

Pathway Goal: Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity

Action Item #
1-1

Report:
 Mid-Year: December 2016
 Year-End: April 2017

Action Item Description:

Identify opportunities for university-level Centers and Institutes that promote interdisciplinary research and align with institutional strengths, regional needs, and funding priorities. Areas of focus to involve policy revision, structure, and topics.

Submitted By:

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Working Group Members:

Name	Department
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James Thompson	President's office

Provide a written overview of the year-long process for your working group. (You may use the “Process and Timeline” information from your action plan, if still applicable.)

Our group met and discussed the development of centers and institutes and how they contribute to the Top Tier mission. To do this we first evaluated data and funding trends by federal agency, the types of funds and amounts available and the presence of scholars/teams within UNLV to apply for these grants. Several data based documents were distributed and discussed. We also went back and looked at prior UNLV efforts in this area including UNLV MacroThemes (2002-2007) and more recent CoRE efforts. We also evaluated data compiled in Research Match evaluating some 900 faculty and their self-reported areas of research. I have included links to these reports below, and attached the Research Match database to this email message.

What will your final product be at the end of the year? Such as, what metrics which will be used to assess your progress/achievement, will a report be generated, etc?

We have compiled recommendations about what interdisciplinary centers and institutes should look like, the individuals we need to hire to make them successful, how they should be organized within the university structure, the resources needed to launch them and some of the potential policies that will need to be modified.

Describe what has been accomplished so far this year.

The following suggestions for institutes/centers were discussed: 1) Create university level institutes that report directly to the VPR's office 2) engage existing initiatives from the colleges under the aforementioned model and institute a review process to ensure they are productive 3) align funding with GOED, federal funding initiatives and current expertise 4) conduct international searches for leaders of these centers/institutes 5) be prepared to finance these centers at the 3-5 million dollar level 6) require business plans for the centers

Next steps

Work out incentive programs for interdisciplinary work, find the resources to fund this effort, put out a call for proposals to UNLV to start one of these efforts, then rank, prioritize and fund the first center/institute.

You may have additional reference material. Please review the list below and click on the appropriate box to select.

No additional reference material

OR

Potential resources required (if identified)

Any reports generated by this working group (if completed at this time)

Metrics to be used

Any additional information you wish to share.

Historical Trends in Federal R&D (Includes quite a few different data sets including a general overview and historical funding by agency, by character, and by discipline)

<https://www.aaas.org/page/historical-trends-federal-rd>

FY 16 Breakdown

<https://www.aaas.org/fy16budget/federal-rd-fy-2016-budget-overview>

