Workshop: Research Grants:  
Grant Writing the Easy Way.

Workshop outline.

The workshop is a one-day event, which will be held on Wednesday 25th April at the Village Hotel Swansea (Langdon Rd, Swansea SA1 8QY). Attendance will be requested to either only the morning session, or the morning and afternoon sessions.

Workshop objectives.

This workshop is designed to start you working on an extremely efficient ‘recipe’ for an application for a research project grant, such as a research council standard grant. The morning session is to discuss the things you need to know. The afternoon session is to get you working on the things you need to do to start writing.

Morning session:

The recipe starts by creating a skeleton for the case for support. The skeleton is a set of 10 key statements that convey the essential messages of the case for support. The skeleton defines the structure of the case for support and makes it easy to write the rest of it quickly.

If you have a project in mind at the start, and you can answer the questions with the skeleton, you should have a rough draft of most of the key statements by the end of the day.

Afternoon session:

To participate actively in the afternoon session of the workshop you must come prepared to talk about a research project/potential research grant application. Ideally this will be a project for which you intend/have started or are planning to write a grant application, but you can use a piece of research that you have already done.
Workshop setting.

The workshop will be delivered in a classroom environment, with all materials provided to delegates. The content will be delivered through a rich blend of teaching and discussion. N.B. Whilst parking is available at the Village hotel, this is not something which organisers will be able to arrange, so delegates will be expected to complete this individually.

Who should attend?

You might be an analyst, statistician, researcher or someone generally looking to enhance your knowledge and looking to submit a research project grant in the future.

Morning session: there are no pre-requisites or experience expected to attend the morning session of the workshop, but delegates should have a drive to use/understand these skills as part of their ongoing role.

Afternoon session: to attend the afternoon session of the workshop you must come prepared to talk about a research project and either an existing or upcoming research grant proposal you are considering. Limited information about your project/application are likely to be requested before the workshop, such as:

what potential funder(s) do you intend on applying too?

what is the current stage/status of your project/application?

when is your deadline, or when are you hoping to start applying if an open call?

These details may be used to determine who will be selected to attend the afternoon session of the workshop depending on number of attendee requests and progression of applications.

Workshop cost.

The workshop is being delivered at no cost to delegates, but a cancellation fee may be charged if attendees fail to confirm within a suitable time (to be confirmed following the confirmation of the attendee list) that they are unable to attend.
## Workshop: Research Grants: Grant Writing the Easy Way.

### Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Content</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Morning: Things you need to know.</strong></td>
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| 10:00 - 11:00 | • Do you have a fundable project?  
• Application-Writing Strategy.  
• The Sales Pitch.  
• What is a Sub-project? |
| 11:15 - 13:00 | • Aims and Objectives.  
• Writing Guidelines.  
• What a Grant Application has to Achieve.  
• The Magic Formula. |
| 13:00 - 13:30 | Lunch |
| **Afternoon: Things you need to do.** | |
| 13:30 - 15:00 | • Recipe for a Case-for Support.  
• Key Sentences and Structure.  
• Preparing Ingredients:  
  o The Success Proposition.  
  o Opening Sentence Exercise. |
| 15:15 - 16:00 | • The Importance Proposition |
Andrew Derrington has in-depth experience of the research funding process. He obtained his first research grant, a Beit Memorial Fellowship for Medical Research, while he was writing his PhD. His research was continuously funded by fellowships, project and programme grants for the next 30 years. He served on research grant committees for The Science and Engineering Research Council, the Medical Research Council and the Wellcome Trust.

His book, The Research Funding Toolkit (http://www.researchfundingtoolkit.org/book/), which he co-wrote with Jacqueline Aldridge, research and enterprise associate in the School of Psychology at the University of Kent, is the definitive guide to grant writing for early career academics and research professionals. It is based on Andrew’s analysis of how grants committees make funding decisions.

Andrew has worked in eight Universities including two in the world top ten. He has also worked as a journalist. Over several years he wrote two successful columns in the Financial Times. The Nature of Things covered science - from astrophysics to zoology. Psych Yourself Up was a guide to the different psychotherapies available in the UK.

Andrew set up Parker Derrington Ltd in 2013. He now works as a consultant, writing research grant applications and providing strategic advice and training to individuals and organizations.
Testimonials.

I had a fantastically useful time attending your recent workshop at Leicester University. Writing the
10 key sentences was a very useful exercise and I have, since, worked on them to discover they are a
fab tool for any kind of writing really.

Dr Ranjana Das, University of Leicester

Andrew blends easy authority and extensive experience with humour and approachability. The result
is a workshop full of practical, memorable advice on how to compete more successfully for research
funding.

Professor Peter Clegg, Institute of Ageing and Chronic Disease, University of Liverpool

I attended one of Andrew’s workshops when I was a senior lecturer. The hands on advice about how
to structure my applications in a really appealing fashion enabled me to win a grant of nearly ~£600K
the next year. I still implement the advice that I received in that workshop, and pass it down to junior
colleagues. I find that Andrew’s advice has a high success rate!

Prof Theresa Gannon, University of Kent

I still use the tips you gave me for my successful Wellcome SRF application. Your advice on “12 key
sentences” is spot-on and helps people focus on the aspects of the proposal that are critical to success
instead of getting bogged down in reams of text.

Prof Mark Baxter, Mount Sinai School of Medicine

Andrew’s grant-writing workshops teach you how to convince the world that it needs your research.
They are the most useful training events I have ever attended. His advice about how to sell the big
idea without compromising on the science was critical to the success of our £9.3 million ESRC
application.

Prof Julian Pine, University of Liverpool