

# 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](mailto: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*

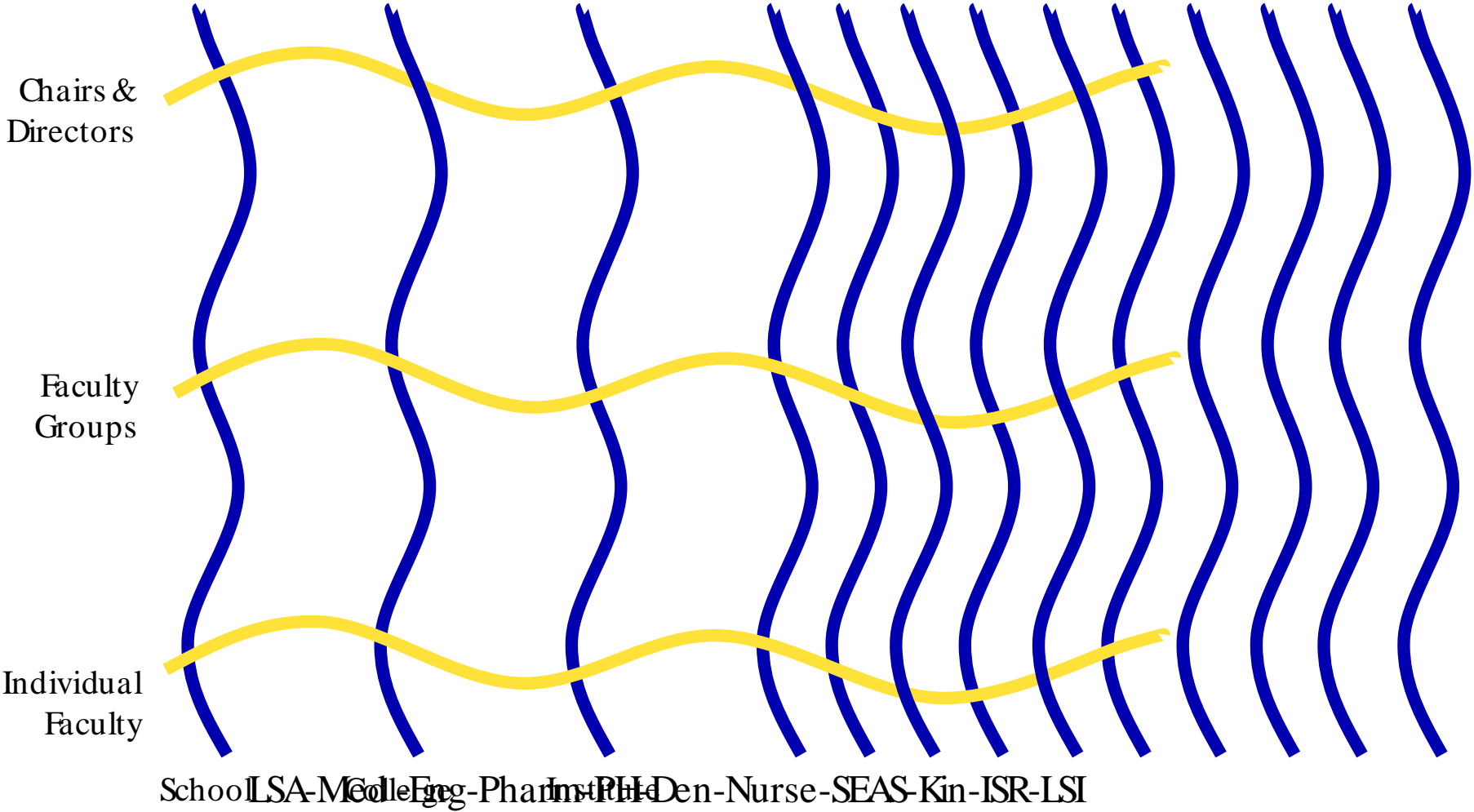
# *Activities to Date*

- 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





# *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 23, 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?