



Applying for the 2019 PAEA Don Pedersen Research Grant

**Grant Deadline: October 30, 2019
4:59 p.m. ET**

Applying for the 2019 Don Pedersen Research Grant – Your Hosts:

Eleadah Clack, MA
Project Manager,
Research Programs
and Evaluations

Sheena Brown, PhD, MSCR
2016 Winner



Rick Dehn, MPA, PA-C,
Chair
Research Mission
Advancement
Commission

Elana Min, PhD, PA-C
2009 Winner

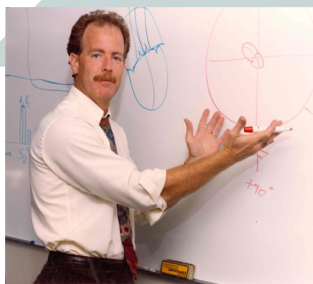
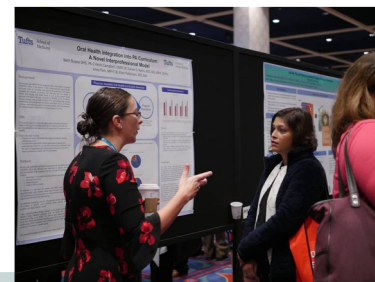
Trent Honda
PhD, MMS, PA-C
Chair
Grants & Scholarship Review
Committee

Intro to Mission and Objectives

1997 Association of
Physician Assistant
Programs (APAP)
Research Institute
Small Grants program



2013 Don Pedersen
Research Grants program
fully funded to foster PA
faculty development in the
area of research



2005 APAP renamed
Physician Assistant
Education Association

Beginning in 2016
Research focus for
early-career PA
faculty

Mission: To give early-career PA faculty, who are qualified to carry out the research as a principal investigator (PI), an entryway into research.

Objectives: PAEA seeks to create leaders in PA education/workforce research who will further the PA profession through research and publication.

Choosing a Research Question

- Ask a question of specific interest to the PA community or one that is generalizable.
- Address a novel research question of critical importance to PA education or the PA profession.
 - If the question has been previously investigated, explain how your research will address gaps in the current research.

To What Extent Do Physician Assistants Provide Chronic Disease Care?
Bettie Coplan MPAS, PA-C, *Northern Arizona University* **2012 Winner**

- Pose the question in the context of prior literature on the topic.

Avoid repeating a previously researched question without identifying how the additional research is warranted.

- **If no prior studies exist in PA education, consider other health professions literature.**

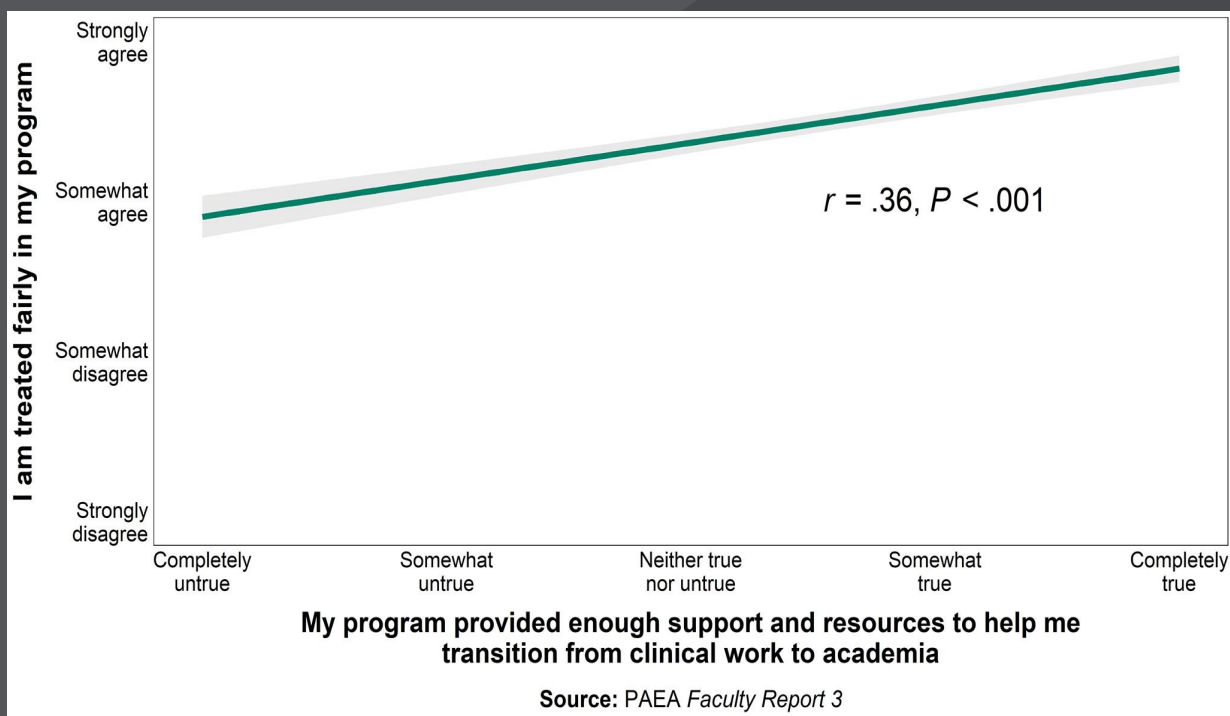
The Use of Simulation in Physician Assistant Programs: A National Survey

Donald Coerver PhD, PA-C, *MEDEX Northwest*

2013 Winner



Relevant Research Topics



- PA education and PA workforce issues
- Topics should answer new questions or address knowledge gaps exposed by previous research
- Topics should be at least of regional interest with preference for topics of national interest.
- The program is not intended to fund research on clinical practice.

2019 Preference for topics that explore:

- * **Increasing capacity in clinical education**
- * **Attracting and retaining diverse students and faculty**

Preference given to PA faculty who **have not received PAEA research grant awards**, paired with senior researcher co-investigators

Relevant Research Topics: Research Methods

- Data methods should provide the appropriate data to answer the research question.
- Create a clear analytic plan that is appropriate for the collected data.
- Discussion of bias – the Methods section should explicitly identify sources of bias and address how potential bias will be treated in the analysis.



Pro Tip

- Use caution analyzing multiple years of test data that aren't standardized.
- Use caution with single program studies.

Past Winner: Elana Min, PhD, PA-C

Northwestern University

Utilizing Standardized Patient Exams to Measure the Effectiveness of PA Student Training in Challenging Patient Encounters

- Identified a gap (at that time) in curriculum and a novel use of standardized patients
- Created a feasible timeline that worked with our students
- Secured familiar and reliable resources



Past Winner :
Sheena Brown,
PhD, MSCR

Mercer University

Diversity Within Physician
Assistant Education:
Assessing Perceptions of
Promotion and Tenure
Opportunities Among
Underrepresented Minority
Physician Assistant Faculty



Intro to Grantee Outcomes and Expectations

- Submit a final project report to the PAEA Grants and Scholarship Review Committee **within 90 days** of the end of the study.
- Be able to complete the research project **within 18 months** of receiving the award.
- Submit the research findings for presentation at the PAEA Education Forum within one year from the conclusion of the project.
- Complete follow-up surveys and participate in feedback tools from the PAEA Research Team as needed.



Submission Guidelines

- The research proposal must be six pages in length.
- Blinding requirements: The cover page and evidence of IRB submission do not need to be blinded.
- Must have proof of Institutional Review Board (IRB) submission, approval, or exemption **and**
 - Include copy of survey instrument
- PI (primary investigator) must be in good standing at accredited PAEA member program.
- PI must be employed by program for minimum of 20 hours per week (> 0.5 FTE).



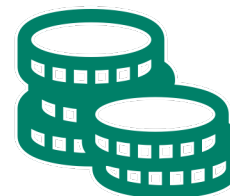
Proposals not submitted according to the guidelines will be disqualified

Submission Guidelines: General Considerations

- Must be received electronically no later than 4:59 p.m. ET, Wednesday, October 30, 2019.
- Make sure you've addressed all submission requirements.
 - Don't forget your timeline
 - Or your budget
- Identify potential weaknesses or limitations to the project and discuss how they will be overcome.
- Secure letters of recommendation early.
- Request specific feedback from RMAC committee members by emailing research@PAEAonline.org.

A Good Budget Tells a Story

- Develop a plan for completing the research project
- Create a budget by sections:
 - Time: consultants, research participants (report any in-kind)
 - People: faculty personnel, staff support (report any in-kind)
 - Supplies: markers, printing, materials, etc.
 - Misc: software, travel, fees, data access, etc.
- Prioritize an accurate estimate by researching the cost.
 - Time x Cost
 - Quantities x Cost
 - Be detailed in describing why you need each budget line item and how it will be used in your research.
 - **Pro Tip:** Commit some grant budget for statistical consulting.



1. Line Items

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Budget Items	Cost	Quantity	Request Amount	
2	Faculty				
3	Participants				
4	Supplies				
5	Fees				
6	Travel				
7	Total				
8					

2. Header Columns

3. Total Budget

Before You Submit: A Checklist

- Relevant question
- Blinding requirements
 - IRB (unblinded) and survey tool, as applicable
 - Cover page (unblinded)
 - Two copies of proposal, CV
- Budget
- Literature review and references that put your question in context
- Past funding history and collaboration efforts
- Clear research methods that are appropriate for research question
- Expected outcomes: timeline, dissemination plans, impact on PA field
- Page limits (6)
- Letters of support (3)
- October 30, 4:59 p.m. ET deadline



Evaluation Criteria: Research Outcomes & Budget

- Are the investigators well-qualified to carry out the research as proposed?
 - Consider interdisciplinary or inter-institutional collaborations to increase the expertise on a research team, if necessary.
- Can the project be realistically completed in 1.5 years?
 - Provide a timeline detailing deliverables and thoughtfulness about dissemination
- Are the budget and budget justification consistent with the methods? Does it include non-allowable costs?

Pitfalls and Common Problems

- The most common problems start with the research question:
 - Repeating previously researched question without identifying how the additional research is warranted.
 - Asking a question of limited interest to the PA community or one that is not generalizable.
 - Asking a question that can't be answered by the data.
- And subsequent methods:
 - Poorly described
 - Will likely produce biased results
 - Unlikely to result in data that would answer the research question(s)
 - Methods need to collect data that would allow generalizability

Pitfalls and Common Problems

- Your proposal should include appropriate methods for the data collected and a well-designed research question.
 - Grammar and syntax problems may come secondary as criteria points are not deducted.
 - Not all proposal weaknesses are created equal; however, still run spell check.
- What is needed to “make the data talk”?
 - Propose an analysis that fits the study design and the data it will collect.
 - Discuss whether the methods will collect enough data for the project or have adequate “power.”
 - Identify potential sources of bias and address them in the analysis.
 - Use caution analyzing multiple years of test data that aren’t standardized.
 - Your analysis should match the methods.

Have questions? Need advice? Want an expert to read over your application?

- Members of the PAEA Research Mission Advancement Commission (RMAC) are available for email and/or phone consultation.
 - Send an email to research@PAEAonline.org with a subject line “Don Pedersen Application Support”
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Additional Resources

2019 Education Forum & Fall Workshops

October 10-15, 2019

[Journal of Physician Assistant](#)

[Education](#)

[JAAPA](#)

[NCCPA Research](#)

[IPEDS](#) - National education data



[PAEA Digital Learning Hub & Professional Learning Communities](#)

[Your PAEA Research Team](#)



Questions and Answers

