



APLU Public Impact-Focused Research

Sandra Brown
APLU Annual Meeting
November 11, 2018

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PIR Leadership

- Leadership Team
 - Sandra Brown, UCSD
 - Janet Nelson, University of Idaho
 - Neil Sharkey, Penn State
- CoR Fellows + Faculty Fellow
 - Sherine Obare, Western Michigan University
 - Jim Reecy, Iowa State University
 - Scott Slovic, University of Idaho

Strategic, Transformative Movement

- Bring together multiple distinct efforts
(**National Movement**)
- Improve lives by solving/mitigating problems
not feasible in a single lab (**Today's Actions**)
- Improve society of future by advancing
human knowledge (**Tomorrow's Promise**)

Emerging Themes & Efforts

- History of Integrative Societally-Relevant Efforts
 - Grand Challenges
 - Highly Integrative Basic And Responsive (HIBAR) Research
 - Community-Based Participatory Research (NSF)
 - NSF 2026 Idea Machine
 - Convergence Research (National Research Council)
 - NAS prior reports and efforts

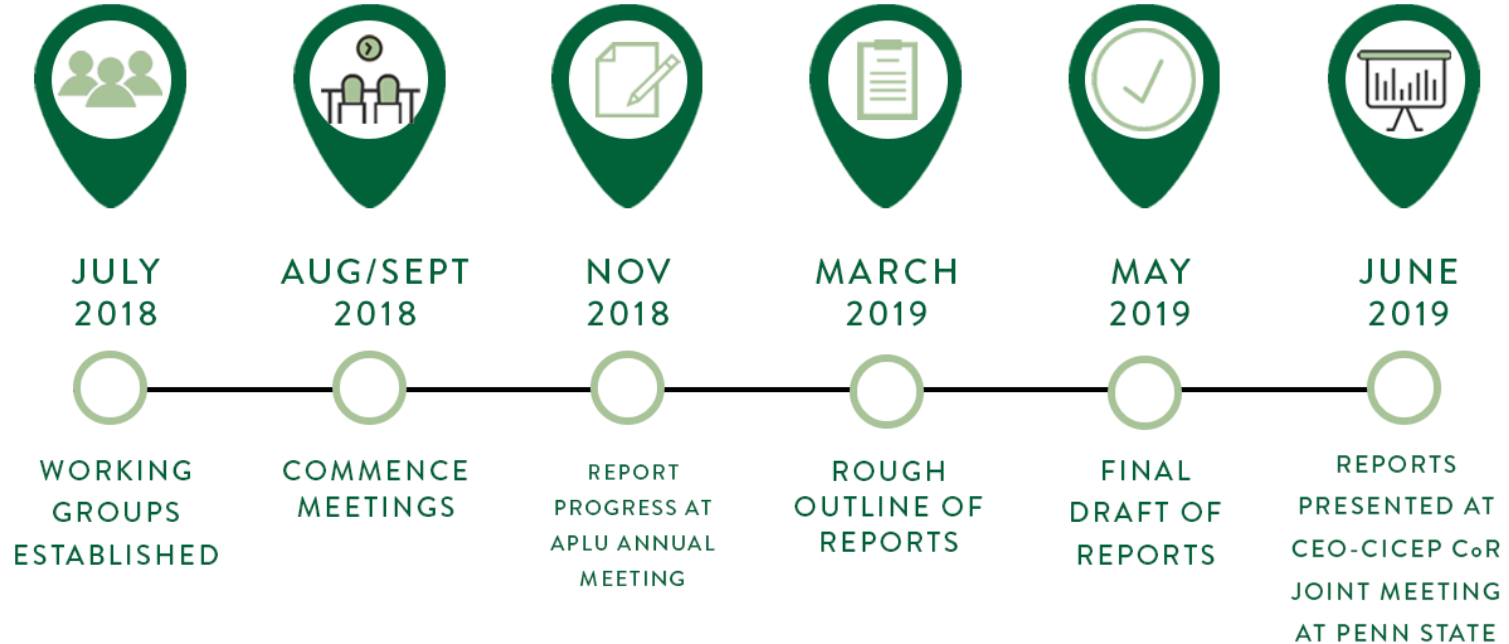
APLU CoR Goals for PIR Initiative

- Encourage universities to expand public impact-focused research portfolio
- Identify best practices
- Identify and mitigate barriers for universities and partners
- Develop common vernacular to describe efforts and showcase impact
- *Do this in the context of strengthening and integrating support for fundamental research*

APLU CoR PIR Workgroups

- Defining the Approach and Why Now?
- Adopting the Engagement Framework
- Addressing Barriers and Overcoming Challenges
- Communication Strategies
- Community Engagement Strategies

One Year Timeline



*Trainee support for each Workgroup

Defining the Approach and Why Now?

- Co-leads: Terri Goss Kinzy (WMU) and Chris Keane (WSU)
- First call held November 6

Defining the Approach and Why Now?

Key Tasks include:

- Developing examples of effects and outcomes of PIR initiatives from across a range of universities
- Developing and releasing a survey (January 2019) on PIR forms in use across APLU institutions
 - What is PIR?
- Refining and expanding the typology with a tool guide to assist universities
 - Developing a standard terminology
- Developing context to support leaders adopting PIR in demonstrating the value proposition

Adopting the Engagement Framework

- Co-leads: Kenneth Sewell (OSU) and Faith Kirkham Hawkins (IU)
- First call held October 22
- Highly diverse representation on several dimensions
 - Allows group to collect and describe the *processes* of decision-making and implementation of PIR efforts from a variety of perspectives

Adopting the Engagement Framework

- Types of PIR initiatives represented on the group include de novo Grand Challenges, de novo HIBAR programs, and intentional mapping of existing research projects, programs, thematic strengths onto PIR language and marketing efforts
 - Other critical dimensions that differentiate PIR efforts include grass-roots- versus leadership-driven theme selection, and internal- versus external-funding focused
- First order of business: collect and organize tools and documents from PIR efforts (particularly de novo efforts), such as RFAs/RFPs, internal and external communications
 - Begin with efforts at team member institutions, then build the framework for a *virtual tool-chest* that can be accessed and added to by the PIR community

Addressing Barriers and Overcoming Challenges

- Co-leads: Roger Wakimoto (UCLA) and Jennifer Lyon Gardner (UT Austin)
- First call held October 9

Addressing Barriers and Overcoming Challenges

- Broadening P&T guidelines to recognize the value of PIR
 - PIR often considered “service” rather than “research” at present
 - Need to develop a scholarly language to describe PIR within academe
 - Need to have a discussion at multiple levels (e.g., Provosts to Department Chairs)
- Determine what metrics can be used to assess institutional success in supporting PIR
 - How to measure and recognize the value of interdisciplinary collaborations
- Funding opportunities for PIR, both internal and external
 - Agencies like NSF have promoted initiatives and “Big Ideas” that largely promote PIR and interdisciplinary collaborations

Communication Strategies

- Co-leads: David Conover (Oregon) and Colleen Kerr (WSU)
- First call held November 8
- Emphasis on internal and external communications
- Seek to develop best practices and tips for organizations wishing to engage with universities on PIR

Community Engagement

- Co-lead: Paul Roben (UCSD)
- First call to be held in late November
- Seek to develop strategies to build collaborative structures and to identify and disseminate best practices for partnership building



Questions

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