Sustaining the Planet, Powering the World
Strategic Initiative #1

November 18, 2011
The Commons, Spooner Hall
Sustaining the Planet, Powering the World

Strategic Initiative Summit
November 18, 2011
Goal 3 | Enhance research broadly with special emphasis upon areas of present and emerging strength in order to push the boundaries of knowledge and benefit society

Outcomes:
- An enhanced identity as an international research university
- Data-focused planning and accountability for discovery and innovation
- Increasingly transdisciplinary synergistic, and collaborative scholarship
- Scholarly innovation, strategic risk-taking, and long-term thinking
- Enhanced external research funding
- An expansive view of scholarship embracing all forms of research and creative expression
- Wider dissemination of knowledge and visibility

**STRATEGY 3-A**

Pursue multidisciplinary strategic initiatives

**ACTION ITEMS**
- Pursue strategic initiatives that position KU as a national leader
  (1)
- Develop hiring plans involving joint appointments in support of strategic initiatives
  (2)

**STRATEGY 3-B**

Increase research activities, innovation, and funding

**ACTION ITEMS**
- Encourage the development of new research efforts and funding opportunities
  (1)
- Recruit faculty members at all ranks to enhance the research portfolio of KU
  (2)
- Introduce more differential rewards and awards university-wide
  (3)

**STRATEGY 3-C**

Document research excellence with enhanced accountability

**ACTION ITEMS**
- Obtain comparative tools for evaluating department rankings nationally on varied measures
  (1)
- Institute a university-wide web-based faculty activity reporting system
  (2)
- Establish a formal external review policy for all academic and research units
  (3)

**Metrics**
- Federal research funding
- Number of major awards and memberships
- Scholarly citations of KU faculty members
Five Objectives of Strategic Initiative Themes

- **Address** emerging and escalating global grand challenges and societal issues where KU can have special impact.

- **Build** scholarly communities that challenge, engage, and inspire individuals from many disciplines around a common theme.

- **Enhance** KU’s national and international visibility and impact.

- **Engage** and motivate funding agencies, foundations, state government, community, alumni, and friends to provide much-needed resources.

- **Provide** our students with unique experiences that will position them as highly recruited and valued drivers and innovators of social and technological change.
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Sustaining the Planet, Powering the World

Message of Urgency

- An economy vital for the long term demands both a sustainable environment and the availability of affordable energy.

- Multidisciplinary research is important to achieve a secure future and protect a fragile environment.
Sustaining the Planet, Powering the World

Thinking Globally

• Face the challenge of being stewards of our resources and caretakers of our environment.
• Contribute new sources of energy and materials, better use of natural resources, improved conservation, and a sustainable future

Thinking Locally

• Improved sustainability practices
• Indigenous sources of energy and chemicals with tremendous potential for economic growth
• Conserve and use valuable state resources
• Share information about cutting-edge advances and developments