

The image features a vertical orange bar on the left with the text "Buffalo State" in a light, stylized font. The background is a faded image of a classical building with a prominent dome and columns.

# Making the Most of Your Faculty/Staff Scholarship Support Program Experience

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# Background: Scholarship Support Program

- Initiated in Fall 2005
- The purpose of the SSP is to provide high-level support for scholarly activities
  - to increase the scholarly output of the faculty on campus, including (but not limited to) conference papers, presentations, program evaluations, refereed articles, project reports, and grant and contract applications.
- Supported by RF SUNY at Buffalo State
- Sustained, level support over time
  - .6 FTE

## More SSP Background

- About 100 faculty and staff have utilized the program since inception
- Faculty/staff from all schools and areas of College
  - Biology, chemistry, art education, music education, sociology, criminal justice, academic affairs, student affairs, graduate school, etc.)
- We have never said “No”
- Despite limited resources, we take on as much as possible!

# Types of “high-level” supports I

## Conceptualization of Scholarly Ideas

- Encouragement for development of concepts
- Feedback on your ideas
- Guidance on expanding an idea into a paper or project

# Types of “high-level” supports II

## Project Design and Qualitative and Quantitative Methodology

- Protocol development
- Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed designs
- Human subjects issues
- Selection of data types
- Sampling issues

## Types of “high-level” supports III

### Questionnaire Development

- Selection of measures
- Selection of questionnaire type
- Administration issues
- Drafts and edits of questionnaires

# Types of “high-level” supports IV

## **Development of Program Evaluations**

- Client expectations
- Relevant measures of program impact
- Evaluation for funded projects

# Types of “high-level” supports V

## **Data Management**

- Database design
- Assessment of data quality
- Selection of software for data management



# Types of “high-level” supports VI

## Conceptualization of Scholarly Ideas

- Encouragement for development of concepts
- Feedback on your ideas
- Guidance on expanding an idea into a paper or project

# Types of “high-level” supports VII

## Statistical Design

- Statistical power consultation
- Selection of statistical techniques

## Data Analysis

- Consultation on analytical approaches
- Utilization of standard analytical packages (e.g., SPSS, SAS)
- Implementation of data analysis

# Self Examination of Challenges to Successful SSP Outcomes

- Time, Time and TIME!
- Clear Conceptualization
- Scope
- Follow-through

# Time, Time TIME!

- Frequently experience “I need this for something unbelievably important (paper, manuscript, grant, survey in field, tenure, promotion) unbelievably soon (yesterday, today, tomorrow)!”
- Limited resources/multiple tasks
- Multiple deadlines
- Do our best to meet your needs
- Come to us EARLY in the process

# Clear Conceptualization Issues

- I have some data I want to analyze....
- These data are on paper....
- I want to study (fill in the blank)

# Need for Improved conceptualization

- Research question/aim/hypotheses often only implied
- If you don't have a specific target, you're sure to hit it!
- Survey assistance is one of the most common requests
  - Main issue is often how the survey data will be used
- Come to us EARLY in process to discuss conceptualization

# Scope Issues I

- Scope of project
  - Size/complexity of data collection/analysis etc
  - Need to start small and build upon your work
- Data Quality Issues
  - Format and linkage to conceptual goals
- Data entry
  - Set-up, but can't do large jobs
- Data analysis
  - Conceptualization is main issue
  - Coordination with outside consultants is tricky

## Scope Issues II

- Reports/write-ups/editing
  - Limited resources and time
  - Editing can be very time consuming
  - Substantial contributions to papers and journal articles
  - Major contributions to ongoing reports difficult to do without additional support
- Starting EARLY on conceptualization with SSP will reduce scope issues
- Recognition of contribution
  - Coauthorship often appropriate
  - Program support recognition always appropriate



## Follow-through

- Life/career of faculty/staff exceedingly busy!
  - Internal rationale and drive
- For SSP staff too!
  - Limited influence on faculty/staff (primarily persuasion)
- Issue for participants and for SSP staff
  - Easy for something to fall between the cracks!

# SSP Responses

- Evaluation survey of participants
  - SSP staff take responses and comments to heart
- Utilization of PDSA and SSP Forms
  - Plan, Do, Study, Act—Deming approach to self-evaluation by SSP staff
  - New SSP information form
  - Developing new tracking system
    - Agree to next step(s), set specific time (or expectation) for next meeting, one-plus reminder system

# SSP Information Form

- Required for each SSP project
  - Your feedback is important—can be revised!
- Flexible for all situations
  - Initial idea/conceptualization
  - Specific project (evaluation, statistical analysis)
- Helps to drive process
  - Can/should be updated and supplanted (when appropriate) by more advanced documents

# SSP Information Form

## Faculty/Staff Scholarship Support Program (SSP) InformationForm

Date:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Department:

Position:

**CHSR**

*at*

*Buffalo State College*

Center for Health & Social Research

Classroom Building A203

Phone: 716-878-6137

Fax: 716-878-5905

[www.buffalostate.edu/centers/chsr](http://www.buffalostate.edu/centers/chsr)

**Working title for the project:**

**Please provide a written description of the project for which you are seeking SSP support (500 words or less:**

**Identify one or more specific hypotheses for this research:**



# SSP Information Form

**Please describe the desired product or outcome for this research  
(e.g. journal publication, conference presentation/poster, report, grant application, etc)?**

**Describe the specific tasks that you see the Scholarship Support Program staff playing in this research:**

**Describe the timeframe for this project; please include specific deadlines:**

**Please provide any citations that are related to your research that you feel will help this collaboration?**

Submit by Email

Print Form

# Summary

- Come EARLY in the process!!
- Develop strong conceptualization of research aims/hypotheses
  - Can be done in collaboration with SSP
- Negotiate realistic work scope and timelines
- Be a partner in following through on your project.
- We are devoted to this program and love working with you!!



Thanks for your attention!

