Biosciences Initiative Town Hall
AGENDA

• Review Goals and Charge to the Committee
• BSSP Program
• Funding Scientific Initiatives
• Future Directions of the Committee: Education, Core Resources, Administration

**Documents available on the Biosciences Web site (http://biosciences.umich.edu): Charge Statement, BSSP FAQ Sheet, Draft Initiative RFA.**

Contact biosciences@umich.edu for comments, questions and feedback.
Why the Biosciences Initiative?

Goals of the Initiative:
• Make U-M a global leader in high-impact life science research, for the benefit of society
• Recruit, mentor, retain and cultivate faculty who are international leaders in their fields
• Develop top undergraduate and graduate programs that are flexible, forward-looking and tap into the breadth of U-M’s academic portfolio

Building on U-M’s strengths:
• Increase scale and breadth of life sciences and convergent disciplines
• Talented faculty and deans with collaborative ethos
• Integrated academic medical center
• Wide array of core facilities with room for growth
• Financial resources and philanthropic potential

“...in addition we will provide 30 new faculty positions plus $150 million...with the goal of catalyzing the development of research and educational programs that tap into our great breadth.” - President Schlissel
Biosciences Initiative Coordinating Committee

- Roger Cone, Chair
- Huda Akil
- Michael Boehnke
- Nisha D’Silva
- Eric Fearon
- David Ginsburg
- Richard Gonzalez
- Joerg Lahann
- Anna Mapp

- Bishr Omary, ex officio
- Tom Schmidt
- Trisha Wittkopp
- Donald Zak
- Liz Barry, liaison to Pres. Schlissel
- Rebecca Cunningham, liaison to Jack Hu
Charge to the Committee

- Improve quality and strategic coordination in faculty hiring
- Identify emerging areas of strength, and other opportunities, where campus investment can help catalyze research impact
- Rationalize investment in core facilities and other forms of research support across full breadth of campus
- Enhance visibility of the biosciences for both internal and external audiences
- Create more opportunities for community, collaboration and coordination among those doing biosciences research and education across the campus
- Improve quality of graduate and postdoctoral training programs

Resources and Timeline - $150m in one-time funds, 30 incremental faculty positions, FY18-FY23
Scope  
- Biosciences (incl. convergent disciplines) • Research
- Education • Ann Arbor Campus
Activities to Date

• Expanded the Biological Sciences Scholars Program Across the Breadth of Biosciences

• Provided Coordination for Regular Faculty Searches Across the Biosciences

• Developed Communications Platform (biosciences.umich.edu)

• Developed Draft RFA to Fund Scientific Initiatives
BSSP Program

- Assistant professor recruiting program in the Med School with 15 years success

- Adds topping-up funds to competitive candidates emerging from regular search committees

- BSSP to fund candidates across all the biosciences; Biosciences Initiative to provide funds for four candidates/year outside the Med School

- BSSP committee expands to add expertise representing the breadth of life sciences
Funding Scientific Initiatives

Chairs & Directors

Faculty Groups

Individual Faculty

Schools: LSA, College of Engineering, College of Denistry, School of Nursing, School of Education, School of Arts & Sciences, School of Kinesiology, ISR, LSI
Scientific Initiatives Format

• Scientific Research Initiatives
  – Up to 5 faculty positions, admin & core resources
  – Chairs/Directors work with faculty to design
  – Involve 3 or more units

• Science Synergy Initiatives
  – Up to 2-3 faculty positions, admin & core resources
  – Faculty groups to design
  – Involve multiple units

• Exploratory Funding
  – Available to individual faculty members
  – Funds activities exploring new scientific opportunities or initiatives
  – Must be outward facing; faculty salary & research expenses not allowed
  – Examples: International workshops, sabbaticals to bring unique expertise to U-M, costs associated with creating new U-M partnerships
Proposed Scientific Initiative Timeline

- February 9, 2018 – Release of Initiatives RFA
- April 30, 2018 – Letters of Intent Due
- June 1, 2018 – Invitations for Full Proposals
- August 31, 2018 – Full Proposals Due
- October 19, 2018 – Notice of Awards
Future Directions

• Graduate and Postdoctoral Education

• Core Resources

• Biosciences Administration & Coordination
Input and Discussion

• Mission Statement and Charge
  – Any questions?

• BSSP Program
  – Any questions?

• Scientific Initiatives RFA
  – Your input on: Scope? Logistics? Maximizing faculty engagement?

• Future Directions
  – Your input on: Our educational needs? Core resources? Improving communication and administration of the biosciences?