NIH Biosketch

November 2, 2017

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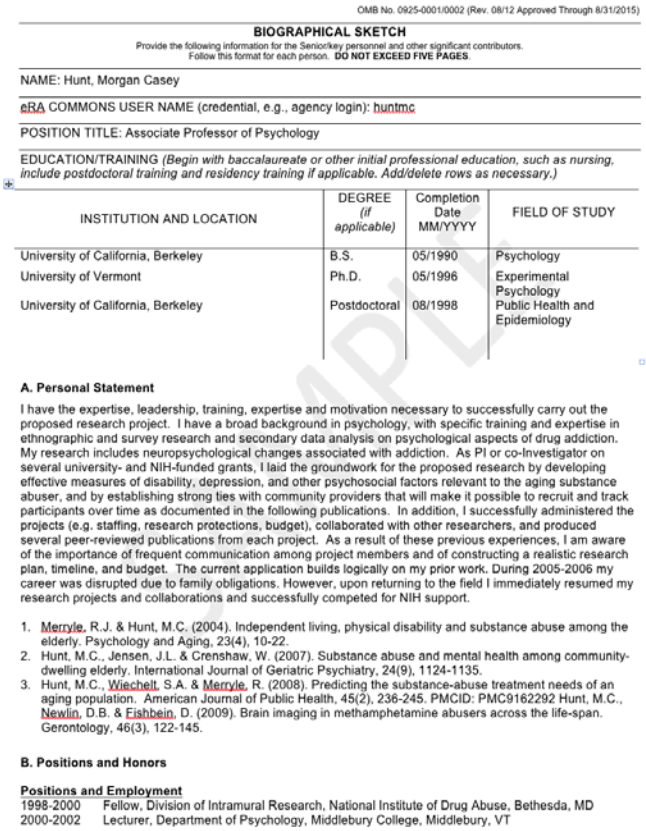
Applicant Comments on the process of creating a Biosketch

- I actually enjoyed it and found that it established a stronger overall rationale and direction for my career's work, and therefore strengthened the application.
- For me it gives me the chance to explain some of the collaborative (co-author pubs) clinical research that I am involved in more directly.
- I used it as a chance to brag that one of my papers has been cited almost 400 times (not sure if mentioning this was a good idea or not).

An NIH Biosketch…

Is a highly formatted component of a grant proposal that enables reviewers to evaluate the qualifications of the PI and scientific team that will be executing the research project.



OMB No. 0925-0001/0002 (Rev. 08/12 Approved Through 8/31/2015)

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors.
Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.**

NAME: Hunt, Morgan Casey

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login): huntmc

POSITION TITLE: Associate Professor of Psychology

EDUCATION/TRAINING *(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.)*

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE *(if applicable)*	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
University of California, Berkeley	B.S.	05/1990	Psychology
University of Vermont	Ph.D.	05/1996	Experimental Psychology
University of California, Berkeley	Postdoctoral	08/1998	Public Health and Epidemiology

A. Personal Statement

I have the expertise, leadership, training, expertise and motivation necessary to successfully carry out the proposed research project. I have a broad background in psychology, with specific training and expertise in ethnographic and survey research and secondary data analysis on psychological aspects of drug addiction. My research includes neuropsychological changes associated with addiction. As PI or co-Investigator on several university- and NIH-funded grants, I laid the groundwork for the proposed research by developing effective measures of disability, depression, and other psychosocial factors relevant to the aging substance abuser, and by establishing strong ties with community providers that will make it possible to recruit and track participants over time as documented in the following publications. In addition, I successfully administered the projects (e.g. staffing, research protections, budget), collaborated with other researchers, and produced several peer-reviewed publications from each project. As a result of these previous experiences, I am aware of the importance of frequent communication among project members and of constructing a realistic research plan, timeline, and budget. The current application builds logically on my prior work. During 2005-2006 my career was disrupted due to family obligations. However, upon returning to the field I immediately resumed my research projects and collaborations and successfully competed for NIH support.

1. Merryle, R.J. & Hunt, M.C. (2004). Independent living, physical disability and substance abuse among the elderly. Psychology and Aging, 23(4), 10-22.
2. Hunt, M.C., Jensen, J.L. & Crenshaw, W. (2007). Substance abuse and mental health among community-dwelling elderly. International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry, 24(9), 1124-1135.
3. Hunt, M.C., Wiechelt, S.A. & Merryle, R. (2008). Predicting the substance-abuse treatment needs of an aging population. American Journal of Public Health, 45(2), 236-245. PMCID: PMC9162292 Hunt, M.C., Newlin, D.B. & Fishbein, D. (2009). Brain imaging in methamphetamine abusers across the life-span. Gerontology, 46(3), 122-145.

B. Positions and Honors

Positions and Employment

1998-2000 Fellow, Division of Intramural Research, National Institute of Drug Abuse, Bethesda, MD
2000-2002 Lecturer, Department of Psychology, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT

Sections of the NIH Biosketch

Heading:

Name, eRA commons, Position, Education & Training

About yourself

A. Personal Statement

B. Positions and Honors

C. Contribution to Science

D. Research Support

About your research and your role in that research

Highlights in a nutshell

1. Five page limit
2. Info in Lists:
   - Header
   - B. Positions and Honors
   - D. Research Support
3. Info in Narration:
   - A. Personal Statement
   - B. Contribution to Science
4. Citations allowed in **personal statement** and **contribution to science section**
5. Option to include a **link to full list of published work**

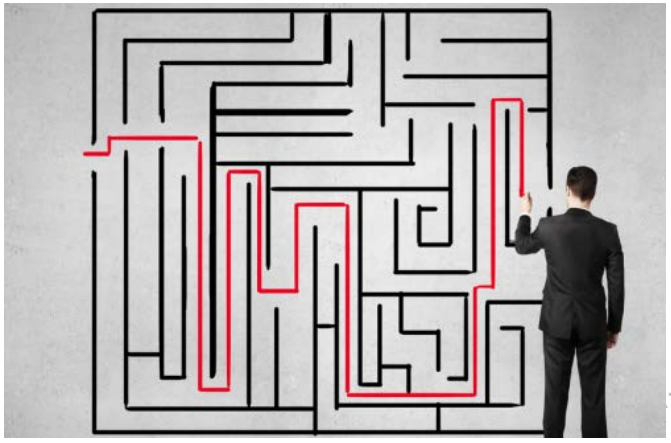
Some extra details to note

- Optional URL for a publication list must be to a government website (.gov) like My Bibliography.
- Graphics, figures and tables are not allowed.
- Option to add other names used to author research products in section A, Personal Statement.
- Research products can include conference proceedings such as meeting abstracts, posters, or other presentations.
- Research products that are under development, such as manuscripts that have not yet been accepted for publication, can be mentioned in the narrative sections. However, they cannot be cited as one of their citations.

Know Your Reader/Audience

Your reader/audience is **the reviewer**

- Use the biosketch strategically to lead the reviewer through your career.
- Spoon feed reviewers to allow them to easily understand who you are and what you are capable of accomplishing.
- Put into context what you've already accomplished and how it positions you perfectly to lead the proposed aims in this grant application.
- The best predictor of future behavior is past behavior.



CSR Advice to Applicants on the New NIH Biosketch

- Read the instructions and use the new biosketch format.
- Be objective -- Don't oversell or undersell yourself.
- Make sure your claims are backed up by your publications.
- Don't stuff your biosketch with data and information that do not belong there.
- Take advantage of the option to provide links to your publications via **SciENcv** or **My Bibliography**.

Bottom Line: List only pertinent information in your biosketch, and know the biosketch can work in your favor (or against you)

Reviewer Guidance from CSR

- When reviewing biosketches, reviewers are told to:
  - Take the time to read biosketches -- they could save time in assessing an investigator's contributions.
  - You may factor an uninformative biosketch into your scoring if it hinders your ability to assess the investigator.

Sections of the NIH Biosketch

Heading:

About yourself

Name, eRA commons, Position, Education & Training

A. Personal Statement

B. Positions and Honors

C. Contributions to Science

D. Research Support

A. Personal Statement

Briefly describe why you are well-suited for your role(s) in this project. The relevant factors may include: aspects of your training; your previous experimental work on this specific topic or related topics; your technical expertise; your collaborators or scientific environment; and/or your past performance in this or related fields.

You may cite up to four publications or research products that highlight your experience and qualifications for this project.

Definition of a Research Product

Research products can include audio or video products; conference proceedings such as meeting abstracts, posters or other presentations; patents; data and research materials; databases; educational aids or curricula; instruments or equipment; models; protocols; and software or netware.

Personal Statement: Suggested Approach

- Length – Should aim for ½ page and not exceed 1 page
- As before, CUSTOMIZE this for each new grant application (imp for PI and all key personnel) so that it speaks *directly* to this particular grant proposal
- Sell your role in the proposed research & speak to the type of funding mechanism connecting it to your goals
- Be accessible – you may use 1st person writing
- Be aspirational. Show excitement/passion for your research
- If referencing impediments, be brief and non dramatic

A. Personal Statement – some extra's

- Indicate if you have published or created research products under another name.
- You may mention specific contributions to science that are not included in Section C. Do not present or expand on materials that should be described in other sections of this biosketch or the application.
- Figures, tables and graphics are not allowed.

Personal Statement Example – Use of 1st person and aspirational

Excerpt from Sue Ellen Abdalian, MD,

Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Tulane University School of Medicine

A.

The A… …ed
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comm… …uiting
research site.

…work was punctuated by a hurricane disaster that emptied the entire city, closed every single clinical site,…for months to years… Research staff and I worked tirelessly to retain study integrity in the face of personal disaster and loss, to close studies, and then to rebuild clinical sites…while newly recreating an actively recruiting research site.

Personal Statement Example

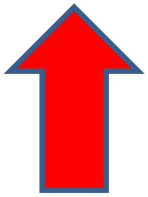
Inclusion of peer reviewed citations & other highlights

Excerpt from Gary Miller, PhD Biosketch

A. Personal Statement –Identify up to four peer-reviewed publications that specifically highlight your experience and qualifications for this project.

I have also been helping lead an initiative on the concept of the exposome, the environmental equivalent of the human genome. The exposome has been prominently featured in the strategic plan of NIEHS and I lead the first NIH-funded center on the topic. Our center has been providing key scientific leadership to this emerging concept through a variety of mechanisms.

a. **Miller GW**, Jones DP. The nature of nurture: refining the definition of the exposome. *Toxicological Sciences*, 2014
b. **Miller GW**. The Exposome: A Primer. 2014. Academic Press, Elsevier (first book on the exposome)
c. An Introduction to the Exposome, Continuing Education Workshop presented at the 2015 Society of Toxicology Annual Meeting. **Miller GW**, Chair
d. I develop and maintain the website for the Human Exposome Project



This is a creative liberty citing a website. Not a publication, but is allowed

Sections of the NIH Biosketch

Heading:

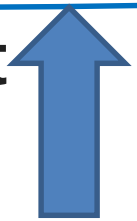
Name, eRA commons, Position, Education & Training

A. Personal Statement

B. Positions and Honors

C. Contribution to Science

D. Research Support



About your research and your role in that research

Section C. Contributions to Science

Describe up to 5 of your most significant contributions to science, and for each of these:

- indicate the historical background that frames the scientific problem;
- the central finding(s);
- the influence of the finding(s) on the progress of science or the application of those finding(s) to health or technology; and
- your specific role in the described work

Within Each of the Contributions

- Each of the 5 'contributions' can be no more than ½ page each including citations
- You may cite up to four papers accepted for publication or research products that are relevant to the contribution.
- These citations do not have to be authored by you.
- You may provide a URL to a full list of your published work. This URL must be to a Federal Government website (a .gov suffix). NIH recommends using My Bibliography. Providing a URL to a list of published work is not required, and reviewers are not required to look at the list.

Contributions to Science: Suggested Approach

- Group your papers by theme or subject, as opposed to chronological order.
- Give a short description of the relevant atmosphere surrounding them (the state of the literature before your work, your role in the research, health impact, interesting applications, etc).
- Make it useful and coherent for the reviewer.
- Some ideas
  - ✓ In your previous research experiences, what did the team do and what exactly did you do?
  - ✓ What did you learn from what you did?
  - ✓ Reflect on what you found and how it may have led to the current proposal.

Contribution to Science Example

Excerpt from Gary Miller, PhD Biosketch

2) Role of plasma membrane monoamine transporters response to psychostimulants

During postdoctoral training in the Caron laboratory I was able to contribute (as co-author) to several important papers on monoamine transporters, which were based on novel mouse gene knockout models including, dopamine transporter, the norepinephrine transporter, and the vesicular monoamine transporter. These papers have been very influential in our understanding of the function of these transporters.

a. Wang YM, Gainetdinov RR, Jones SR, Fumagalli F, Xu F, Bock CB, **Miller GW**, and Wightman RM, Caron MG. (1997) Knockout of VMAT2 results in neonatal death and hypersensitivity to cocaine and amphetamine. *Neuron*. 19: 1285-1296. PMID: 9427251

b. Rocha B, Fumagalli F, Gainetdinov RR, Jones S, **Miller GW**, Caron MG. (1998) Cocaine self-administration in mice lacking the dopamine transporter. *Nature Neuroscience*, 1:132-137. PMID: 10195128.

c. Xu F, Gainetdinov RR, Wang YM, Jones SR, **Miller GW**, Wetsel W, and Caron MG. (2000) Mice lacking the noradrenergic transporter (NET) are supersensitive to psychostimulants. *Nature Neuroscience*, 3:465-471. PMID: 107693862.

d. **Miller GW**, Gainetdinov RR, Levey AI, and Caron MG. (1999) Dopamine transporters and neuronal injury. *Trends in Pharmacological Sciences*. 20: 424-429. PMID: 10498956.

Contribution to Science Example

Excerpt from Paul Spearman, MD, Biosketch

Development of novel HIV vaccines, including virus-like particle vaccines

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Despite more than 25 years of effort, the world lacks an effective HIV vaccine for HIV prevention. Our approach to this problem is to continue to explore new vaccine designs that can generate potent neutralizing antibodies and mucosal immune responses. We have pioneered production systems for large-scale generation of authentic HIV virus-like particle (VLP) vaccines.

1) Hammonds J, Chen X, Fouts T, DeVico A, Montefiori D, Spearman P. 2005. Induction of neutralizing antibodies against human immunodeficiency virus type 1 primary isolates by Gag-Env pseudovirion immunization. J Virol 79(23):14804-14814. PMCID: PMC1287556

… (plus 3 more references)

Contributions to Science: Appropriate # to List

- While all applicants may describe up to five contributions, graduate students and postdoctorates are encouraged to consider highlighting two or three they consider most significant. Descriptions may include a mention of research products under development, such as manuscripts that have not yet been accepted for publication.

Contributions to Science: Formatting Liberties

- **Bold** your name in the author list.
- Give each contribution to science a meaningful title.
  1. Cured Cancer.
  2. Developed safe and effective Ebola Vaccine.
  3. Won Nobel Prize.

Adapted from the Knoepfler lab stem cell blog

Contribution to Science: Humility vs. Arrogance

- Extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence
- The magnitude of your supposed accomplishment must align with your tangible contributions
- Do not misrepresent any facts
  - List all publications as they would appear in any searchable database

Final Thoughts for New Biosketch

- Read and understand the new guidelines
- Sketch out your accomplishments (dedicate time for reflection)
- Discuss in mid-size groups within your discipline
- Work with peers and mentors to share, review, and exchange ideas
- Revise, revise, revise

Acknowledgements

Biosketch Examples

- Gary Miller, PhD
- Sue Ellen Abdalian, MD
- Paul Spearman, MD

Appendix Materials

Helpful links and resources when creating your Biosketch

Useful Tools to Create Biosketches

- **My NCBI**
- **My Bibliography**
- **SciEncv**

My NCBI, My Bibliography & SciEncv

NCBI - National Center for Biotechnology Information

- Part of the NIH and the National Library of Medicine, and the institution that manages PubMed
- For all individuals who apply for, receive or are associated with research investments from federal agencies.
- Supports and distributes a variety of databases for the medical and scientific communities
- Through **My NCBI**, includes access to other features including **My Bibliography collection & SciENcv professional profile service**

My Bibliography

- Found within My NCBI
  - Use of My Bibliography helps to report compliance to eRA Commons and using SciENcv to create BioSketches
  - A reference tool that helps you save your citations directly from PubMed or, if not found there, to manually enter citations using My Bibliography templates
  - My Bibliography provides a centralized place where citations are easily accessed, exported as a file, and made public to share with others

SciENcv: Science Experts Network Curriculum Vitae

Science Experts Network Curriculum Vitae (SciENcv),

- A system that allows you to enter your biographical data once and convert it into biosketches that can be used with both NIH or NSF grant applications and annual progress reports.
- Need My NCBI account to use
- Use of SciENcv helps with creating Biosketches

Instructional Video:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PRWy-3GXhtU&feature=youtu.be
Tools to build your new Biosketch
NIH Notice: NOT-OD-15-032

FAQ's: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/faq_biosketches.htm

NIH Links

- NIH form pages and instructions:

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/424/index.htm

- NIH FAQ Page:

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/faq_biosketches.htm

Instructions

- There are **3** sets of **Instructions and Samples**
  - General
  - Predoctoral Fellowship
  - Postdoctoral Fellowship
- There are **2** new **Blank Format Pages**
  - General biosketch
  - Fellowship biosketch
    - (predoctoral and postdoctoral use same page)
- All can be found here: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/424/index.htm

Other Useful Links

Pedsresearch.org Compilation of NIH Biosketch Relevant Notices/Links

http://www.pedsresearch.org/research/resources/career-development/nih-biosketch

NIH CSR Peer Review Notes January 2016

http://public.csr.nih.gov/aboutcsr/NewsAndPublications/PeerReviewNotes/Pages/Peer-Review-Notes-Jan-2016Part3.aspx

Penn State College of Medicine Research Concierge Service

http://www2.med.psu.edu/researchconcierge/frequently-asked-questions-faqs/