Enhancing Research Success
University of Idaho
Research Planning

October 14, 2015

“...I have always found that plans are useless, but planning is indispensable” - Dwight D. Eisenhower
Research Planning

• Why now?
  – Continued UI relevance requires increased focus on multi-institutional transdisciplinary cutting edge research
  – Changing local and national research environments require strategic prioritization
  – Sustainable undergraduate enrollment growth and increased research activities are linked via faculty involvement

• Where are we going?

  *An open and resourced process for*
  – Identification of university wide themes
  – Strategies to resources these themes
  – Improved policies to enable cutting edge scholarly activity
UI will be Most Effective and Relevant where Learning, Discovery, and Engagement are Linked

Collaborating in Excellence
- Faculty
- Students
- Partners
- Stakeholders
- Sponsors

Increased Research Capacity

Societally Relevant Scholarly Activities

Increased Enrollments

Knowledge Creation & Dissemination

Experiential Pedagogy

Ideas That Matter
Regional Focus with Global Impact

Insights & Approaches,
Intellectual Property, New Technologies

Graduates Connected to Communities

Educated 21st Century Citizenry

Solutions to Regional, National, and Global Challenges

Knowledge Creation & Dissemination

University of Idaho
Building & Sustaining Scholarly Activity

- **Purpose** - defining the role of scholarly activity in achieving the university’s mission
- **Priorities** - identifying areas of preeminence
- **Plans** - developing unity, focus, and “buy in” to guide allocation of resources
- **People** - empowering faculty supported by students and staff to deliver transformational scholarly activity
- **Partners** - working with others to expand capabilities, capacity, and relevance of scholarly activity
- **Processes** - enabling innovative, efficient, safe and compliant scholarly activity
- **Places** - providing well equipped space for exceptional results
University Scholarly Activity Plan

- Aligns with the UI wide strategic planning process
  - Role of scholarly activity in UI missions
- Articulates the future state of scholarly activity at UI
  - Research themes and initiatives
  - Agencies and sponsors to support
  - Faculty, staff and student mixes
  - Programs and core facilities/infrastructure
- Honors and expresses UI’s values
- Defines goals and metrics
- Recognizes opportunities and limitations
- Provides a high-level road map to achieve goals
# Planning Hierarchy

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<th>Theme Program Plans 1 to n</th>
<th>Societal issues</th>
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Research Themes/Initiative “Program Plans”

• Supplements University Research Plan
• Analysis of societal and other issues
  – Who owns the issues
  – Why do the issues need to be addressed
  – What is the “cost” of the issues and the “value” of their solutions
• Identification of key scientific (or public policy/acceptance or other) choke points
• Articulation of UI’s proposed technical and organizational approaches to address the choke points
• Discussion of likely agencies and sponsors that will support the efforts
Research Themes/Initiative

• Transdisciplinary challenges with regional focus and global impact
• Build on existing or emerging strengths—competitive advantage
• Engage multiple colleges
• Can grow to 30 or more university investigators in genuine collaboration
• Provide opportunities for student involvement (especially at the Ph.D. level)
Path Forward

• Articulate the Role of Research at the University of Idaho
• Identify (using semi-open workshops) existing and develop aspirational research themes
• Establish Goals
• Develop draft plan
• Vet plan with faculty and leadership
• Incorporate and address comments
• Identify sources for needed resources
• Roll out and implement
Scholarly Themes

• University Wide Committee
• Supported by data (Elsevier)
• Larry Forney and Andy Kersten to Co-Chair

Charge
– Develop list of current (themes) and potential
  (initiatives) in cross-cutting areas
– Assess capacity (faculty strength, collaborators & sponsor interest, and infrastructure)
– Identify barriers
– Provide metrics
– Summarize finding and recommendations
Committee Nominations

- Email nominations to vpresearch@uidaho.edu
- Short summary of qualifications
  - Experience in transdisciplinary scholarly activity
  - Actively engaged in scholarly activity
  - Demonstrated ability to “think outside of the box”
Questions?