Sparking New Collaborations
Sparking Collaborations

- Provide opportunities to get folks talking both formally and informally
- Formal (structured)
  - Ideas Lab
  - Grants/Awards
  - Interest Groups
  - Speed Networking
  - Participate in Centers and Institutes
  - Other Collaborators
- Informal (unstructured)
  - Lectures
  - Coffee Talks
  - Us (i.e., research administration/development folks)
  - Facilitating collaborations
- Tools
  - NIH RePORTER
  - NSF Awards
  - PIVOT
  - Incentives
  - Environment
Formal

- Ideas Lab/Jumpstarts
  - Multi-day activity
  - Diverse background
  - Facilitated brainstorming
- Grants/Awards
  - Awards to allow folks to spend time together
- Interest Groups
  - Monthly meetings of folks interested in particular topics
Informal

- Lectures
  - Opportunities to learn about someone’s research and ask questions
  - Examples: Lunch and Learns, Science on Tap

- Coffee Talks
  - Provide gift cards for folks to go out to coffee and talk about research

- Us (Research administrators/development folks)
  - We know faculty members research and can connect them with other faculty we know or that our network knows
  - Make things easy on researchers - let them concentrate on science
Tools

- **NIH RePORTER**
  - Identify matches based on funding
  - MATCHMAKER

- **NSF Awards**
  - Identify matches based on funding

- **PIVOT**
  - Identify matches based on research areas, funding, and publications

- **Incentives Help**
  - Lunch, appetizers, refreshments, seed grants

- **Creating the Right Environment**
  - Space and space setup can create environments conducive to collaboration
Speed Networking Preparation

- Webpage & Qualtrics registration: 11 WKS
- Personalized Email: 5 WKS
- Individual information packages: 1 WK
- Email broadcast: 10 WKS
- Personalized email reminder: 2 WKS
Qualtrics Registration

- **Demographic information:** name, title, department, college, email
- **Motivation to participate:** “What is your interest in this topic?”
- **Need:** “What expertise are you looking for in research partner?”
- **Expertise:** “What expertise can you offer a research partner?”
- **Documents to upload for inclusion in event packet:**
  1. A 2-page biographical sketch/CV
  2. A headshot (JPEG)
Speed Networking - In Action

What to Expect according to NORDP 2014:

- People will be late
- People will cancel at the last minute
- People will not show up, even though they rsvp’d and didn’t cancel

The UI Experience April 2018:

- Invited: Faculty in 19 departments and 5 colleges
- Agreed: 12 faculty representing 7 departments and 4 colleges
- Attended: 9. One was 40 minutes late, one cancelled the day before, and two were no-shows
Initial Set up: Participants organized into two teams (Blue and Red)
  • Recreate groups on the fly to accommodate late comers and no shows

Three rounds:
  1) Red and Blue: Red team rotated to next Blue team member after each 5-minute session
  2) Red on Red: Rotate within team
  3) Blue on Blue: Rotate within team

End of event: Mixer time with appetizers followed by a tour of the hosting facility.

UI Survey Results (7 of 9 participants responded):
  • 71% found a potential collaborator
  • 86% would recommend to a colleague
  • 100% were satisfied overall
Other Collaborators

Get to know the resources available on campus

Evaluation

Diversity
Other Collaborators

Broader Impacts / Outreach
Participation in Centers and Institutes

Would a junior faculty member benefit from affiliation with a center or institute?

What seed grants are available to support new collaborations?
Facilitating Collaborations

What can YOU do to make collaborating easier?

• Find and share relevant RFPs
• Organize meetings, workshops, etc.
• Prepare and share background information about collaborators
• Set up a share site such as Dropbox or other appropriate tool
• Take charge of ancillary documents for proposals, including subaward information and materials

Become an indispensable partner!
Contact Information

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