

## The University of Tennessee Strategic Plan

### Goal 2. Research Implementation Champions

#### Background:

#### Implementation Tasks:

1. Form the System Research Committee and determine the operating practices and area of system focus; align with UT's strategic research goals and initiatives
2. Develop an Industry Advisory Council; determine operating practices and areas of focus; define integration activities with UT's research goals and initiatives
3. Use the UT System Research Committee to define and develop outcome and impact measures and ensure compliance

#### Research Implementation Champions:

David Millhorn (UT System), Taylor Eighmy (UTK), Polly Hoffman (UTHSC), Steve Thompson (IPS), Greg Heath (UTC), Joan West (UTM), Bill Brown (UTIA), Dave Washburn (UTRF), Stacey Patterson (UT System)

#### **\*\*Research Implementation Champions Process to date\*\***

- ✓ October 30, 2012 – In person meeting to collect ideas, thoughts, and questions on the implementation strategy.
- ✓ November 6, 2012 – Distributed compiled outline of thoughts and ideas from this group and feedback requested.
- ✓ November 15<sup>th</sup> – Feedback received
- ✓ November 27<sup>th</sup> – DRAFT report to Dr. DiPietro distributed to research champions group with request for feedback
- ✓ December 12<sup>th</sup> – Implementation Champions Meeting – Report to Dr. DiPietro

#### Research implementation plan progress to date:

##### 1. System Research Committee

The System Research Committee serves as a formal framework for the University's research thought leaders to interact and share opportunities, discuss and address common challenges, and develop strategies that ultimately lead to greater overall competitiveness across the University of Tennessee research enterprise.

The goals of the committee are:

- a) to foster collaboration among the different campuses and institutes;
- b) to encourage positive change through the promotion of a grand vision and set aspirational, yet attainable, goals;
- c) to identify novel ways to broaden new and existing venues for funding;
- d) to support innovative ideas to leverage existing resources;
- e) to recommend research policy that facilitates growth;
- f) to develop a culture that embraces and rewards positive change.

Specifically, during years one and two, the committee will:

- a) develop a system-wide research plan that leverages the combined resources of all the campuses and institutes while taking advantage of the individual strengths and uniqueness of each;
- b) serve as a portal for information sharing, with the members of the committee being responsible for working with other campus leaders to communicate research priorities, goals, and opportunities to the broader stakeholder base;
- c) work to develop policies to promote inter-campus collaboration;
- d) develop uniform conflict of interest procedures, facilities use agreements, or other agreements as appropriate.

## **Membership**

Initial membership of the System Research Committee includes the Chief Research Officer on each campus or institute. The current CROs system-wide include:

### **Executive Vice President & Vice President for Research and Economic Development**

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Dr. Millhorn will serve as Chair of the Committee and has appointed Dr. Stacey S. Patterson, Assistant Vice President for Research & Director of Research Partnerships as Secretary (non-voting) to help facilitate documentation and communication to members. Meetings will be held at least quarterly. Meetings during the first year will be held as half day workshops (two in person and two via video conference).

A formal invitation and announcement of this committee will be sent by the end of 2012 and a kick off meeting of the committee is planned for late January, or early February of 2013. The agenda for this meeting is currently being developed.

**2. Industry Advisory Council**

The UT Industry Advisory Council (UTIAC) provides executive level counsel and thought leadership on opportunities for the University of Tennessee to better serve the State of Tennessee and expand our relationship with private sector industry. The UTIAC will play an instrumental role in identifying market trends as well as industry

needs that will help position the University of Tennessee to better meet the future challenges of our private sector partners.

UTIAC goals specifically include:

- a) providing advice and counsel on broad industry trends and their implications to research and education, specifically in terms of unique opportunities for the University of Tennessee;
- b) providing advice and counsel on how to strengthen UT's current relationships and opportunities to develop new relationships with corporate partners;
- c) providing advice and counsel on the identification of upcoming research and development opportunities;
- d) providing advice and counsel on the commercialization of intellectual property developed at the University of Tennessee;
- e) providing advocacy for research and development and strong industry relationships for the University of Tennessee.

Membership:

1. Request nominations for potential individuals/companies to serve on the council.
  - a. Individuals should be executive level – “rain-maker” type individuals.
  - b. The ultimate committee should be comprised of individuals who will be there to learn from each other and not just for us...
  - c. We should keep the membership open to as many of the “right” people as we can land.

Questions/Request:

1. The implementation champions would like to request nominations for this committee from University leadership. These nominations should be forwarded to the System Research Committee Chair. This committee will evaluate all nominations and make recommendations to Dr. DiPietro on membership. Official invitations and Council operating procedures will be developed as part of the System Research Committee's goals in 2013.