

AbstractID: 2259 Title: How to succeed as a medical physics investigator, professional, academic, research, and personal balance

This talk provides another perspective on surviving and maybe prospering in medical physics research. The focus in this talk is on how to negotiate the funding process AFTER you have a “good idea”. The overall advice can be summarized into one obvious but often overlooked fact – the reviewers are human. With this in mind it is imperative to give attention to properly organizing the grant application, submitting it to the right agency and adequately selling the idea. We discuss when to resubmit and when to abandon an un-funded project. When you get funding further challenges exist to doing the work, dealing with other personal and professional pressures, the IRB, your bosses, dealing with negative results and submitting the competitive renewal. The challenges faced by the medical physics researcher are not unlike those faced by an entrepreneur in any business venture.

Educational Objectives:

1. The researcher as an entrepreneur
2. Proper grant organization: the sales pitch; making the reviewers your allies
3. When to resubmit a failed application
4. Dealing with a successful application: negative results and renewals