



sponsored by:

The Art of Grant Writing Workshop

Friday, March 27, 2026

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Charlotte Convention Center – E220A-C

Workshop Chair: Kurt Weiss, MD

Workshop Co-Chair: Kyle Allen, PhD

MORNING SESSION		FACULTY
7:00 AM – 8:00 AM	Check-in & Networking Breakfast (Continental)	
8:00 AM – 8:05 AM	Welcome & Introduction to ORS Educational Offerings	Kurt Weiss, MD
8:05 AM – 8:15 AM	1.0 Intro to NIH and the Research Grant Review Process Basics	Charles Washabaugh, PhD
8:15 AM – 8:25 AM	1.1 NIAMS Research Grant Mechanisms	Aron Marquitz, PhD
8:25 AM – 8:35 AM	1.2 NIA Funding in the Musculoskeletal Research Field	John Williams, PhD
8:35 AM – 8:45 AM	1.3 NIAMS F and K Awards	Isaah Vincent, PhD
8:45 AM – 8:55 AM	1.4 NIH HEAL Funding for Pain	Rebecca Lenzi, PhD
8:55 AM – 9:05 AM	1.5 OREF Funding Opportunities	Deborah Cummins, PhD
9:05 AM – 9:25 AM	Ask the NIH (Panel Discussion)	NIH Representatives
9:25 AM – 9:45 AM	Break	
9:45 AM – 10:40 AM	2.0 Perspectives on Career Development Awards	
9:45 AM – 10:00 AM	2.1 Translational Research	Dianne Little, DVM, PhD
10:00 AM – 10:15 AM	2.2 Basic Research and Career Transition	Kyle Allen, PhD
10:15 AM – 10:30 AM	2.3 Clinical Investigator	Kurt Weiss, MD
10:30 AM – 10:45 AM	2.4 A Successful Experience in DoD Funding from an MD/PI	Jessica Rivera, MD, PhD
10:45 AM – 11:00 AM	Panel Discussion	All Presenters and Faculty
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM	Networking Lunch	
AFTERNOON SESSION		FACULTY
12:30 PM - 12:40 PM	3.0 NIH's Intramural System	Tamara Alliston, PhD
12:40 PM – 2:00 PM	4.0 Mock Study Section (Confidential: Contents will not be shared after the workshop) First grant (20 - 30 minutes) Additional grants (20 minutes each)	Kyle Allen, PhD (Narrator) Tamara Alliston, PhD Alejandro Almarza, PhD William Anderst, PhD Blaine Christiansen, PhD Deborah Cummins, PhD Leonardo F. Ferreira, PT, PhD Matthew Fisher, PhD Damian Genetos, PhD Paula A. Hernandez, PhD Rebecca Lenzi, PhD Dianne Little, DVM, PhD Aron Marquitz, PhD Jennifer A. Nichols, PhD Hollis Potter, MD Jessica Rivera, MD, PhD Blanka Sharma, PhD Kurt P. Spindler, MD Isaah Vincent, PhD Xibin Wang, PhD Charles Washabaugh, PhD Kurt Weiss, MD John Williams, PhD Xincheng (Ted) Zheng, MD, PhD Michael Zuscik, PhD

2:00 PM – 2:15 PM	Break	
2:15 PM – 3:00 PM	<p>5.0 Specific Aims Lab</p> <p>Specific Aims Page Review and Elevator Pitch</p> <p><u>Each attendee presents a 10-min pitch followed by discussion at each table</u></p> <p>Attendees who submitted written aims page or proposal are assigned faculty mentors at specific tables</p>	All Faculty
3:00 PM – 3:30 PM	<p>6.0 Illustration of My Successful & Failed Grants</p> <p>(Confidential: Slides will not be shared after the workshop)</p>	Kurt P. Spindler, MD
3:30 PM – 4:00 PM	<p>Wrap-Up Meetings & Networking Reception</p> <p>This is the opportunity to continue conversations with assigned mentors as well as approach non-assigned mentors to discuss areas of research expertise</p>	All Faculty and Participants