

ORED Strategic Planning Process Meeting
IDB
August 28th 2007

Recommendations

Faculty

- Hire more faculty and research staff
- Identify cutting edge research programs on campus and have a strategic plan for hiring new faculty in research areas with scope for better pay off to build critical mass in these critical areas
- Provide faculty training in writing successful grants via grant writing workshops (similar to the one offered by CVM through Stephen W. Russell and David C. Morrison Grant writer's seminars and workshops LLC WWW.grantcentral.com) for all disciplines(engineering, biology, education etc)
- Provide better support for PIs for putting together budgets and submitting proposals.

Recruiting graduate students

- Quality graduate students are critical for faculty.
- There is an overall need to generate more Ph.Ds.
- However, any increase in the number of graduate students should not be at the expense of post-docs. Faculty should have the final say in hiring a post-doc or graduate student based on their research needs
- There should be a streamlined mechanism by developing pipelines of international students from targeted countries like China, India, South America.
- The university should provide financial support for international travel of a group of faculty for recruitment purposes

Research Infrastructure

- There should be long term monetary support for research infrastructure like mass spectrometers.
- The university should have a strategic plan to selectively support certain number of key areas
- There is a need for investment in mechanisms that facilitate academic faculty interaction to foster productive collaborations. For example, IDB and LSBI both emphasize collaborative research and need assistance in procuring equipment funding

Assets in place

- Investment has been already made in proteomics and to some extent genomics
- This investment has been very productive in terms of papers published and competitive grants won.
- Recent grant submissions and papers submissions to top-ranked journals have been receiving negative reviews citing problems with use of an obsolete mass

spectrometer. All of the university investment and the investments of individual researchers will be for naught if there is no long term commitment by the university for making this investment sustainable

Cross-disciplinary research

- Identify productive cross-disciplinary groups and strengthen their program
- Develop strong cross disciplinary teaching curriculum to attract students of high caliber
- Develop mechanisms for allowing multiple PI grants
- Promote cross-disciplinary research by providing student/research staff support to faculty
- There is a need for awareness/education of P&T committees and Office of research about cross-disciplinary research specifically, the understanding that contribution of each individual PI is critical for the success of the collaboration. Furthermore, all PIs should get equal credit across different schools/divisions/departments

Earmarks

- Have to be channeled to productive areas of research University-wide
- Need to be competitive
- Have to be used as seed investments for building competitive funding
- Expect academic output (publications in refereed journals and proposals for competitive funding) to be generated from earmark funds.