Faculty Development Opportunities for Academic Year 2020-2021
offered by the ASCEND Center for Biomedical Research
and the RCMI Center for Health Disparities Research & Innovation

If you are not already a member of our Canvas community please contact Ms. Pinchback @ aquanette.pinchback@morgan.edu and ask to be added to the site!

Pilot Research Grants & Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) Grants
ASCEND and the new RCMI Center for Health Disparities Research & Innovation offer pilot research funding to investigators (tenure track & tenured faculty) who have had no prior external research funding. Proposal applications will due in January 2021 for summer 2021 funding. The application portal will open on the RCMI and ASCEND websites in December of 2020.

- Researchers who previously applied for, but were not awarded ASCEND pilot grants, are eligible.
- Previous recipients of ASCEND pilot or CBPR grants are not eligible.
- Investigators who intend to apply to the new ASCEND-supported Pilot Research and CBPR grants in January of 2021 must have participated in the hands-on grant writing workshop in fall 2020 or in previous years (please see below).
- RCMI will support a limited number of opportunities for experienced investigators who are switching their research focus towards health disparities. These experienced investigators with a record of previous external federal funding may (but are not required to) participate in the fall grant writing workshop.
- Recipients of pilot grant funding are expected to apply to and generate external funding subsequent to completing their pilot projects.

Note: Participation in grant writing training is required for all ASCEND pilot applicants and most RCMI pilot applicants; please see “Grant Writing Workshops” below for upcoming training opportunities. If you are unsure if previous training you have had qualifies you as an applicant please contact christine.hohmann@morgan.edu.

Application information will be posted on the ASCEND and RCMI websites.

- http://www.morgan.edu/research_and_economic_development/ascend/faculty_development_opportunities.html
- https://www.morgan.edu/research_and_economic_development/rcmi/faculty_development_opportunities/pilot_research_and_cbpr_grants.html

Summer Collaborative Mini Sabbaticals
This program provides opportunities for (tenure track & tenured) faculty to develop new technical skills and jump start new collaborations with investigators at Johns Hopkins University (JHU) and the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) and other proximal research-intensive institutions.

- The collaborative mini sabbaticals must be in daily commuting distance between MSU and the applicant’s home.
- Awards consist of a supply budget for use at the host institution and partial summer salary.
- Letters of intent for this program will need to be submitted to Ms. Netta Pinchback at aquanette.pinchback@morgan.edu, by February 14, 2021. Applicants may suggest a lab they want to visit in their letter or indicate the specific area of research if they would like assistance in finding a host lab. Final applications will be due by March 30, 2021.

For more information on these opportunities, contact Acquanette Pinchback at Acquanette.pinchback@morgan.edu or visit https://www.morgan.edu/research_and_economic_development/ascend/faculty_development_opportunities.html
https://www.morgan.edu/research_and_economic_development/rcmi/faculty_development_opportunities/pilot_research_and_cbpr_grants.html
**New this fall! Support for Science Pedagogy Resources**

Over the course of the first 5 years of ASCEND (BUILD I) funding, the grant has supported several initiatives to increase interdisciplinary and student-centered learning based approaches to STEM and Health Science instructions. These initiatives included funding for new course design and course redesign, Summer Institutes in Scientific Teaching and mentorship training.

At this time, we have limited support available for the following:

- Supplemental support for successful, previously developed courses which need additional resources (proposals up to $10,000 will be considered, but should ideally be approximately $5,000);
- Targeted improvements in additional (not previously funded) courses with strong biomedical research focus (proposals up to $10,000 will be considered, but should ideally be approximately $5,000);
- Publication cost and travel to present data at scientific conferences for work closely aligned with such efforts;

Interested individuals should contact Ms. Pinchback acquanette.pinchback@morgan.edu

**Grant Writing Workshops and Seminars**

In collaboration with JHU and UMB, we will offer a variety of workshops and seminars for faculty at different stages in their research careers.

Please see the ASCEND Research Support Information Hub (Canvas site) for details!

1) For the **novice grant-writer**, we offer an 8-month comprehensive training approach that will guide you in the development of an NIH grant proposal, from the conception of a research idea, to the completion of a full draft proposal. The next workshop will start spring 2021. The first leg of the workshop will end in May 2021 (with online check-ins over the summer). Participants are subsequently encouraged to enroll in the fall 2020 intermediate/advanced grant writing workshop (see below). **Please email** Ms. Pinchback.

2) **Community-based participatory research (CBPR)** projects: ASCEND will be funding one or two small health-related community-based participatory research (CBPR) projects of up to $20,000 each through a competitive review process. CBPR projects must be led collaboratively by a Morgan State University faculty member in partnership with a community investigator. In order to increase faculty and community grant writing capacity and produce the best results possible, a required CBPR Principles and Grant Writing Training Workshops, will be offered. Please email jummai.apata@morgan.edu to register for this workshop. If you are interested but need assistance finding a faculty or community member match, contact jummai.apata@morgan.edu. Proposals will be due January 2021. The award project period will be July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

3) For investigators (tenure track & tenured faculty) who are ready to write their first internal pilot research proposal or, who are ready to prepare their first externally submitted NIH SCORE or R21 proposal, we are offering a **3-month intermediate/advanced grant writing workshop** in fall 2020. This workshop will be online, with a Saturday “kick-off” meeting in late September and weekly sessions through mid-December. About half of the weekly sessions will require on-line ZOOM meetings and the rest of the workshop will proceed asynchronously. Completion of this workshop is mandatory for all first-time submissions of internal pilot proposals. Participants in this workshop will work closely with each other and the instructor to generate their proposals over the course of the 3-month workshop. The goal is to have a proposal that is ready for submission by January 2021.

For more information on these opportunities, contact Acquanette Pinchback at **Acquanette.pinchback@morgan.edu** or visit

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https://www.morgan.edu/research_and_economic_development/rcmi/faculty_development_opportunities/pilot_research_and_cbpr_grants.html
Participants in this workshop are highly encouraged to work with an on- or off-campus mentor in their specific discipline to guide them through the scientific aspects of writing their proposals. Off-campus mentors may be paid for their service as consultant/contractors to work with you on your proposal. Please email Ms. Pinchback if you want to take advantage of this opportunity. Registration information for this workshop will be available on the RCMI and ASCEND websites by August 5th. The application deadline will be September 8th. Registration is limited and will be on a first come first serve basis.

4) In collaboration with the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB), we will offer short (one day or less) research skills workshops targeted towards grant writers who are more experienced but would like to hone their skills in a particular area (e.g., identification of and understanding of specific funding sources and mechanisms). MSU participants will take these workshops together with junior faculty from UMB on the UMB campus. These workshops are also excellent networking opportunities and will be announced on the ASCEND and RCMI website (see above).

5) Post-review mentorship and support for applicants who did not receive pilot funding will be available starting spring 2020. If you previously submitted an ASCEND pilot and were not funded, you are eligible for this assistance. Please contact Ms. Pinchback if you are interested.

Science Writing Accountability Groups (SWAGs)
SWAGs are designed as peer accountability groups to help participants structure their writing time and support each other in the effort to write research manuscripts and/or grants, etc. A SWAG will consist of four to ten individuals (faculty or post-docs) potentially from different disciplinary backgrounds who will identify 1- to 2-hour time slots during the week when they are available to meet for ten consecutive weeks. Faculty may self-initiate these SWAGS or join a SWAG proposed by the ASCEND or RCMI programs. The programs will make a preceptor available to start each of the groups (explain the process, ground rules, etc.) and collect pre- and post-surveys. Prompts for SWAGs will be posted periodically on the ASCEND website. 

If you are interested in starting a SWAG please contact Ms. Pinchback and let us know if you already have a group or if you are seeking to join a group. Please also see Canvas announcements for groups that are forming.

Training in Student Centered, Scientific Teaching
We will continue to offer an annual week-long Summer Training Institute in Scientific Teaching based on the training model introduced to us by Dr. Michelle Withers and the Mobile Summer Institutes (MoSI) several years ago. (Please see https://www.summerinstitutes.org/ for further information). This is a nationally and internationally validated training approach for student-centered teaching. The next workshop is planned for the mini-mester of January 2021 and will be fully online (synchronously).

Training in Mentorship
We will continue to offer annual training workshops in mentorship in accordance with the National Research Mentoring Network (https://nrmnet.net/nrmn-faculty-research). The next mentoring workshop is planned for August of 17th 2020. Please register here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mentoring-in-higher-education-virtual-a-professional-training-for-success-tickets-113422808674

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https://www.morgan.edu/research_and_economic_development/rcmi/faculty_development_opportunities/pilot_research_and_cbpr_grants.html
Innovation and Technology Transfer Workshops
These workshops will be offered in collaboration with the MSU Division of Research and Economic Development. Topics and dates will be announced on the ASCEND and RCMI websites. Individuals who would like to suggest topics may contact Ms. Pinchback acquanette.pinchback@morgan.edu.

Seminars, Colloquia and Other Events
Interdisciplinary Seminar Series – Location Dixon Room 125, Thursdays from 4 to 5 PM ONLINE for fall 2020!
These seminars will focus on research talks in the areas of biomedical, bio-behavioral and public health with a specific focus on global and urban health disparities. The seminars are for an interdisciplinary audience of students and faculty and geared to encourage interdisciplinary conversations. Stay tuned for weekly announcements of upcoming seminars on RCMI and ASCEND Canvas.

For more information on these opportunities, contact Acquanette Pinchback at Acquanette.pinchback@morgan.edu or visit https://www.morgan.edu/research_and_economic_development/ascend/faculty_development_opportunities.html https://www.morgan.edu/research_and_economic_development/rcmi/faculty_development_opportunities/pilot_research_and_cbpr_grants.html