

## American University Resources for Grantseeking

SPIN (Sponsored Programs Information Network) is a listing of national and international government and private funding sources, updated daily. SPIN searching is used for one-time searches of the database.

To use SPIN, go to [http://spin2000.infoed.org/new\\_spin/spinmain.asp](http://spin2000.infoed.org/new_spin/spinmain.asp) and select SPIN to do a one-time search from any computer on campus. There is a tutorial on the SPIN website that is also helpful at <http://www.infoed.org/home/presentation/SPINPlusTrainingCD2.ppt>.

SMARTS is another service available through InfoEd, that searches the database, using a profile that the user establishes, then emails the results to the user. For further information, please see <http://www.infoed.org/geniussearch/genius.asp>

## Training Sessions

The Office of Sponsored Programs offers training and assistance with SPIN and SMARTS. Individual assistance may be arranged by contacting Sarah Wassum at [swassum@american.edu](mailto:swassum@american.edu) or (202) 885-3447. A general workshop on the system is offered twice a year.

## Search Tips

The more efficient your queries are, the better your results will be. The key is to be specific without being too specific. You need to include enough information to locate relevant programs without being too specific, and excluding programs you may be interested in.

Use the new re-query feature in SPIN. If you are searching for "post-graduate law fellowship," you may not get results by searching on the whole term. Instead, try searching on "fellowship."

From the "postgraduate" results list, select "search within these results" and search for "law." To narrow the search further, search within the new results list for "postgraduate." The results will be all the programs that contain "fellowship," "law" and "postgraduate."

