AGENDA

1. Introductions
2. Mechanics
   a. Our timeline – draft report to the steering committee in March
   b. Proposed initial meeting schedule (all Saturday mornings): November 20th, December 4th, December 11th, January 22nd, January 29th
   c. Alternative meeting dates/times? February meeting options
   d. Communications preferences among the group: email, Blackboard, Hawk Drive for drafting our report: Preferences
3. Methods for communication with faculty
   a. Direct solicitations to faculty via email, etc.
   b. Hold open forums at the level of schools in December; and/or late January and February
   c. Ask departments to discuss our charge at an upcoming faculty meeting and send us suggestions, input, questions?
   d. Post all minutes of our meetings on “strategic planning website”
   e. Do RFP on strategic research themes in response to specific criteria
   f. Other thoughts and suggestions
4. Discussion of DDI Goal and characteristics

Driving Discovery & Innovation

Goal and characteristics

- **Goal:** Enhance KU scholarship broadly with a special emphasis on areas of present and emerging strength in order to impact specific challenges facing society.
- **Characteristics:**
  - Scholarship is increasingly transdisciplinary, synergistic, and collaborative.
  - Intellectual risk-taking and long-term thinking are encouraged.
o All forms of research and creative expression are embraced in an expansive view of scholarship.
o Research training and scholarship are strengthened.
o Outcomes are increasingly measurable, and include external validation and greater visibility.
o Wider dissemination of knowledge is achieved.

Steering committee input to work group

- **Urgent Issues for KU: (This is a summary — full SWOT analysis and input attached)**
  - Graduated education is perceived as secondary in urgency to issues in undergraduate education
  - Graduate needs are not given sufficient attention (i.e., financial support, time to degree, mentoring)
  - Mentoring of graduate students
  - Reputational issues regarding KU’s standing in AAU, insufficient funding, our inability to articulate to the public the value of being a research university
  - Too large a percentage of faculty not engaged in scholarly research

- **Example strategies for exploration by work group:**
  - Define and promote a culture of intellectual risk taking at KU
  - Examine post-tenure review and continuous assessment
  - Focus promotion and tenure structure and culture on excellence
  - Value and reward collaborative research
  - Make strategic cluster hires aimed at specific grand challenges that could leverage state and national funding
  - Develop and promote a national cancer center
  - Move mid-level programs higher
  - Develop models for joint appointments
  - Meld KUMC & KU Lawrence
  - Expand “science on tap” ideas to other areas
  - Encourage entrepreneurship in graduate education
  - Use KUCR to initiate collaborations and make matches
  - Create physical space to encourage collaborations and move faculty out of silos

- **Example outcomes:**
  - Enhanced status as an international research university
• Enhanced, deepened, broadened scholarly impact of KU in strategic areas and with a long view (10+ years) that is externally validated
• Discovery including disseminating knowledge to peers and larger publics
• KU’s culture is team based research, especially in regards to graduate training for large complex problems

5. Homework
   a. 2015 “aspirations” document
   b. Research Engagement Task Force Report