

NEW FACULTY AWARDS Program Information Session



ingenuity

October 2008

Outline of Session

- Alberta Ingenuity
- Eligibility
- Application process
- Evaluation
- Timeline
- Statistics
- Tips
- Contacts

Alberta Ingenuity

Every Albertan an Innovator



What does the New Faculty program do?

- Provides a meaningful head-start to outstanding new faculty in Alberta
- Expands and strengthens Alberta's science and engineering research capacity

Who is eligible for this program?

- First academic career appointment
January 2006 or later
- Eligible to apply twice in 3 year period
of eligibility (*check internal policy*)
- Appointment must be tenure track or
potential tenure track

How do I apply?

INSTITUTION	QUOTA
Athabasca University	3
University of Alberta	15
University of Calgary	15
University of Lethbridge	5
Colleges, each	1

Contact Research Services to determine internal process for selection of quota.

Who assesses the applications?

3-5 arms-length peer reviewers

- Candidate's application
- Committee member suggestions
- Literature searches

Review Committee

- 10 senior faculty members from outside Alberta

What are reviewers looking for?

Excellence of the candidate

- Research accomplishments to date
- Evidence of productivity and originality
- Leadership or potential leadership in field
- Detailed and supportive reference letters

What are reviewers looking for?

Merit of the research

- Logical, realistic and achievable aims
- Sound research strategy with valid methodology
- Innovation and originality

What are reviewers looking for?

Training of research personnel

- Demonstrated/potential contribution to training research personnel

What are reviewers looking for?

Institutional support

- Strong, specific support
- Commitment of discretionary resources
 - CRC nomination
 - Teaching relief
 - Renovated lab space
 - Etc.
- Candidate's fit with strategic plans

What are reviewers looking for?

Demonstrated need for funds

- Realistic budget
- Justification of items
- Consideration of use of equipment by others

What are reviewers looking for?

Impact/Benefits

- Significance of research
- Potential impact of the outcomes to Alberta and Canada

How can the funds be used?

Up to \$300,000 over 3 years

Expenditures follow university policies,
including salaries/benefits of personnel

Allowable uses:

- Trainee and personnel salaries
- Materials and supplies
- Minor equipment (<\$10,000 per item)
- Publication costs
- Computer and library resources
- Major equipment (\$10,000+ per item)

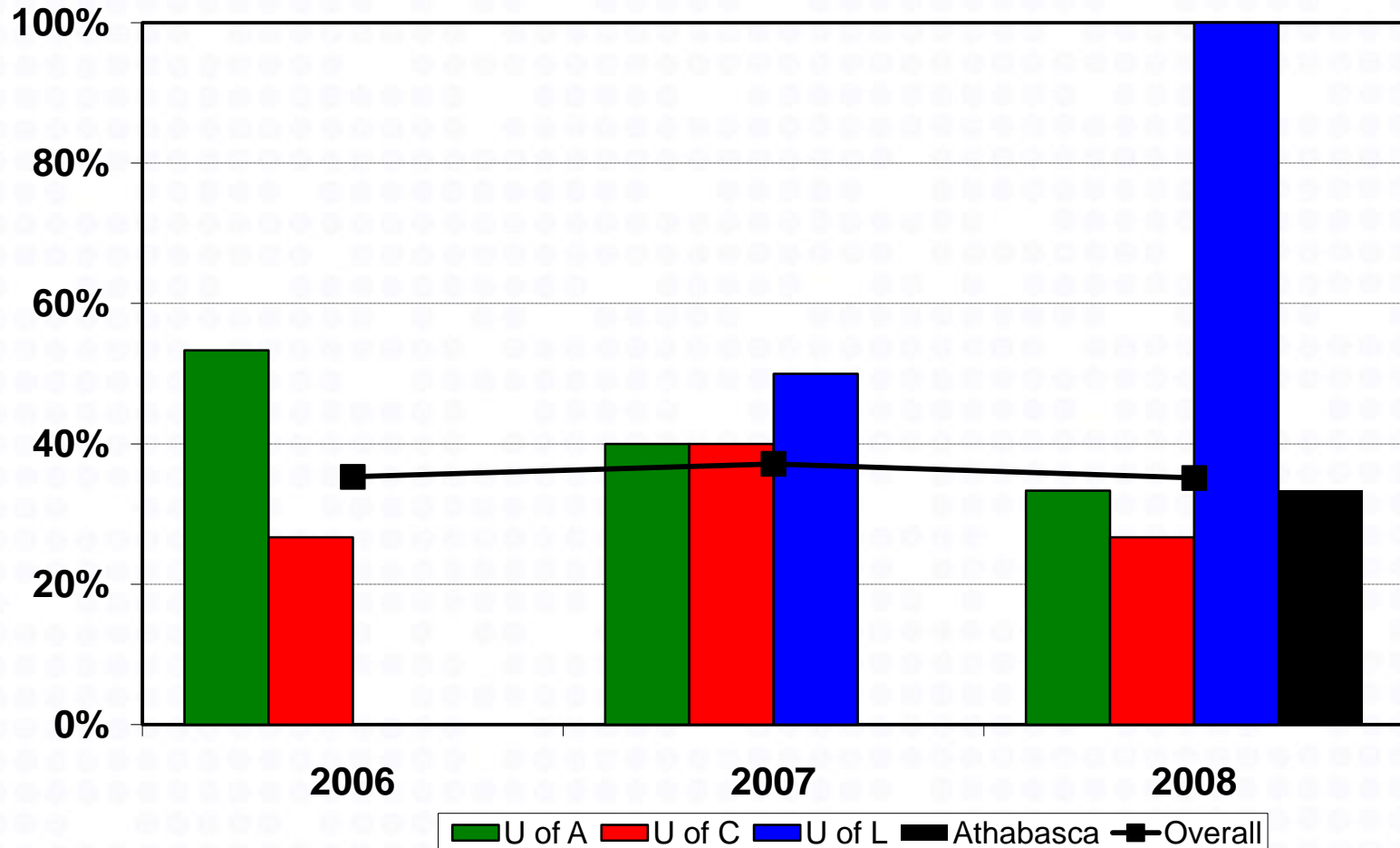
Ineligible expenses

- Hospitality expenses
- Entertainment expenses
- Scientific memberships
- Student tuition
- Administrative support

Competition Timeline

- DEADLINE** March 1 (to Ingenuity office)
Internal deadline set by Research Services Office
- RESULTS** Early July
- START** September 2009 – March 2010

Success rates by university



Success rates by faculty

FACULTY	2006	2007	2008
AFHE (UofA)	33%	33%	0%
Engineering	8%	27%	40%
Science	54%	60%	43%
Vet Med (UofC)	50%	0%	0%
Other (Med/Kines/Soc Sci.)	50%	17%	0%
OVERALL	35%	37%	35%

TIP #1: Start early

Update CV

Collect collaboration support letters

Contact references

- Update on recent accomplishments

Start obtaining equipment quotes

Draft research proposal

- Develop rationale, objectives and timelines

TIP #2: Follow instructions

Read program guidelines

- Confirm eligibility

Read instructions

- Follow formatting restrictions
 - Font size
 - Margins
 - Page limitations
- Address points in each section

TIP #3: Budget

Be realistic

Justify all requested budget items

- Appropriate use of funds
- Pay personnel as per institutional policy

TIP #4: Proposal writing

Summarize work to date in the field

Define goals and milestones

Describe methodology and research plan

Explain why the research is important

Acknowledge potential roadblocks, identify possible alternatives

TIP #5: Make it visually interesting

Pay attention to layout

Use figures, charts, tables where possible

Bold, *italics*, s p a c i n g ,
indentation

Pay attention to grammar, define acronyms

Make it easy to read!

TIP #6: Get a friend involved

Find colleagues to review your proposal

- Simulate peer review process
 - Experts and non-experts
- Get feedback
- Improve before final submission

TIP #7: Use these helpful resources

NSERC: How to prepare a winning proposal

http://www.nserc.ca/professors_e.asp?nav=profnav&lbi=winprop

Institute of Genetics: Guidebook for New Principal Investigators

<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/27491.html>

TIP # 8: Learn from disappointment

Use feedback to strengthen future proposals

Seek advice of a seasoned colleague/mentor

Don't get discouraged!

Final points

Ask questions

- Contact program officer/
administrator

Read and follow instructions

- Evaluation criteria related to
application components

Start early

Contacts

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