

## **5/18/22 – Research Strategic Growth Subcommittee Meeting**

Via Zoom – Morris Foster, Daniel Campbell, Heather Richter, Barry Ezell, Sachin Shetty, Ryan Klinger, Licheng Sun, Sophie Clayton, Eric Weisel, Adam Rubenstein, Charles Sukenik, Doug Streit, Tina Gustin, Michel Audette, Phil Reed, Rodger Harvey, Shanan Chappell Moots, Masha Sosonkina, Chunqi Jiang, Liz Smith, Mecit Cetin, Michael Wu

VP Foster welcomed the group sharing that this would be the final meeting with the form due for submission on June 1. He shared that budgets would be created throughout the month of June and conversations would continue via email or Teams to work on any budget related items.

The discussion began with a discussion of the Arts & Humanities’ goals.

*Goal 1 - Reconsider arts and humanities as crosscutting and therefore connecting threads through all disciplines. Cultivate crosscutting scholarship in the arts and humanities; connect scholarship in the arts with scholarship in science, engineering, health, humanities.*

- Consider setting up initiatives with EVMS or CHKD; possibly in area of arts & music related to mental health
- Develop seed funding to enhance scholarship; Penn State provided as an example that has a large music outreach program including a subsidized camp for kids; they also involved the Development Office as there are not many large-scale grants in this area
- Look into potential corporate entities that have an interest in children’s health as an example

*Goal 2 - Establish a comprehensive center for arts in Hampton Roads that is world-class and attracts top talent faculty, performers, and students that supports, promotes, and curates local culture: “cultural presentation and preservation”*

- A facility is needed to allow Goal 1 to happen; R1’s all have this element; it is truly the hub of the wheel
- Development has it as part of its campaign goals, but level should be increased if film and gaming are to be integrated
- The committee will research potential costs for a facility

The group posed a number of questions and had a discussion including the below point:

- Does ODU have a plan to accommodate a venue of this size?
- ODU has done a considerable amount of research over potential spaces, but preference would be adjoining existing spaces such as the Diehn Building using the Sandler Center as a model
- This could be explored when the next university master plan process is begun in the future.

*Streamline Research Administration* was discussed next and included the below elements. - *Streamline research administration through an enterprise research administrative system with integration between the Foundation and the University.*

- This area will simplify the process, reduce chances for mistakes, and enhance tracking & collaboration.
- Will allow increased time for preparation by identifying funding opportunities earlier
- Will also allow the ability to make projections and be more forward thinking about planning for research.

- System integrations will need to allow for potential inclusion of EVMS

VP Foster led a discussion about the overall research goal next.

- Percentages added for goals; increasing the number of doctorates is a critical area that will likely take a number of years
- Creation of a doctoral track in humanities and a new one in social science would benefit R1 considerations.
- Group should explore ways to incentivize groups to create positions as current system is mostly PI's with projects
- There is a need for ODU to be strategic with our investments
- Explore the possibility of attracting faculty on sabbatical to come to ODU as a Fellow or Visiting Faculty; this would help both undergraduate and graduate students; should consider formalizing what is currently an ad hoc process
- Currently post docs are not paid competitively which has resulted in numerous post docs declining opportunities here

The Culture of Administrative Problem Solving was discussed next. - *Foster a culture of faculty and administrative collaboration that enhances communication and focuses on solving problems and challenges in operating the university research enterprise.*

- The key to this area will be a Care Team Chair with a committee that could be called in when needed; having the right person lead this effort will have a tremendous impact; need to determine cost with future discussion
- Staff could potentially be added to address and identify issues

Investing in Research Infrastructure was discussed next. - *Maintain existing research infrastructure and incrementally integrate new components to that infrastructure to enable faculty to be nationally competitive for grants and contracts.*

- Central issue is ongoing maintenance and an inventory of research instrumentation to be shared with faculty; combination of the two will help the research enterprise in general as well as improve efficiency
- Faculty access to instrumentation will benefit many areas across campus; the question of who pays will need to be addressed
- A funding commitment would help move things in a positive direction
- The need to manage lab space as well as renovations is another area needing attention.
- Sharing of resources, both labs and equipment, is key to success

Enhance Faculty Research Opportunities was discussed next.- *Improve or develop agile processes, tools, or systems for faculty and research centers to enhance faculty research opportunities, collaboration, and productivity.*

- Establishing pathways to setting up a Center of Excellence should be a priority; faculty will be incentivized to work together for internal funding that will help build a performance history; this will also allow us to learn where successes are when competing externally

VP Foster concluded the meeting with a plan to finalize the document with the committee leaders. Once that has happened they will share with the entire group for a final review. The meeting ended with VP Foster thanking the group for their efforts through the process.