Sustaining Interdisciplinary Research Initiatives

“So, we started this thing. How do we keep it going?”

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University

What We Want (You) To Get Out of Today

• Approaches to sustaining interdisciplinary initiatives

• A sense that others are facing similar challenges and have ideas!

• Contacts to help build your regional network
Plan for today's session

• Introductions
• Who's here?
• Brief presentation on 4 themes:
  • Integrating an initiative into established institutional structures
  • Expanding the research community
  • Balancing scope creep and opportunity costs
  • Escaping burnout and roadblocks (cultural & financial)
• Small group discussions
• Q & A and large group discussion
DISCOVERY AT OHIO STATE

The Discovery Themes initiative is nurturing interdisciplinary research that maximizes Ohio State’s talent to better address the world’s critical challenges.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INFECTIOUS DISEASES</th>
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<td>CHRONIC BRAIN INJURY</td>
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<th>GLOBAL ARTS &amp; HUMANITIES</th>
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<td>TRANSLATIONAL DATA ANALYTICS</td>
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<td>SUSTAINABLE &amp; RESILIENT ECONOMY</td>
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<th>FOODS FOR HEALTH</th>
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<tr>
<td>FOOD &amp; AGRICULTURAL TRANSFORMATION</td>
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<tr>
<td>MATERIALS &amp; MANUFACTURING FOR SUSTAINABILITY</td>
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Who's in the Room?
Integrating an initiative into established institutional structures

Ohio State’s RD co-funding model

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Parking deal</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Proposal Development Office launched (Office of Research)</td>
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<td>2012-2015</td>
<td>Discovery Themes rolled out</td>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>3 PDO proposal mgrs. w/ DT co-funding</td>
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<td>2019</td>
<td>175 DT faculty on campus</td>
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Images: discovery.osu.edu; Ebay.co.uk; Magicon and Arjan Farzkenari, nounproject.org; istockphoto.com
How’s it working?

Proposal Managers
50% funded by one of the DTs
50% funded by a college

Director & Exec Asst
100% OR funding

Expanding the research community
GC Competitions (Engage, Transform, Seed), 2017-2019

Ties = proposal, Node size = # touches across all comps

Interviews
Initial Consultations
Meet-ups
Spark Lunches & Dinners
Writing Parties
Poster Fairs
Balancing scope creep and opportunity costs
Escaping burnout and roadblocks
Get yourself connected!

The Office of Academic Affairs and the Office of Research are pleased to partner with Advancement on a new series of events that will showcase the extraordinary interdisciplinary work being pursued at Ohio State. In the coming months, we will host four Intersections events, each featuring several short talks by faculty, to inform Ohio State staff who connect with potential partners and investors about funding opportunities.
Table Introductions

• 1 minute to gather your thoughts

• Introductions
  • Name
  • Where are you from
  • Why you chose this session

• What resonates with you today
  • Questions
  • Best practices or ideas
  • Pits / Peaks
Now, as a group...
Group Discussion

• Integrating an initiative into established institutional structures
• Expanding the research community
• Balancing scope creep and opportunity costs
• Escaping burnout and roadblocks (cultural & financial)

Reach out with questions!

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transitioning from the founding funding source