



# Seeding Team Science: Research Development Professionals as Catalysts and Coaches

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TEXAS ENGINEERING  
EXPERIMENT STATION

# What is TEES SRD?

- Texas Engineering Experiment Station (TEES)
  - Agency Texas A&M System
  - Works at all levels related STEM education research and projects
  - Mission to build research capacity across the state
- Strategic Research Development
  - builds capacity for proposal development to federal funding agencies (merit and mission based)
  - 17 primary partner institutions
  - 54 community college affiliates



# What does SRD do?

- Relationships with faculty at partner campus
- Target NSF funding opportunity
- Work with partner align funding to strategic plan – link capabilities to funding opportunity
  - Create workshop based on partner needs, capacity or leaders vision/desire
  - Capacity building individual PI, esp. Jr. Faculty
  - Proposal development, actually writing one voice
  - Bringing together researchers focus on funding opportunity



# Interactions with System researchers?

- TEES works across Texas,
  - With Texas A&M System (TAMUS) institutions
  - With 10 TAMU System
  - With institutions outside the TAMUS
  - With Community Colleges in Texas
  - With one partner in New Mexico
- Capacity building for research based on
  - vision of administrator
  - Strategic plan or objective of campus, college, dept.



# What we look for & attempt

- The right person
- Administrative support and vision for campus
- Capacity at the institution and of researcher(s)
- Use above to
  - Build capacity, often focus on jr or new researcher to independence
  - Move single PI or sr. research to team
    - Build education or other areas they don't have but need for Center level projects
  - Bring together expertise for larger projects or focused needs



# Questions SRD uses to decide which proposals to develop

- Does proposal concept tie with TEES mission & campus vision?
- Funding Source
  - Is it peer-reviewed or is relationship necessary with the sponsoring agency?
    - IF relationship needed does PI or TEES have one existing?  
How strong is it?
- Will the researcher or team be competitive with agency targeted
- Is there full indirect
- Does it align with SRD vision and expertise
- Is there time to built a competitive proposal



# SRD Metrics

- Database
  - Proposal effort; PIs; amount; srd person; date
  - Pending; Funded; Not Funded
  - By institution
- Customer Service tracking sheet - excel
  - Who helped; on what; when
- Proposal Master list - excel
  - By calendar and fiscal years



# Focus areas 2012

- 4 year partners (17) across state
  - Special emphasis on TAMU System campuses
- Community College Initiative
  - Focus build pathway 2-4 year partner campuses
  - 54 community colleges in Texas
- Jr. Faculty Initiative with focus CAREER, YIPs
- Building capacity and multi-campus or interdisciplinary partnerships

