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 highlevel 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
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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

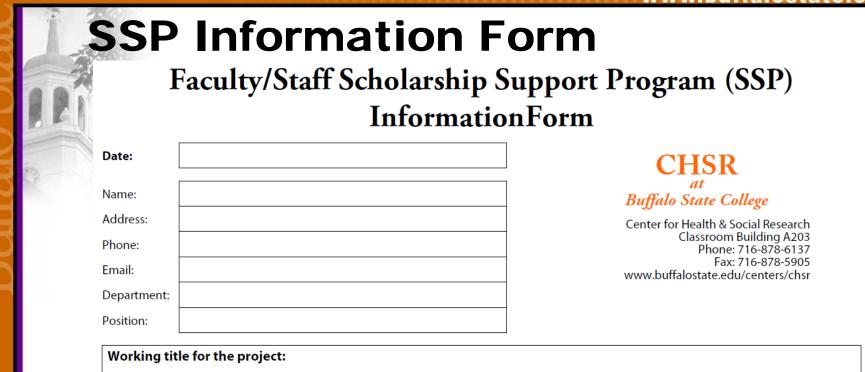
- Life/career of faculty/staff exceedingly busy!
 - Internal rationale and drive
- For SSP staff too!
 - Limited influence on faculty/staff (primarily persuasion)
- Issue for participants and for SSP staff
 - Easy for something to fall between the cracks!

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 selfevaluation 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



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!

