Applying for an NSF CAREER Grant
May 10th, 2011

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1. Different project than CAREER & Collaborative (impt to NSF?).
2. Not well thought out, dropped this project entirely.
3. Unique circumstances.
4. This is the most useful prep for writing a successful NSF grant.
5. Primary reason for rejection: insufficient broader impacts.
6. Be persistent! 7 attempts (5 projects), 4 rejections, 3 successes
NSF CAREER Grant: What Worked For Me

1. Waited to apply until I felt I could write a strong proposal (5-year vision, preliminary data, BI linked to science).

2. Broader Impacts: something I want to do, feasible
   A. Linked to current research, teaching
   B. Piggy-backed 2/3 items with existing projects
   C. Lots of support letters (develop allies, feasibility)
   D. Brag shamelessly about what you are already doing

3. Contacted the Program Officer before each submission, after the first rejection (great info, strategy).

4. Most aspects no different from a regular NSF grant
   A. Important, novel, interesting science
   B. Clarity & getting to the point soon, visuals, organization
   C. Assessment (self: read recent successful CAREER grants, external - got lots of friendly reviews from colleagues)
NSF CAREER Grant: BI tips

1. Play to your strengths AND existing opportunities (e.g. teaching, outreach, stakeholders, etc).

2. Graduate students are great facilitators of broader impacts. Having them perform outreach is a win-win situation (you get help, they get trained).

3. Burke Museum will partner for exhibitions / education. They are good at this (dino days, meet the mammals, etc).

4. UWHS – University of Washington in the High School; brings college curricula to local high schools.

5. Office of Educational Assessment: Partner for surveys (especially if targeting grads / undergrads)