

FACULTY SUCCESS SEMINARS



**University
of Idaho**

*Please keep your microphone
muted until the Q&A session*

NSF NRT PROGRAM: STRATEGIES FOR COMPETITIVE PROPOSALS

RESEARCH AND FACULTY DEVELOPMENT FACULTY SUCCESS SEMINAR SERIES

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Please note that this session is being recorded

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND FACULTY DEVELOPMENT (RFD)



Mission: To provide the resources and services to University of Idaho faculty that enhance their success and productivity in their field of scholarly efforts, with the ultimate goal of growing the U of I's research enterprise.

- Alignment with U of I strategic plan
- Across all disciplines



OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND FACULTY DEVELOPMENT (RFD)



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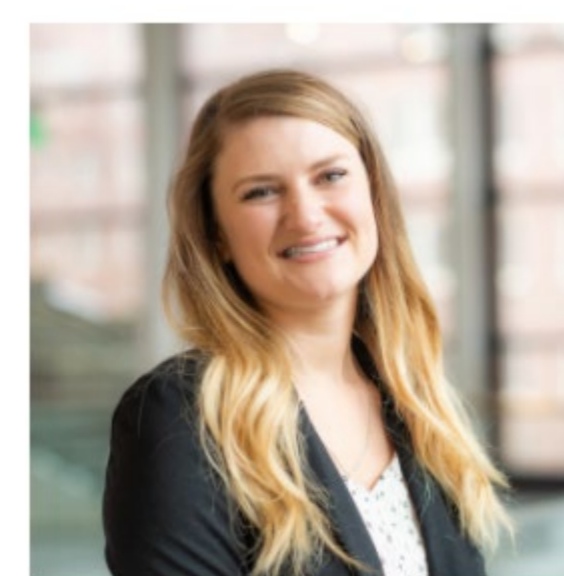


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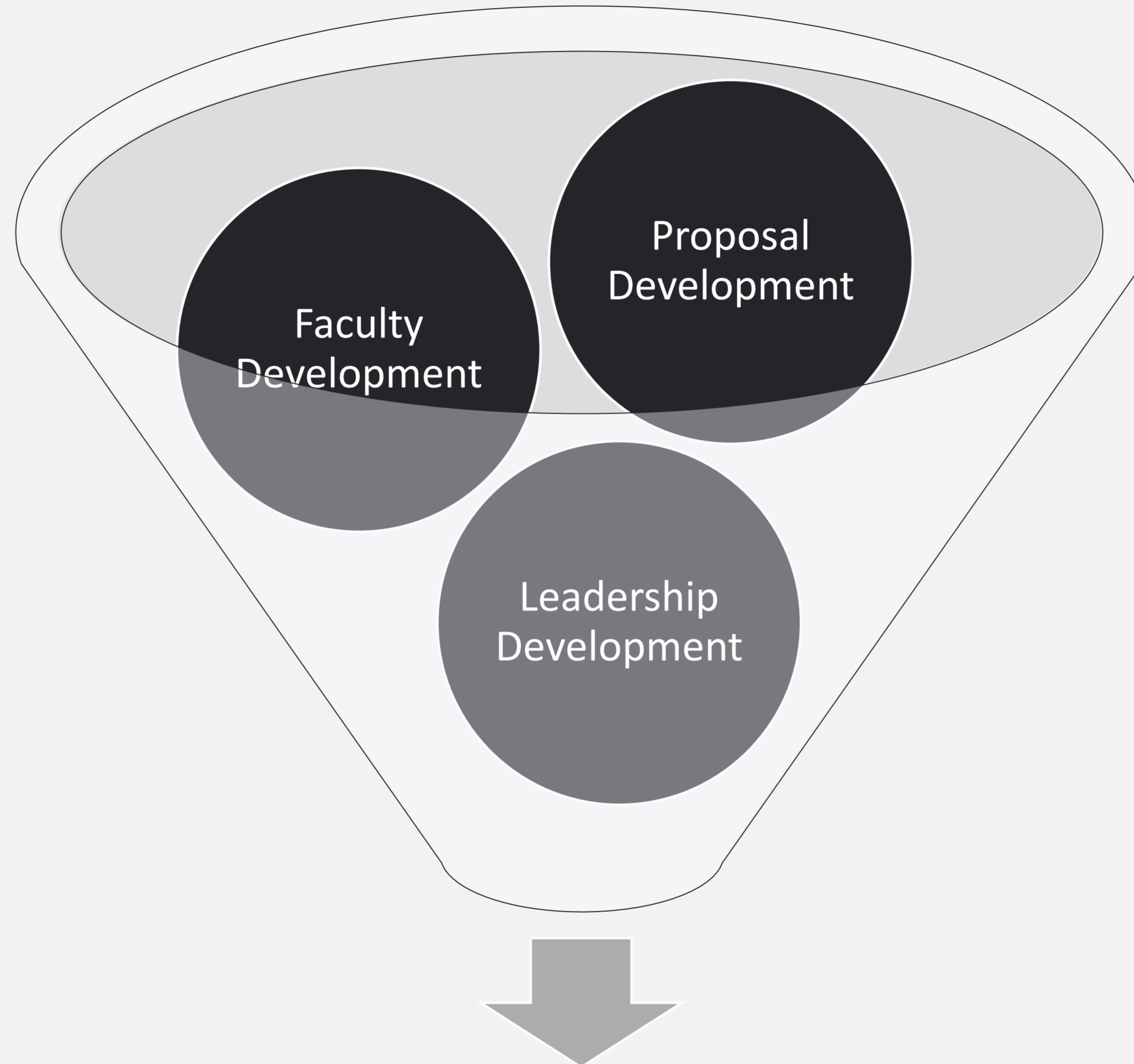
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WHAT DOES RFD DO?



Successful, funded research leaders

PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES



Level 0

- Brainstorming
- Strategic planning for submissions

Level 1

- Search for funding opportunities
- Training to use Pivot

Level 2

- Preparing to contact Program Officers
- Assessing “fit” of a proposed idea

Level 3

- Strategize for a resubmission
- Analyze reviews, develop responses

Level 4/5

- Ensure proposal and ancillary documents are clear, concise, cohesive & responsive to the solicitation

Level 6

- Support for large, complex proposals
- Center grants, infrastructure, etc.



REQUEST RFD SERVICES

All services are optional and are granted on a first come, first served basis

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OBJECTIVES

IN THIS SESSION, WE WILL DISCUSS:

-  Program basics
-  UI limited submission process and timeline
-  NRT - Goals, Architecture, Themes, Review Criteria
-  Tips for competitive proposals
-  Q&A Session - Dr. Daniel Denecke, NSF NRT Program Director, 1:10 -1:30 p.m.

NRT PROGRAM – BASICS



I Two Tracks:

- Track 1: Up to \$3 million for projects up to 5 years (R1 and non-R1 eligible)
- Track 2: Up to \$2 million for projects up to 5 years (R1 *not* eligible)

I Full Proposal Deadline – September 6, annually

I Budget requirement:

- All awards include minimum \$34K for 12 months per trainee

I Limit on Number of Proposals per Institution = 2

- An eligible organization may participate in only 2 proposals per NRT competition as lead or collaborative non-lead
- RFD uses internal review process to determine which proposals will be submitted

NRT PROGRAM – BASICS



What's new in 21-536?

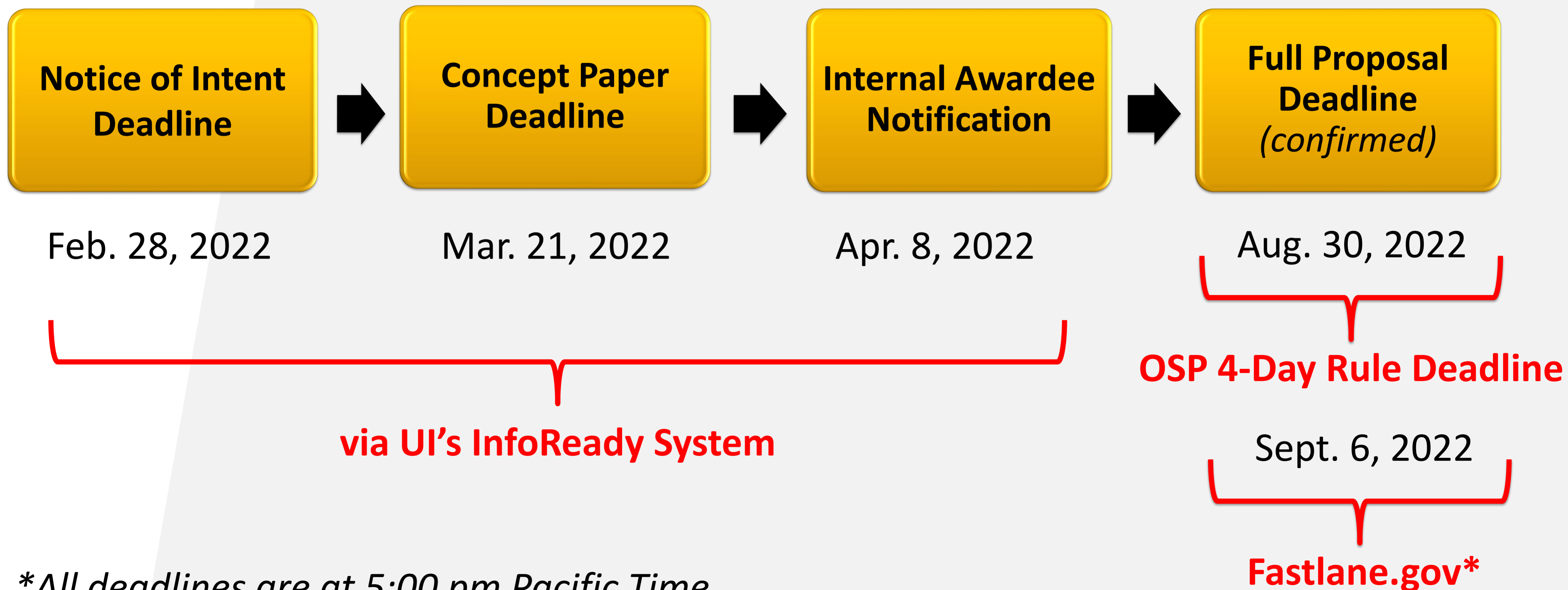
*also see [NRT FAQs](#)

- Letter of Intent (LOI) no longer required
- AI and QISE added to national priority areas
- Trainee support can be continuous or may be distributed over their traineeship tenure.
- Evaluators can be external or internal – *if internal, then project must justify how lack of bias is insured*
- Proposers may opt to submit proposals in response to this Program Solicitation via FastLane or Grants.gov
- March 1 Start Date for FY2023 and subsequent competitions
- Project Description has updated subheaders and new required content (e.g., Demographic Table, Independent Advisory Committee)



NRT - LIMITED SUBMISSION PROCESS

USING INFOREADY :



**All deadlines are at 5:00 pm Pacific Time.*

NSF RESEARCH TRAINEESHIP PROGRAM

Encouraging the development of innovative models for interdisciplinary/convergent STEM graduate training

Key Traineeship Elements

- Interdisciplinary/Convergent Research and Training
- Inclusive Workforce Development (both broad and diverse)
- Institutional Transformation



NRT PROGRAM – THREE GOALS

- I** Catalyze and advance cutting-edge interdisciplinary or convergent research in high priority areas
- I** Increase the capacity of U.S. graduate programs to
 - produce diverse cohorts of interdisciplinary STEM professionals
 - with technical and transferable professional skills
 - for research and research-related careers within and outside academia
- I** Develop new approaches and knowledge that will promote transformative improvements in graduate school

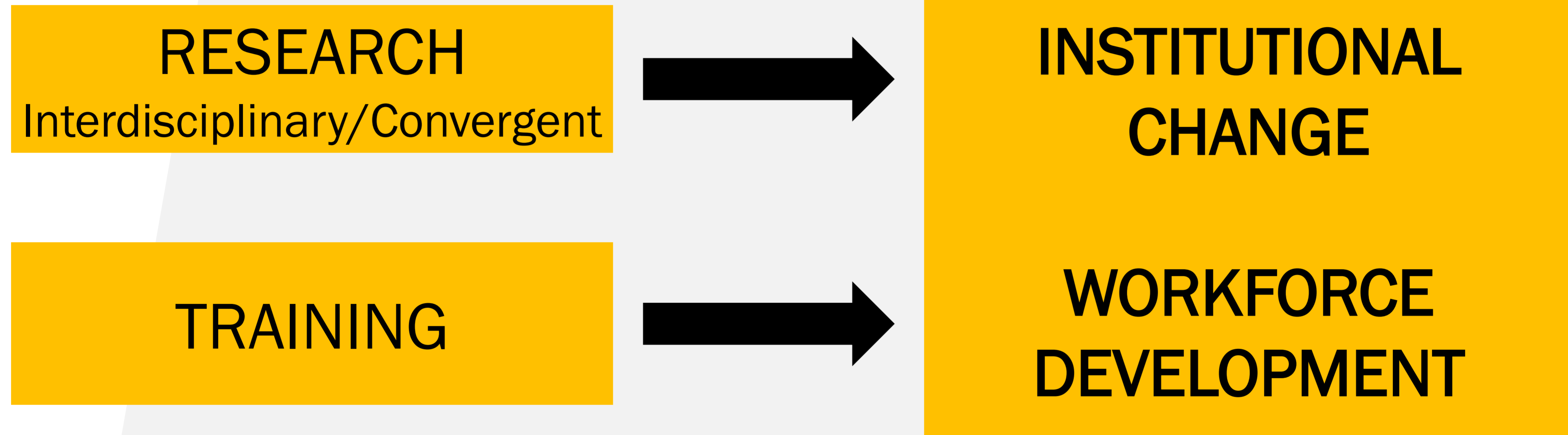
NRT PROPOSAL - FOCUS

NRT Proposals should focus on:

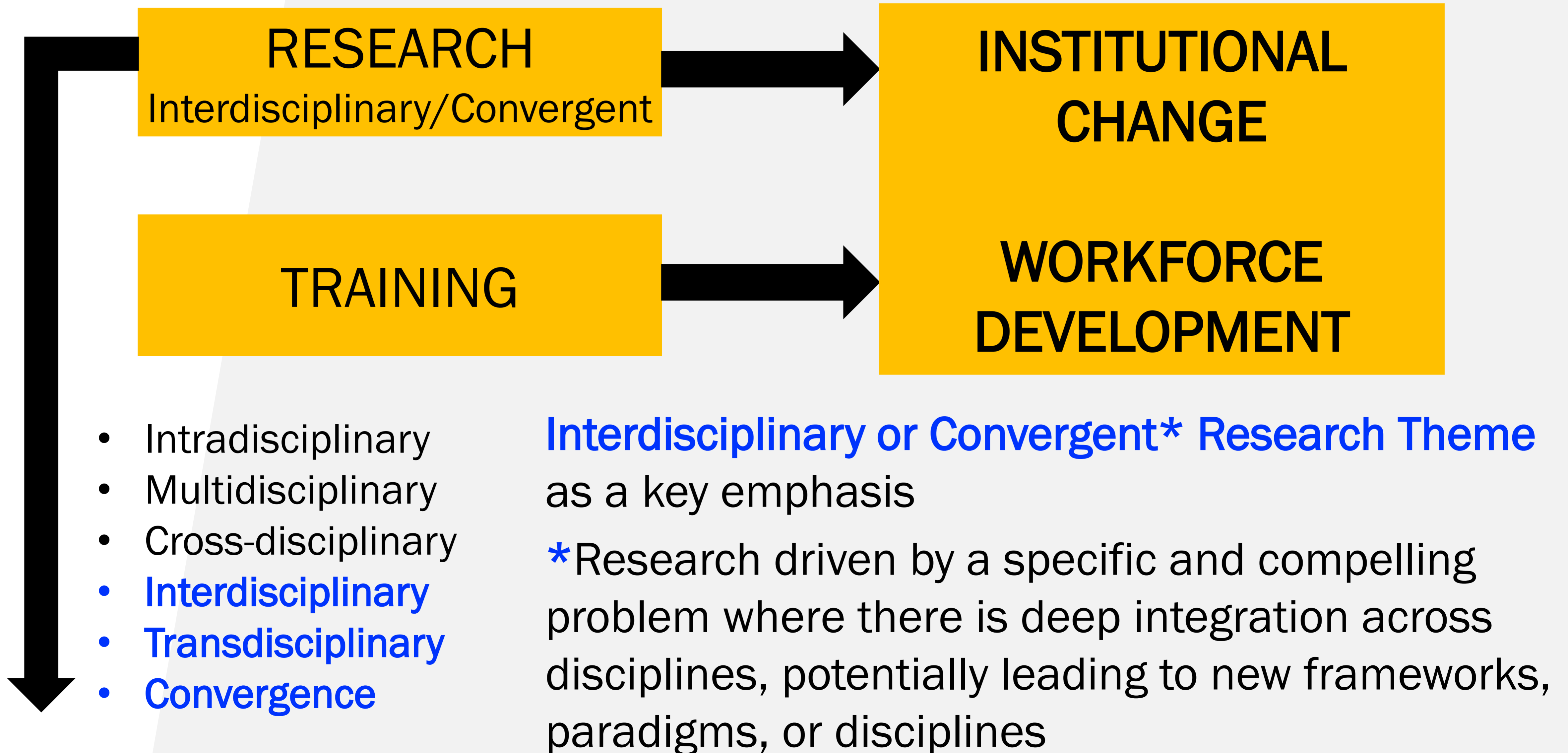
- I** Technical and professional training of STEM graduate students that emphasizes:
 - Research training
 - Technical and professional skills development
 - Mentoring and vocational counseling

- I** Techniques, languages, and cultures of interdisciplinary or convergent research fields.

CORE BUILDING BLOCKS OF AN NRT



CORE BUILDING BLOCKS OF AN NRT



NRT CONVERGENT NATIONAL PRIORITY AREAS (21-536)



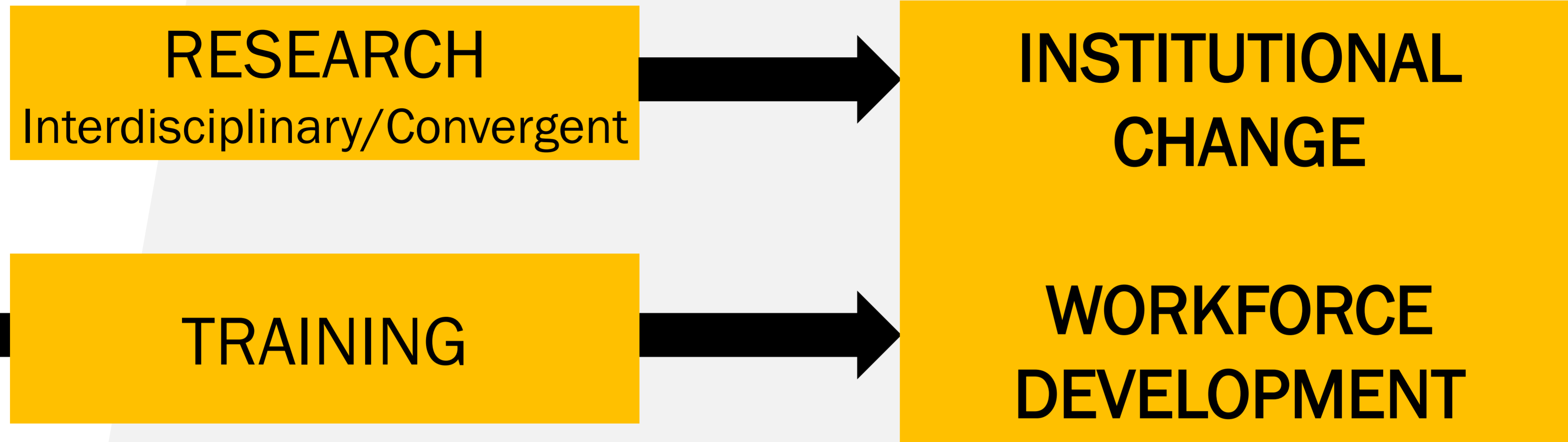
I Interdisciplinary research themes of national priority

I Special emphasis on

- [Artificial Intelligence](#) (AI)
- [Quantum Information Science and Engineering](#) (QISE)
- Six research areas listed in [NSF's 10 Big Ideas](#)



CORE BUILDING BLOCKS OF AN NRT



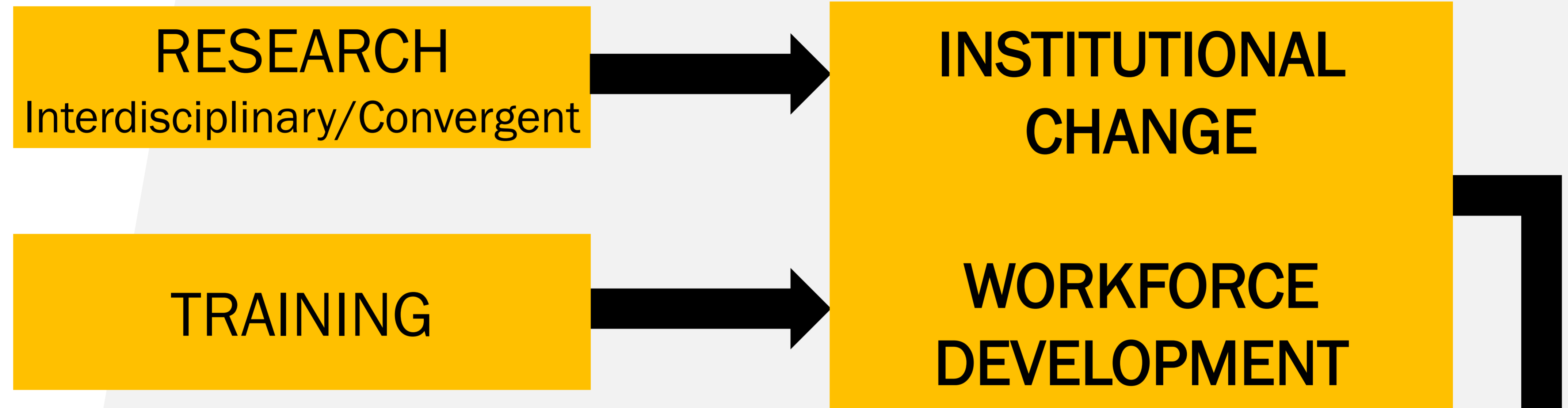
- Integrate training and research
- Do not extend time to degree
- Carefully consider the competencies you will develop
 - both content-area and career aligned career sets
- Who are trainees?

WHO ARE TRAINEES?



- I** STEM graduate students accepted into an institution's NRT program, irrespective of funding status, who complete required NRT elements (e.g., courses, workshops, projects, training activities).
- I** Must be master's and/or doctoral STEM students in a research-based degree program that requires a thesis or dissertation.
- I** Must be full-time students and hold U.S. citizenship or permanent resident status.

CORE BUILDING BLOCKS OF AN NRT



- **Workforce Development:** Is this addressing a workforce need? Will students have opportunities to pursue a range of careers with their degrees?
- **Institutional Change:** Proposals should demonstrate the sustainability of successful elements beyond the funding period.

EVALUATION & ASSESSMENT

I Critical project component – should assess

- Specific trainee competencies and outcomes
- How NRT project affects faculty teaching and research
- Institutional policies regarding interdisciplinary collaboration and STEM graduate education

I Evaluator - considerations

- Should offer unbiased and external perspective
- Can be an internal or external consulting entity
- Have potential to develop sustainable, in-house capacity
- Must be one of the listed 10 core participants
- Include evaluator in the proposal preparation ***tip**

NSF & NRT REVIEW CRITERIA

I Intellectual Merit*

I Broader Impacts

I Additional NRT Review Criteria

- Integration of Research and Education
- Interdisciplinarity/Convergence
- Professional Development and Training
- Integrating Diversity into NSF Program, Projects, and Activities
- Evaluation
- Sustainability & Model Dissemination

**Must address even though separate section labeled "Intellectual Merit" is not required for proposals to this solicitation.*

EHR

DIRECTORATE FOR
EDUCATION & HUMAN RESOURCES



NRT Proposal Preparation Tips

- Follow the solicitation guidelines
- Heed all “musts” and check all checkboxes
- Allow sufficient time for submission by deadline
- Heed institutional and PI/co-PI limitations on number of submissions
- Pay attention to limits and guidelines on:
 - institutional letter of support and/or
 - Required letters of collaboration from other NRT-eligible organizations that appear in the budget and/or
 - Other, optional letters of support
- New NSF-wide PAPPG and Biosketch guidelines

TIPS FOR COMPETITIVE NRT PROPOSALS



- I Review [NRT Program](#) webpage
- I Familiarize yourself with [NSF's 10 Big Ideas, AI, QISE](#)
- I Review national reports on STEM graduate education [1,2,3,4,5,6,7](#)
- I Get copies of funded NRT proposals ([NSF Awards Advanced Search](#))
- I Get help to contact Program Directors – [RFD Level 2 service request](#)
- I Request RFD services
 - Email: ored-rfdteam@uidaho.edu
 - Url: <https://www.uidaho.edu/research/about/orfd>

REQUEST RFD SERVICES

GUEST SPEAKER Q&A

I Q & A with Dr. Denecke, Program Director in NSF Directorate for Education & Human Resources

- Brief overview about NRT
- NSF Preparation Tips
- Q&A session

I Email: ddenecke@nsf.gov

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