Agenda
Driving Discovery and Innovation
January 18, 2011

Part I: Strategic Initiatives RFP

Part II: Strategic Actions Revisited

Nomination Form for a KU Strategic Initiative (DRAFT)

Instructions to faculty groups and/or organizational units: Using this nomination form, provide the title of your strategic initiative, the principal leaders and their affiliations, and an abstract on page 1. Then respond to each of the information requests in the numbered sections that follow. Limit your response to these requests so that the six questions take up <u>at most three pages</u> (strict limit) of single-space text with an 11-point font and one-inch margins. Section 6 and the faculty list in Section 2 can be provided in an appendix not included in the three-page limit. Submit the document as a PDF via the webpage interface at sss.provost.ku.edu/planning/ by 5:00 pm on Monday, February 28.

The submitted documents will be shared with the KU community and vetted by external experts and the KU deans in order to determine interest and buy-in for collaborative development at KU. The deans will recommend strategic initiatives to the KU strategic planning steering committee.

Strategic Initiative Title:

List of Principal Leaders: Name, Department/Center, Email

ABSTRACT (120 word maximum)

1. Describe succinctly the <u>escalating or emerging grand challenge</u> that this proposal addresses. How will this proposal address this challenge/need? How will the impact of this initiative be measured over a span of 5 to 10 years and beyond?

2. Describe the <u>preexisting intellectual strengths</u> already at KU. List the faculty personnel who would be involved; this list could be provided as an appendix.

3. Describe the <u>multidisciplinary/transdisciplinary nature</u> of the initiative and how it can build an academic community involving multiple units across KU. Identify all departments, centers, schools that would actively participate in this initiative. Describe how it will enhance <u>undergraduate and graduate education</u> at KU.

4. Describe the necessary <u>new faculty recruits</u>, their impact on the initiative, the feasibility of hiring at the highest levels of excellence, and the start-up resources required.

5. Quantify other <u>resources that will be needed</u> to launch and support this initiative over an initial five-year period. Include costs for support staff, space, equipment, etc. Identify the extent to which these resources already exist or will require new funds. What sources and magnitude of external funding (federal agencies, foundations, corporate, etc.) can be expected to support this initiative?

6. Identify universities or other entities in the US or elsewhere who already have a similar or complementary initiative in place. Provide a brief description of each initiative. Your response to this request may be provided as an appendix if necessary.

Part II
Strategic Actions Revisited

DDI Goal

KU will enhance scholarship broadly with a special emphasis on areas of present and emerging strength in order to benefit society and address its challenges.

Research Engagement Task Force Recommendations (March, 2010)

- To create a comprehensive, university-wide system for measuring research engagement by KU faculty that takes into account discipline-specific metrics; Data-focused/Metrics/Accountability

- To implement actions at the school or college level that promote, increase, sustain, and recognize research engagement, including identifying and eliminating barriers and increasing incentives; Recognition/Facilitation/Incentives

- To enhance and utilize university resources to achieve and sustain high levels of research engagement, including but not limited to providing pilot research funds, improved infrastructure, graduate and undergraduate research fellowships, and additional university wide research awards. Resources/Infrastructure

Characteristics

1. Scholarship will be increasingly transdisciplinary, synergistic, and collaborative

2. Innovation, strategic risk-taking, and long-term thinking will be promoted.

3. All forms of research and creative expression will be embraced in an expansive view of scholarship

4. Research training and scholarship will be emphasized as part of KU's instructional identity as an international research university

5. Outcomes will be increasingly measurable, and include external validation and greater visibility.

6. Wider dissemination of knowledge will be achieved.

Outcomes

5. Data-focused planning and accountability for discovery and innovation

1. Increasingly transdisciplinary, synergistic, and collaborative scholarship

2. Innovation, strategic risk-taking, and long-term thinking

3. An expansive view of scholarship embracing all forms of research and creative expression

4. An enhanced identity as an international research university

6. Wider dissemination of knowledge and visibility

Research Engagement Task Force

Strategic actions from December meeting fell into the three areas outlined in the Research Engagement Task Force:

- Data-focused/Metrics/Accountability
- Recognition/Facilitation/Incentives
- Resources/Infrastructure

Focused on actions which would have impact.

Data-focused/Metrics/Accountability

1. Obtain comparative tools for evaluating department rankings nationally by hiring Academic Analytics to provide multiple indicators specific to different disciplines.

2. Initiate a university-wide, web-based activity reporting system that will serve as the source of data for other university reports, including faculty activity, tenure, and data for proposal preparation.

3. Establish a formal proactive external review policy for all academic and research units that uses established measures of success for each unit and provides tangible incentives for excellence.   (This infers that measures of success will, of necessity, be established.)

Data-focused/Metrics/Accountability

4. Institute a university wide policy for post tenure review that:
   a. Focuses on research, teaching and service responsibilities.
   b. Initiates a required promotion review for Associate to Full Professor after 8 years in rank.
   c. Addresses needs for mentoring, with formalized mentoring for Associate Professors in rank longer than eight years.
5. Institute a formal policy that allows for post-tenure research, teaching and service reallocation of time.

Recognition/Facilitation/Incentives

6. Introduce more differential rewards/awards university-wide.

7. Provide a merit-based approach to reallocation of resources across the university to drive discovery and innovation.

Resources/Infrastructure

8. Implement university wide policy for joint appointments that:

    a. Encourages joint appointments in situations where they could be beneficial;

    b. Eliminates salary barriers to appointments between departments or departments and a research center;

    c. Provides guidelines for appropriate division of teaching and service duties; and

    d. Provides guidelines for merit and promotion of faculty and research scientists with joint appointments

Resources/Infrastructure

9. Enact fundamental changes to administrative procedures to enable collaborative research within and between all of KU's campuses.

10. Recruit faculty at all ranks to enhance the research portfolio of KU.

11. Enhance doctoral student support and recruitment.

Next Steps

1. Rank order the 10 actions from most to least important.

2. If you do not believe an action should be initiated, do NOT rank it AND write OMIT in place of a numerical rank.

3. Any action that is UNRANKED/OMITTED by 1/3rd of the committee will be eliminated.

And then….

- Those not present today will be contacted ASAP and asked to complete the ranking procedure.

- Results will be announced at the Jan 22nd meeting.

After January 22nd….

- We will draft our report to the Steering Committee.

- This will be circulated to all DDIWG members for comment.

- We are holding the January 29th date for a possible meeting; no other meetings are scheduled at this time.