



*Identifying and Reporting
Research, Scholarly and Creative
Activities, and Discovery (RSCAD)
College Strengths*

January 30, 2014

Why We're Here

- To determine how to move forward to identify and report College areas of RSCAD strength
 - Clarifying the purpose of this effort
 - Recap background and efforts to date
 - Review and discussed reporting template and guidance
 - Determine next steps

Purpose – What and Why?

- What: Provide a “ready list” of RSCAD areas of strength that can be shared both internally and externally.
- Why:
 - Highlight the value and potential of our RSCAD work to external stakeholders, e.g., funding agencies, legislators, Regents, potential corporate/industry partners, etc.
 - *Expression of University Strengths* already done on an annual basis for federal funders

Purpose – Why continued?

- Promote interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary, multi-institutional, teaming/collaboration, etc.
- Outreach to attract and recruit graduate students, faculty, and staff in our RSCAD areas
- Assist the new Vice President for Research by providing a portfolio of RSCAD strength areas

Background and efforts to date

- List of strengths requested in various reports:
 - Research Infrastructure Task Force 2010
 - K-State 2025 Visionary Plan 2011
 - Research Themes Committee Report 2012
 - KBOR/Council of Chief Research Officers (COCRO) strategic planning 2013

Research Themes Committee Report

- Identified research areas of strength based on two criteria:
 - Likely to attract support from funding agencies in the future
 - A strong base of success already established at K-State
- Identified 12 areas of research strength for the university
- Recommended that the process be extended to include RSCAD areas where criteria other than external funding could be used to identify strengths
- President requested that the Colleges identify their RSCAD strengths

Progress to date

- Two mini-retreats held with Deans and Associate Deans for Research (ADR) to discuss opportunities and challenges to moving forward (Spring 2013)
 - 27 possible criteria to consider when determining strengths were identified
- Subcommittee of ADRs proposed a research strength matrix as a methodology to the Deans and suggested that the Provost office develop an approach based on feedback (December 2013)

What we did...

- Reviewed materials from the past three years
- Cross-walked the criteria list from the mini-retreats with the proposed December list
- Reframed and simplified the approach by:
 - Reducing the number of criteria to 20
 - Developing guidance and simple reporting template focusing only on – what are your strengths and why?
 - Maintaining flexibility for Colleges to determine their strengths, e.g. “One size does not fit all!”

Where we are...

- Guidance, Template, and Criteria distributed to the Deans (Feb 2014)
- Reports due to the Provost Office:
Friday, May 23, 2014