

Driving Discovery and Innovation Work Group

Adams Alumni Center

Monday, November 8, 2010, 5:30 – 6:45 p.m.

Attendance

Steve Warren and Kristin Bowman-James, co-chairs; Kevin Boatright, staff; Shrikant Anant, Chris Brown, Bethany Christiansen, John Colombo, Adam Duerfeldt, Dietrich Earnhart, Susan Harris, Susan Kemper, Kris Krishtalka, Stacy Leeds, Greg Loving, Berl Oakley, Christian Schöneich, Kevin Song, Paul Terranova, Lorie Vanchena, Bob Walzel, John Younger. Other members of the Steering Committee observed all or part of the meeting: Danny Anderson, Mary Ellen Kondrat, John Gaunt, Ken Audus, Marilee Hummert, Jim Otten, Jeff Vitter, Bernadette Gray-Little.

Agenda

Since this was the initial meeting of the group, the agenda began with introductions and a discussion of the timeline, proposed meeting dates, means of communication (internally and externally), and options for gathering input from the KU community. The balance of the meeting concerned a discussion of the goal and characteristics for the group.

Data Considered in Discussions

Some members of the group were familiar with the comparative information provided by the Provost during previous meetings of the Steering Committee. These were reviewed that evening prior to the group meeting. In addition, members were encouraged to review the Initiative 2015 document and the final report of the Research Engagement Task Force.

Outcomes of Discussion

- The group set meeting dates for November 20, December 4, 11, January 22, 29.
- Internal communications will occur primarily via Blackboard and e-mail. Opportunities for KU community input will take a variety of forms, including forum meetings and e-mail discussion.
- We will seek ideas for strategic research “themes,” perhaps through an RFP process.
- Warren provided an update on the Research Engagement Task Force, especially plans for a faculty activity reporting system. Discussion of the group’s goal centered on engagement-related issues, e.g., research strengths and weaknesses, valid comparisons, how to recognize the arts and humanities, the impact on promotion and tenure, etc.

Next Steps

- Warren and Bowman-James will develop a proposal for soliciting input re: themes, response, etc.
- We need to consider doctoral training in this discussion at some point.

Supporting Documents or Links

The “homework” documents are available at the Chancellor’s Strategic Initiatives web page <http://www.chancellor.ku.edu/strategic/index.shtml>. The group’s communications will be housed on a special Blackboard site, to be set up shortly.