



Goal: To increase support for UW-Madison vision research by facilitating successful resubmissions of federal grant applications by McPherson ERI investigators.

Gap: Procuring merit-based federal grants is an increasingly difficult challenge, yet these grants remain a source of support for individual investigators, departments, schools, and the university as a whole. In short, federal grants are still the main fuel and measuring stick for most of the vision research performed by our members.

Challenge: How can the McPherson ERI meaningfully contribute to the success of our highly diverse membership in efforts to obtain federal grants?

Concept: Create a simple mechanism whereby members who “just miss” funding cut-offs can obtain support to address issues raised by reviewers (e.g., study section), thus increasing their odds for successful resubmissions.

Process: The GSP applicant would submit:

1. The grant score/summary sheet.
2. A targeted, fit-for-purpose budget request (up to \$10,000) along with a brief explanation of how the requested funding will improve the revised proposal (1 paragraph).
3. A brief comment on the proximity of the applicant’s grant score to historical pay-lines and/or other insights regarding the likelihood of successful resubmission (1-3 sentences).
4. **Submit application to Gail Stirr via email:** gmstirr@wisc.edu

The applicant is also welcome to discuss her or his proposal in person or over the phone with GSP committee members, but this is not a requirement. Decisions pertaining to funding will be made by majority vote of the GSP committee, comprised of representatives from the McPherson ERI Leadership and Research Committees. (Contact McPherson ERI staff for further information: dgamma@wisc.edu, eliceiri@wisc.edu, gmstirr@wisc.edu)

Requirements:

1. Federal grants (that provide indirects) only.
2. The principal investigator must be a UW-Madison McPherson ERI member.
3. \$10,000 funding limit (but thoughtful consideration as to the exact amount needed to accomplish the specific goal for grant resubmission weighs heavily on the GSP committee’s decision).
4. Grant resubmission within one year (delay in resubmission past one year without approval may result in future GSP applications being ineligible).

Additional comments:

1. Decisions will be made quickly on a rolling basis with no internal deadlines or pre-determined grant quotas.
2. All UW-Madison McPherson ERI members possess equal eligibility.
3. Acknowledgement of McPherson ERI GSP funding on presentations and/or papers (as appropriate) is appreciated.
4. GSP committee members can apply but will be excused from voting on grants that they submit.

Examples of supportable activities (not exhaustive):

1. Costs to complete experiments or obtain equipment/tools, add research subjects, etc.
2. Travel and lodging to visit or host new or existing grant collaborators.
3. Grant writing expertise/review.