



# *The University of Vermont*

*Office of the Provost and Senior Vice President*

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October 26, 2009

TO: The Faculty of the University of Vermont

FROM: Jane Knodell, Interim Provost and Senior Vice President  
Domenico Grasso, Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate College

SUBJECT: Transdisciplinary Research Initiative: Working Group Membership

We're pleased to report that the call for Transdisciplinary Research Initiative Working Group nominations was met with an enthusiastic response. We extend our sincerest thanks to the more than 140 members of our faculty who nominated themselves. We're also grateful to the members of our community who have given the initiative the thoughtful consideration it deserves, and have shared their thinking with us. After reviewing the remarkable expertise and accomplishments of our nominees, we are further convinced that we must pursue, and can achieve, the highest levels of excellence and distinction within our research enterprise.

We encourage nominees that were not named to Working Groups to remain engaged in the process. There are several ways faculty members can share their insights and feedback as proposals are developed:

- Contact the Working Group Chair to make it known that they are available to serve as a resource.
- Attend a Working Group open meeting. Open meeting dates will be posted on the [TRI website](#).
- Review the periodic updates Working Groups will post on the TRI website.
- Review the spire proposals that will be posted on the TRI website in January.
- Attend a Town Meeting about the spire proposal(s) in the spring.

With so many fine candidates, determining Working Group membership was enormously difficult, but a welcome challenge. We sought input from the Deans individually, the Deans working collaboratively, members of the Faculty Senate Executive Council, including the Chair of the Senate Research, Scholarship, and Graduate Education Committee, and members of the senior academic leadership. Among the factors that were considered: academic accomplishment; experience; interdisciplinary nature of a faculty member's scholarship; balanced representation among the units; and a diversity of perspectives within each Working Group. It was not possible to achieve a perfect balance in all cases, but we believe our selections represent the necessary blend of talent, ingenuity, resourcefulness and ambition.

The Transdisciplinary Research Initiative is a joint endeavor of the faculty and the administration. The academic Deans will serve as Working Group liaisons. These senior scholars will provide the groups with guidance on process, offer broad scholarly perspectives, and share practical advice.

We have great confidence in the extraordinary group of faculty we have assembled for this task, and look forward to reviewing the results of their work.

CC: UVM Staff and Students

## **TRANSDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH INITIATIVE – WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIP**

### **BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES:**

Prof. Richard Galbraith, College of Medicine, (Chair)

Prof. Jason Bates, College of Medicine

Prof. James Iatridis, College of Engineering & Mathematical Sciences

Prof. Chris Landry, College of Arts & Sciences

Prof. Mark Nelson, College of Medicine

Prof. Mary Tierney, College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

Prof. James Vigoreaux, College of Arts & Sciences

Prof. David Warshaw, College of Medicine

Prof. Andre Wright, College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

*Liaison: Dean Thomas Vogelmann, College of Agriculture & Life Sciences*

### **COMPLEX SYSTEMS:**

Prof. Maggie Eppstein, College of Engineering & Mathematical Sciences (Chair)

Prof. Christopher Danforth, College of Engineering & Mathematical Sciences

Prof. Charles Hulse, Rubenstein School of Environment & Natural Resources

Prof. Charles Irvin, College of Medicine

Prof. David Novak, School of Business Administration

Prof. Alessandra Rellini, College of Arts & Sciences

Prof. Donna Rizzo, College of Engineering & Mathematical Sciences

Prof. Russell Tracy, College of Medicine

Prof. Asim Zia, College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

*Liaison: Dean Chip Cole, College of Engineering & Mathematical Sciences*

*Dean Larry Shirland, School of Business Administration*

### **CULTURE & SOCIETY:**

Prof. David Jenemann, College of Arts & Sciences (Chair)

Prof. Susan Comerford, College of Education & Social Services

Prof. Meghan Cope, College of Arts & Sciences

Prof. Peter Dodds, College of Engineering & Mathematical Sciences

Prof. Lokangaka Losambe, College of Arts & Sciences

Prof. Jeffrey D. Marshall, Libraries  
Prof. William Mierse, College of Arts & Sciences  
Prof. David Shiman, College of Education & Social Services  
Prof. Thomas Streeter, College of Arts & Sciences  
*Liaison: Dean Abu Rizvi, Honors College*

#### ENVIRONMENT:

Prof. Jane Molofsky, College of Agriculture & Life Sciences (Chair)  
Prof. Saleem Ali, Rubenstein School of Environment & Natural Resources  
Prof. Lisa Aultman-Hall, College of Engineering & Mathematical Sciences  
Prof. Dennis Clougherty, College of Arts & Sciences  
Prof. Nicholas Gotelli, College of Arts & Sciences  
Prof. William Keeton, Rubenstein School of Environment & Natural Resources  
Prof. Leon Walls, College of Education & Social Services  
Prof. Beverly Wemple, College of Arts & Sciences  
*Liaison: Dean Mary Watzin, Rubenstein School of Environment & Natural Resources*

#### FOOD SYSTEMS:

Prof. Vern Grubinger, Extension (Chair)  
Prof. Linda Berlin, Extension  
Prof. Elizabeth Berman, Libraries  
Prof. Jane Kolodinsky, College of Agriculture & Life Sciences  
Prof. Deborah Neher, College of Agriculture & Life Sciences  
Prof. Bob Parsons, College of Agriculture & Life Sciences  
Prof. Amy Trubek, College of Agriculture & Life Sciences  
Prof. Kimberly Wallin, Rubenstein School of Environment & Natural Resources  
*Liaison: Dean Cynthia Belliveau, Continuing Education*  
*Dean Douglas Lantagne, Extension*

#### NEUROSCIENCE:

Prof. Mark Bouton, College of Arts & Sciences (Chair)  
Prof. Sharon Henry, College of Nursing & Health Sciences  
Prof. Stephen Higgins, College of Medicine  
Prof. Jesse Jacobs, College of Nursing & Health Sciences  
Prof. Rae Nishi, College of Medicine  
Prof. Susan Ryan, College of Education & Social Services  
Prof. Timothy Stickle, College of Arts & Sciences  
Prof. Margaret Vizzard, College of Medicine  
*Liaison: Dean Patricia Prelock, College of Nursing & Health Sciences*

#### POLICY STUDIES:

Prof. Cynthia Gerstl-Pepin, College of Education & Social Services (Chair)  
Prof. Paul Hines, College of Engineering & Mathematical Sciences  
Prof. Chris Koliba, College of Agriculture & Life Sciences  
Prof. Felicia Kornbluh, College of Arts & Sciences  
Prof. Bud Meyers, College of Education & Social Services

Prof. Beth Mintz, College of Arts & Sciences

Prof. Maureen Neumann, College of Education & Social Services

Prof. Richard Vanden Bergh, School of Business Administration

*Liaison: Dean Eleanor Miller, College of Arts & Sciences*

*Dean Fayneese Miller, College of Education & Social Services*

**PUBLIC HEALTH:**

Prof. Judith Shaw, College of Medicine (Chair)

Prof. Judith Cohen, College of Nursing & Health Sciences

Prof. Jon Erickson, Rubenstein School of Environment & Natural Resources

Prof. Brian Flynn, College of Medicine

Prof. Diane Jette, College of Nursing & Health Sciences

Prof. George Leibowitz, College of Education & Social Services

Prof. Indra Neil Sarkar, College of Medicine

Prof. Jeanne Shea, College of Arts & Sciences

*Liaison: Dean Rick Morin, College of Medicine*