FINDING & SECURING FUNDS FOR THE DISSERTATION
WORKSHOP OVERVIEW

- Basic things to consider
- Main elements of a proposal
- UTEP funding
- Regional sources
- Archival/library awards
- National/international
- General issues
- Conclusions
BASIC THINGS TO CONSIDER

- Where are you in your research? What do you need? What can you reasonably apply for?
  - Coursework, Portfolio, ABD
  - One archive? Two months research? Writing?
- Search for grants as a standard part of your professional career
- Plan ahead and stay organized
- UTEP Grant Writing Assistance
- “Incentive Program”
BASIC THINGS TO CONSIDER

- THERE ARE DIFFERENT AWARDS
  - Research and writing
- Scholarship
- Grant/Award
- Fellowship
- Dissertation writing/completion award?
- Post-doc
- What will it fund?
  - Travel, lodging, materials, equipment, tuition, stipend, enrollment, “in-house,” strings attached?
WHERE TO LOOK?

• Acknowledgment section of books
• Field or discipline specific
  • SHAFR, AHA, etc
• Broader scope
  • Humanities, Liberal Arts, Immigration, gender history
• Regional focus
  • Southwest, Mexico, Texas
• Institutional
  • Pre-doc, library or archive
• Demographics
  • Under-represented, first generation, diversity
• Think outside the discipline
  • Women’s health, environmental policy, social transformation
PROCESS AND MAIN POINTS

• Start process in advance
• Familiarize yourself with expectations
  • Look for previous awardees
• Cover letter
• Abstract/Summary of diss or specific work you intend to do with the award
• Actual proposal/research to be conducted
• 1-2 page cv
• Timeline and research agenda
  • Budget, travel, meals, lodging, etc.
• Letter(s) of recommendation
“CONTENT”

• Depends on the award
• Rationale and justification for the research
  • Why you deserve the $
• What is significant about your work?
  • Intellectual contribution of your work?
  • Literature, argument, main points, etc.
• How will the award help you?
  • End product of the research: article, chapter, etc.
• Explain how your project/proposal meet the expectations of the award, funding agency
• Archive? Know their collections!
PERSPECTIVE OF REVIEWERS

- May or may not be academics
  - Archivists? Do you know their collections?
- Discipline oriented? Multi-disciplines?
- Avoid overly technical language
- They may be skimming them, little time to decipher what you “really mean”
- Keywords, concepts, clarity, cogence, coherence
- Continuity of themes; keep focused
- Is the project proposal feasible?
UTEP FUNDING

• **Graduate School** Research Award ($3,000)
  - “Start up” funds
  - 2 funding deadlines: Late fall & late spring

• **Office of Scholarships** (1,500-$3,500)
  - All Graduate Students (Cotton, Krutileck)
  - History Students (Jackson Turrrentine @ $2,000)
  - Mid-March
  - Graduate School website, administered by O.S. and UTEP Graduate Council. Self-nomination.

• **History Department Harper Awards** ($2,500)
  - ABD or during semester of application
  - Mid-Spring, four awards
ARCHIVES & LIBRARIES

• Benson Library (UT)
  • Lat. Am.
• Harry Ransom Center (UT)
• Bieneke Library
  • “Western U.S.”
• Bancroft, Newberry, Huntington

• NM Office of the State Historian
• Texas Tech Univ. Formby Fellowship in Southwest & Special Collections
REGIONAL FUNDING

• Excellence in West Texas History Fellowship (Angelo State Univ.)
• Charles Redd Center for the History of the American West
• Texas State Historical Association
• Autry National Center for the Study of the American West
NATIONAL

- Huggins-Quarrels (OAH)
- Ford Foundation
- American Philosophical Society
- Charlotte W. Newcomb Doctoral Diss. Fellowship
- CREST Diversity Dissertation Fellows
- Smithsonian Libraries
- AAUW
- Jacob Javits Fellowship
- AHA
DATABASES & GUIDES

• AHA Calendar of Awards & Fellowships
• Graduate School External Database
• Council of Graduate Schools
• www.h-net.org/announce
• H-Borderlands
• Academic Jobs Wiki
MISCELLANEOUS

- Professional goals
- Under-represented populations
- Matching funds
- Examples
- Deadlines!

- Communication
- Recommenders
  - Prepare info packet
  - Reminders
- Organization
- Timelines