Make Your Own Grass Greener: Collaborative Activities between Offices of Research

Christina Leigh Docteur, Director, Proposal Support Services, Syracuse University, NY
Cindy Gary, Assistant Dean for Grants and Contracts, University of Rochester, NY
Collaborative Activities between Offices of Research

• Learning Objective 1
  • Identify collaborative research development activities appropriate for your institutional size, scope and focus

• Learning Objective 2
  • Brainstorm potential geographically co-located collaborators for in-person activities
Collaborative Activities between Offices of Research

• Agenda
  • Where we are
  • Who we are
  • What we are doing
  • Where we are going
Collaborative Activities: Where we are
Collaborative Activities: Where are you?
Collaborative Activities: Where we are

Upstate NY
Collaborative Activities: Who we are

• Upstate Research Development University Alliance
  • University of Rochester
  • Syracuse University
  • Cornell University
  • Binghamton University,
  • SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry
  • SUNY Upstate Medical University
Collaborative Activities: Who we are

University of Rochester  [https://www.rochester.edu/](https://www.rochester.edu/)

- Founded in 1850, a private, coeducational university
- One of country's top-tier research universities, 1348 Tenure-track faculty
- 200 academic majors, 2,000+ faculty & instructional staff, 10,000 students (1/2 women)
- Undergraduate and graduate degrees, including doctoral and professional degrees.
- Schools and Colleges
  - Arts, Sciences & Engineering
    - School of Arts & Sciences
    - Hajim School of Engineering & Applied Sciences
  - Eastman School of Music
  - School of Medicine and Dentistry
  - School of Nursing
  - Eastman Institute for Oral Health
  - Simon Business School
  - Warner Graduate School of Education

- FY18 Sponsored Research – UR Total $438M with URMC driving the $
- New Pres July 1: Sarah C. Mangelsdorf, first female, former Provost & Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Univ. of Wisconsin–Madison
Collaborative Activities: Who we are

Cindy Gary, Assistant Dean for Grants & Contracts

Hajim School of Engineering & Applied Sciences, University of Rochester

- Position created by a new Engineering Dean in 2008 (Cindy in position since 2012)
- Supports research development for large/center proposals led by engineering faculty, strategic direction, tech based economic development efforts, seed funding.
- Counterpart in School of Arts & Sciences.
- UR has Sr. VP for Research (2012) who is also the Provost.
- Half time Dean for Research in Arts, Sciences & Engineering.
- 4 FTEs Research Development Team in AS&E. Very decentralized model at UR.
- Cindy background. 20+ years research development. 12 years at RIT in Sponsored Research and Director of Research Development Golisano Institute for Sustainability; High Tech Rochester (incubator, SBIR/STTR, entrepreneurial programing), government contractor WDC technology development.
- AS&E Research [http://www.rochester.edu/college/research/](http://www.rochester.edu/college/research/)
- [http://www.rochester.edu/orpa/_assets/pdf/orpa_annrpt18.pdf](http://www.rochester.edu/orpa/_assets/pdf/orpa_annrpt18.pdf)
Collaborative Activities: Who we are

Syracuse University [https://www.syr.edu/]

- Private, R-1 institution, est. 1870 (celebrating sesquicentennial!)
- 200 majors, 100 minors, 200+ advanced degree programs, 22k+ students, 53%+ female
- 920 tenure & tenure track faculty
- 39 research centers & institutes across 11 degree granting schools & colleges
  - School of Architecture
  - The College of Arts and Sciences
  - School of Education
  - The College of Engineering and Computer Science
  - The David B. Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics
  - School of Information Studies
  - College of Law
  - The Martin J. Whitman School of Management
  - Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs
  - S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications
  - College of Visual and Performing Arts (VPA)

- FY18 Sponsored Research Expenditures $76.3 million
Collaborative Activities: Who we are

Christina Leigh Docteur, Director of Proposal Support Services

Office of Research, Syracuse University

- Proposal Support Services established in March 2018 by new VPR
  - Support for research development for large/center proposals
  - Manages University intramural funding program and limited submissions
  - Provision of research development & grant writing training
  - Organization of SURD – research development “team” of college level research admins
  - Research dev for Schools & Colleges w/out college level research admins
  - Research relevant policy & procedure creation & implementation, & “other duties” …

- 3.5 FTEs, including Director, Associate Director, Assistant Director & Information Mgmt Specialist
- Works closely w/strong decision-making team of Associate Deans for Research
- Christina’s background: MLS, DPS-IM; 15 yrs in research research development, incl. 14 years at Maxwell School and 7 years as instructor, Public Affairs
- Office of Research https://research.syr.edu

2019 ANNUAL MEETING
OCTOBER 19 - 23
Collaborative Activities: Who we are

Cornell University [https://www.cornell.edu/](https://www.cornell.edu/)

- Part private institution (4 colleges), part public institution (3 colleges)
- Main campus Ithaca, NY, Medical School in NYC (grad/professional colleges indicated*)
- Several satellite campuses: Geneva NY, Education City, Qatar and Tech Campus, NYC.
- Total student population 24,123, total academic workforce 5,329.
- **Schools and Colleges**
  - Agriculture & Life Sciences
  - Architecture Art & Planning
  - Arts & Sciences
  - Business
  - Engineering
  - Graduate School*
  - Human Ecology
  - Industrial & Labor Relations
  - Law*
  - Graduate School of Medical Sciences*
  - Medicine*
  - Tech*
  - Veterinary Medicine*

FY18 Sponsored Research Total $543.8M (inc. Weill Cornell Medicine Campus)
Collaborative Activities: Who we are

Kim Holloway, Associate Director for Research Development

Office of Vice Provost for Research (OVPR), Cornell

• Position created by OVPR in 2016 in response to peers activities.
• Includes research development for large/center proposals, strategic direction, early-career faculty support, outreach & training.
• 3 FTEs at Associate Director level in Research Development Team
  • 2 in OVPR (central), 1 in College of Ag & Life Sciences.
  • 4 other staff devote all or pt to RD team.
  • Mostly centralized support at Cornell, with some outliers;
  • Lots of coordinated between Associate Directors to ensure no overlap.

• Kim’s background: Ph.D. in Human Genetics, University of Leicester, UK. 10+ years in active research. Former research faculty member at Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, had an active research program. Moved to OSP as Grant & Contract Officer for ~4 years.
• [https://researchservices.cornell.edu/resources/research-development](https://researchservices.cornell.edu/resources/research-development)
Collaborative Activities: Who we are

Binghamton University, State University of New York [http://www.binghamton.edu](http://www.binghamton.edu)

- Public R1 Institution
- 17,000 students (includes 3,740 graduates)
- 600 tenured/tenure-track faculty
- 33 Organized Research Centers and Institutes of Advanced Studies
- 4 Federally designated centers (NIH P50, NSF IUCRC, DOE EFRC, DOD NNMI)
- **Six Schools and Colleges**
  - Harpur College of Arts and Sciences
  - T.J. Watson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences
  - School of Management
  - College of Community and Public Affairs
  - School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
  - Decker School of Nursing

FY18 Sponsored Research – $48.5M
Collaborative Activities: Who we are

Mary Beth Curtin, Assistant Vice President for Strategic Research Initiatives

Division of Research, Binghamton University

- OSRI, established in 2013, supports VPR’s efforts to enable successful implementation and execution of the campus research strategy and initiatives
- Manages oversight for Organized Research Centers and Institutes for Advanced Study
- Facilitates Advisory Committee on Scholarship and Research
- Leads project teams for large and center-based proposals
- Coordinates internal seed grant programs and campus limited submission opportunities
- Supports campus Transdisciplinary Areas of Excellence teams
- Works on proposals for fundamental research, graduate training, undergraduate education, regional economic development, facilities and infrastructure grants.
- Organizes workshops to increase competitiveness of faculty proposals
- 4.5 FTEs, incl. AVPR, 3 Research Development Specialists, .5 FTE Admin. Assistant
- Reports to VPR, works closely with Assc. Deans for Research in schools & colleges
- Curtin’s Background: MA, MAT, CRA. 15 yrs Grant & Contract Administrator; 3 yrs Director of Federal Relations; 7 yrs Founding Operations Director for NYS Center of Excellence in Small Scale Systems and Integrated Packaging; 7 yrs as AVPR.

https://www.binghamton.edu/research/osri/index.html
Collaborative Activities: Who we are

State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry
https://www.esf.edu
- Public institution, with 1800 undergraduate & 400 graduate students
- 27 undergrad and 54 grad programs, w/25,000 acres of field stations in NY!
- Shares physical location and academic access with Syracuse University

State University of New York Upstate Medical University
http://upstate.edu
- 1600 students, upper-division transfer & grad school, only academic med center in CNY
- 2400+ faculty: 615 full-time, 261 part-time, 1,548 volunteer
- Four colleges: College of Graduate Studies (biomedical science research); College of Health Professions; College of Medicine; College of Nursing
Collaborative Activities: What we’re doing
Collaborative Activities: What we’re doing

History Lesson

- RDP@CNY (2013)

URDA: Upstate Research Development Alliance
Collaborative Activities: What we’re doing

What we’ve done

• Quartely-ish meetings
  • Rotating across campuses
  • 1/3 day format (3-4 hrs), *With food ...*
  • Set agenda, with “topic leaders”
    • Based on activities being planned, or questions among group
  • Short center or lab tour
  • Meeting materials & follow-up materials shared in Box
  • Participant list, emails shared with all (30+)
  • Participants (regularly 20+) cut across schools/central, seniority & functions
Collaborative Activities: What we’re doing

What we’ve done

- Co-Presenting at sessions: SRA, NCURA, NORDP...
- Proposal development best practice/techniques (winners to new applicants)
  - NRT
  - K award
- Faculty Training
  - New faculty
  - Core strategic areas
Collaborative Activities: What we’re doing

What we’ve done

- Sharing workshops/professional dev. (structure, timing, materials, best practices)
  - Cornell spoke of jr. faculty 6wk grant writing workshop, followed by DC visit for 1-1 w/POs; Paid for their airfare, rest of faculty found homes or shared AirBnB (female cohort)
  - U of R Jr. faculty workshop … cohort model w/good leadership
  - Upstate did a Grant Writers Seminars & Workshops for NIH
  - Broader Impacts (as funded by an NSF grant to Cornell) Connecting Science to society – Article shared. Small groups in sp & fall
- Match making of faculty (ex. SU Architecture & Cornell Ag.)
Collaborative Activities: What we’re doing

• Where we’re going
  • MOU – In process
  • Shared Review Panel – In process
  • More large proposal strategic interactions
  • More shared agency/funder visits
  • More professional development opportunities
Collaborative Activities: What we’re doing

- Where we’re going
  - MOU – In process
    - Draft written, formalizing group
    - URDA, UNYDA,…
    - Potential for showcasing regional strength in proposals
  - Shared Review Panel – In process
Collaborative Activities: Where we’re going

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Collaborative Activities: Where we’re going

• Where we’re going -
  • MOU – In process
  • Shared Review Panel – In process
  • More large proposal strategic interactions
    • Discussions on large center proposal between SU, Binghamton, and new URDA partner, SUNY Poly...
    • Sharing faculty research: Planning NSF “Conference” Days between ESF, SU and Upstate ... to seed proposal collaborations (with “menu” of research interests)
Collaborative Activities: Where we’re going

• Where we’re going -
  • MOU – In process
  • Shared Review Panel – In process
  • More large proposal strategic interactions
  • More shared agency/funder visits
    • DARPA, Army Research Labs visit in process: SU+
    • CNY Humanities Corridor working group proposal support NEH campus visits: SU, U of R, Binghamton, Cornell
    • From URDA group discussion “How do we get better info from faculty who are hosting fed visits?”
      • On all event advertisements note “Have a Program Office coming in? Let Office of Research know! We’ll host a campus reception & info session”
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  • More professional development opportunities
    • Grant Writers Seminar’s and Workshop visits
      • 2019 – NIH @ SUNY Upstate, open to others
      • 2020 – NSF @ SU/SUNY ESF, open to others
      • 2021 – NIH and NSF ....
Collaborative Activities: What we’re doing

• Where we’re going -
  • More large proposal strategic interactions
  • More shared agency/funder visits
  • More professional development opportunities
    • Grant writing sessions
      • Binghamton offers a NSF CAREER and NSF GRFP series
      • U of R runs a 6 sessions career bootcamp for their school
Collaborative Activities: What we’re doing

• Where we’re going
  • MOU – In process
  • Shared Review Panel – In process
  • More large proposal strategic interactions
  • More shared agency/funder visits
  • More professional development opportunities
  • And continue our quarterly meetings, for formal & informal catch-up!
Questions?

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