

**Associate Dean Meeting  
February 17, 2016  
Minutes**

**Attendees:**

Dr. David Clark, Executive Associate Dean and Professor, College of Business Administration  
Ms. Katherine Durben, Executive Director, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs  
Dr. Sarah Feldner, Associate Professor and Associate Dean, College of Communication  
Dr. Victoria Fitzgerald, Assistant Dean for College Operations, College of Education  
Mr. Austin Fritsch, Compliance Officer/Animal Facility and Biosafety Director, Office of Research Compliance  
Dr. Jeanne Hossenlopp, Vice President for Research and Innovation, Office of Research and Innovation  
Dr. Sandra Hunter, Professor, Physical Therapy  
Mr. Ben Kennedy, Research Compliance Officer, Human Subjects/Radiation Safety, Office of Research Compliance  
Dr. Marya Leatherwood, Vice Provost for Strategic and Academic Planning, Office of the Provost  
Mr. Scott Mandernack, Associate Dean for Scholarly Resources and Collections, Raynor Memorial Libraries  
Dr. John Mantsch, Chair and Professor, Biomedical Sciences  
Dr. Donna McCarthy, Interim Dean, College of Nursing  
Prof. Chad Oldfather, Professor, Law School  
Dr. Carmel Ruffolo, Associate Vice President for Research and Innovation, Office of Research and Innovation  
Dr. Joseph Schimmels, Associate Dean for Research and Professor, College of Engineering  
Dr. Rosemary Stuart, Associate Dean for Planning and Professor of Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences

**Excused:**

Dr. T. Gerard Bradley, Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies; Director, Predoctoral and Graduate Programs in Orthodontics, School of Dentistry  
Dr. James South, Associate Dean for Faculty, College of Arts and Sciences  
Ms. Lora Strigens, University Architect and Planner  
Ms. Jean Zaroni, Associate Dean of Libraries, Raynor Memorial Libraries

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

The meeting was called to order by Jeanne Hossenlopp.

**II. Approval/Discussion of Minutes**

Corrections were made to the November 12, 2015 meeting minutes. Amended minutes will be presented for approval at the April meeting.

The group shared updates to the hiring forecast discussed at the last meeting. During discussions the group identified skill areas of recently hired new faculty that could be cross-beneficial to other departments. The group felt it would be helpful to provide a short synopsis of new faculty hires and share with the group on a regular basis.

**III. Strategic Planning**

**a. Potential Clusters**

Jeanne reported that the Committee on Research has been working to identify overlays in areas of strength and areas of opportunity. She asked the group to review a cluster graph showing potential "Research in Action" themes. The graph is a representative "big picture" and should not be a map of each department. The updated model/graph will be shown to the campus community to help identify potential areas of collaboration, providing a platform to show others why we do what we do.

One of the objectives of the strategic plan is to identify and grow the areas of highest research potential. The group was asked to think about the following questions: What are we doing internally? Where are the external funding opportunities? Where are things from the outside world? How does the large university fit? How can this be organized?

After reviewing and discussing the graph the group felt consistency was needed, some circles were too broad, some too focused and others focused on approaches versus topical areas. Almost everything on the list below falls under the umbrellas of Human Health and Well-being as well as Big Data.

Health and well-being (split into rehabilitation and human performance?)

- **Rehabilitation**
- **Human performance**
- Analytics
- Public health
- Healthcare disparities
- Athletic performance
- Mental health
- Pediatric mental health

Life Sciences

- Neuroscience
- Cognitive science
- Biomolecular interaction
  - Molecular base of disease – (current strength)
- Bioethics
- Human health and well-being
- Imaging characterization
- Nanotech and biotech solutions

Public Policy and General

- Public health and well-being
- Global immigration
- Public policy advocacy
- Community issues
- Environmental, water, energy, sustainability
- Bioethics
- Healthcare disparities
- Race/class/gender

Big Data/Analytics (where we want to be)

- Analytics
- Cyber security
- High performance computing
- Digital humanities
- Digital media

One of the challenges encountered in this process has been the difficulty to attribute tangible progress in some areas without having our benchmarking process in place first. Concern was raised that the use of non-standardized metrics gives an appearance of backfilling metrics on projects.

Currently, it is not clear to what degree metrics have driven projects such as the Global Water Center and recently, the Athletic Performance Research Center. Having solid metrics could help eliminate skepticism sometimes seen with projects that might not fall under one of the umbrellas.

Jeanne explained that everyone draws on their own set of metrics and it is important to recognize there will never be a perfect set of metrics as evidenced in university rankings. There are many parameters in metrics that must be looked at such as identifying areas that will grow PhD programs.

There will be hard financial decisions and prioritizations to be made and that is why the metrics will be critical. The diagram will be useful for informing people but it needs to be looked at more closely at the college and department level.

It was suggested we have a "Research Roadshow" to present this data and highlight research across the campus community. This would involve going to college faculty and sharing "here's what we are thinking." Having faculty be part of the research conversation could provide buy-in for future priorities and help eliminate potential skepticism on projects.

#### **IV. Updates**

##### **a. Athletic Performance Research Center (APRC)**

There will be an open forum meeting for the entire campus on March 15, 2016 to discuss research and partnerships. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

##### **b. Marcus Lemonis Challenge**

Marcus Lemonis has pledged up to \$300,000 of his own money for a \$1 million challenge. The money will be split to the following funds:

- Used to create the Innovation Academy to engage student in entrepreneurial thinking and innovation
- Innovation Fund
- Social Innovation

As of today, the first \$100,000 of his match has been met.

##### **c. Electronic Grant Management System**

Kathy provided an update of the new electronic grant management system. Our vendor, QualiCo, came to campus in December and January. We will begin with the awards piece and have provided QualiCo with a list of our sponsors, sub-awardees and unit hierarchy map. The sandbox environment should be available to ORSP within the week. The Institutional Review Board (IRB) will be working with QualiCo parallel to ORSP during this early phase.

At this time, our current "live" date is targeted for June 4. After the award set up, we will begin the proposal development, conflict of interest, finalization of human subjects and animal care will be soon after.

##### **d. NIH**

Kathy shared that there will be regional NIH workshop in Chicago October 27-28, 2016. This event will focus on individual level proposals and offers a good experience to learn how NIH works.