

Name: Lynsey Fitzpatrick  
Working Title: Director of Strategic Research  
Opportunities  
Payroll Title: RSCH GNT PRG OFCR 3

Lynsey Fitzpatrick's contributions to the Research Development (RD) team's campus-wide effectiveness are colossal. Since joining the team in 2018 to manage UCSD's limited-submission program, Lynsey has gone far, far beyond her assigned responsibilities, expanding her role and adding value to every aspect of RD. Lynsey's extraordinary impact reflects her team-mindedness, analytical brilliance, commitment to EDI, and superb relationship-building skills. Remarkably, this superstar exudes humility, preferring to shine the spotlight on team accomplishments.

Examples of Lynsey's excellence in all six EOY areas follow.

- Innovation and proactive leadership

Lynsey herself has driven major expansion in the scope and impact of her work. The number of funding opportunities Lynsey identifies and coordinates annually increased 60% over the last three years, to ~150 in 2020. The potential award value of these opportunities is an astounding ~\$500M. The number of applications Lynsey handles annually has also skyrocketed to >330, representing engagement of 500+ faculty. The remarkable increase in Lynsey's productivity is even more impressive considering that RD's administrative support allocation has been reduced by 50%.

Lynsey superbly navigates challenges inherent in managing internal competitions. Her skills in conflict resolution and creative solution-brokering are unparalleled. She is adept at anticipating and preemptively averting potential tensions. Her deft interventions and diplomacy have saved faculty and university administrators incalculable stress, unnecessary effort, and precious time.

Lynsey's innovation and proactive leadership give UCSD a competitive edge in winning grants. Lynsey initiates campus coordination for high-value opportunities in advance of sponsors' publication of calls-for-proposals (something not done at most universities), giving UCSD faculty an invaluable head start. Well beyond expectations for her position, Lynsey provides timely, actionable information about opportunities, awards, and funding trends to applicants, review committees, and institutional leadership.

- Build relationships/partnerships

As RD is a small unit, partnering is crucial to maximizing impact. Lynsey excels at relationship-building. As RD's primary liaison with multiple campus offices, Lynsey forges collaborations that amplify RD's impact. With:

- Foundation Relations, Lynsey leads information sessions to help faculty compete more successfully for funding.
- Government Research Relations, Lynsey ensured the success of a UC-wide program to help "rising-star" faculty forge relationships with Department of Defense program officers.
- Research Affairs leadership, Lynsey introduced a community-building initiative whereby leaders individually congratulate early-career faculty who win prestigious awards.

- Support university practices, procedures and policies
- Substantial cost-effectiveness

Following an initial pilot, Lynsey identified cost-effective licensing options and expanded use of a powerful new tool, InfoReady, to enable administrators in 9 units to more efficiently manage internal programs. While originally introduced to manage limited submissions, the platform now hosts everything from multi-institution seed funding to conferences and graduate-student training, allowing campus administrators to process and track >700 applications and award ~\$1M in internal funds.

- Extraordinary service to community

At the onset of the pandemic, when funding agencies began pumping out time-sensitive COVID-19-focused opportunities, Lynsey worked quickly with colleagues to develop a database that enables faculty to more

readily discover and pursue these opportunities. The database has expanded to >170 opportunities, and UCSD investigators have already won ~\$30M in COVID-19-related awards.

- Inclusive Excellence

Lynsey's commitment to EDI is woven into the fabric of her work. Beyond addressing opportunities to increase diversity in faculty review-committee membership and reduce implicit bias in application evaluation, Lynsey created and curates a compilation of funding opportunities that support inclusive excellence. Lynsey is also chief architect/implementer of the Innovation Grants for Inclusive Research Excellence that awarded 13 seed-grants to early-career faculty throughout campus. 11 recipients are female. The purely financial return-on-investment is already >50:1 and expected to grow.

Lynsey Fitzpatrick's stellar performance and broad, deep, sustained contributions to UCSD make her highly deserving of this recognition.