## **Characteristics of a Successful Research Proposal**

A successful research proposal:

- 1. Is innovative
- 2. Includes specific aims
- 3. Includes preliminary data
- 4. Describes approach
- 5. Indicates the significance of the proposal with regard to the specific award and conveys its impact on science and your personal growth.

## **Characteristics of a Strong Letter of Support**

- 1. Personal
- 2. Specific
- 3. Indicates why the award is important for the candidate
- 4. Indicates why the candidate is important to the department
- 5. Describes future plans for the candidate