funding opportunities around a project or idea
 - Brainstorm how to best present a project or idea to a particular funder
 - Provide advice and feedback related to specific funders and project ideas
 - Review and edit proposals
 - Connect you with previous grantees
 - Coordinate additional reviews and feedback
 - Convene groups for interdisciplinary proposals and research clusters
 - Guide you to funding resources available through UCI at the SOH and Grad Division
 - Listen to your ideas for strengthening humanities work on campus

THINKING AHEAD



- You've thought through your research projects, conceptualizing project and developing a research project, and, between yesterday and today, read successful grant proposals by faculty and grad students
- Think about what you read and what we've talked about conceptually:
 - What can you say that you saw in those proposals in how they describe their research
 - How did they articulate their goals and objectives?
 - How did they approach their project plans/workplans?

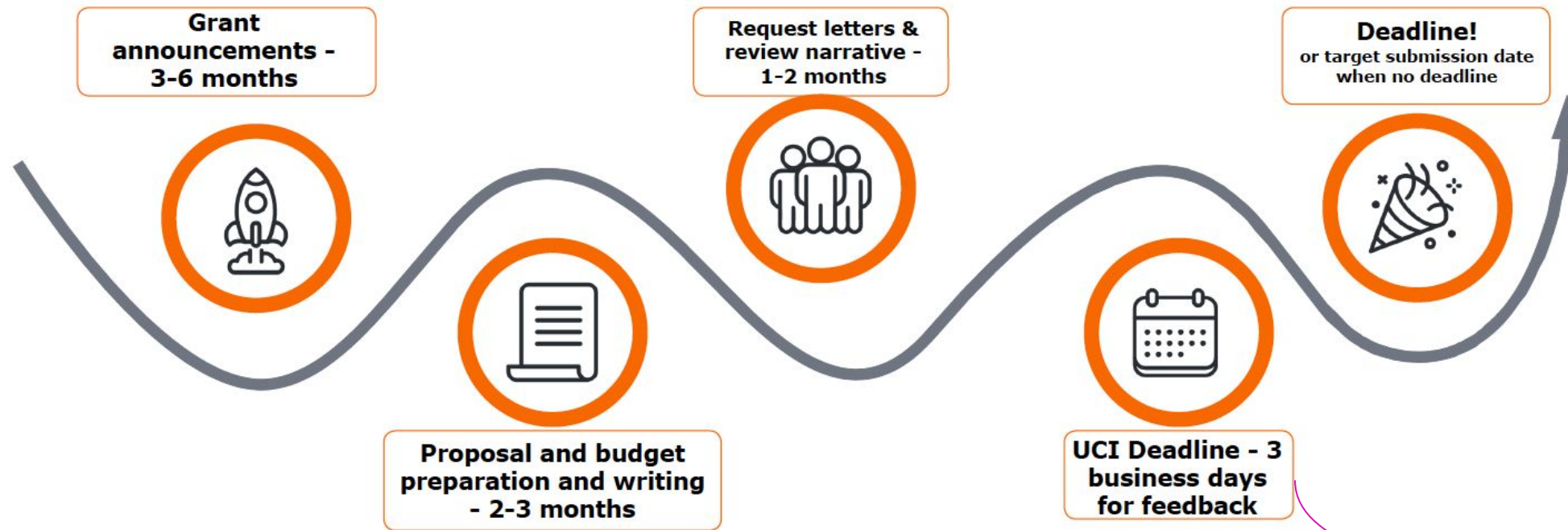
2. RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT & RESEARCH SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURE AT UNIVERSITIES

RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT

- Encompasses a set of strategic, catalytic, and capacity-building activities that advance research
- Includes gaining skills to become more successful communicators, grant writers, and advocates for your research
 - Workshops, certificates, external opportunities not directly tied to your research interests
- May include collaborations – such as research clusters, writing groups, conference panels, collaborative writing projects, etc.
- Conferences as research laboratories – test out ideas and theories, network with other junior scholars, facilitate collaborations within and among other institutions

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

- Individually: Identify your project(s) and priorities across your career trajectory
- Collaboratively: Are there are aspects of your priorities/goals/values that can be supported or take place collaboratively?
- At the Humanities Center:
 - Apply for internal and external funding
 - Enhances research & scholarship
 - Broadens your networks, builds connections
 - Contributes to your teaching and/or career
 - Helps define ideas for your book(s) & articles
 - Provides opportunities for mentoring and collaboration
 - Successful awards pave the way for other opportunities
 - Research support
 - Writing support



Grant Application Workflow

As faculty: Sponsored Projects requires 5 business days in advance of deadline for review and approval. The university can refuse to allow a grant award.