

Transforming the University

**Preliminary Recommendations of the Task Force
on Collaborative Research**

Submitted on behalf of the Task Force by:

**Frances Lawrenz
Mark S. Paller
Co-Chairs of the Task Force**

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I. Executive Summary

Mission

To create a plan to identify and promote interdisciplinary, interprofessional, interscholastic, and inter-institutional partnerships/programs/activities, consistent with the University's goal to become one of the top three public research universities in the world.

Deliverables:

- A. *Recommendations regarding the role of interdisciplinary, interprofessional, interscholastic, and inter-institutional partnerships/programs/activities in achieving the University's goal of becoming one of the three public research universities in the world.*
- B. *Identification of the research areas (current and emerging) that will require or benefit most from interdisciplinary or team-oriented approaches, including the following:*
 - *How should future opportunities be identified, evaluated, and prioritized?*
 - *For which of the anticipated opportunities does the University currently enjoy a comparative advantage?*
 - *Which areas should be considered a priority for development?*
 - *What promising large-scale research areas require special attention and investment?*
- C. *Recommendations regarding how the University can optimally encourage increased interactions and collaborations among researchers across departmental, disciplinary, and collegiate boundaries, including identification of current impediments (cultural, administrative, structural, infrastructure) to such collaborations and recommendations for overcoming these impediments.*
- D. *Recommendations regarding the financial resources that will be necessary to support interdisciplinary or collaborative research, and how such resources should be identified and allocated.*
- E. *Recommendations regarding "best practices" from other institutions that should be considered for implementation at the University of Minnesota, including a comparison of the University's current practices with the recommendations of the National Academies with respect to facilitating interdisciplinary research.*

Task Force Members

Frances P. Lawrenz, Co-Chair, Associate Dean for Research, College of Education and Human Development and Wallace Professor of Teaching and Learning, Educational Psychology

Mark S. Paller, Co-Chair, Assistant Vice President for Research, AHC, and Professor, Medicine

John E. Connett, Division Head and Professor, Biostatistics

Donna Gabaccia, Director, Immigration History Research Center and Rudolph J. Vecoli Professor, History

Dorothy K. Hatsukami, Professor, Psychiatry

Joachim V. Heberlein, Professor, Mechanical Engineering

Shaun P. Kennedy, Associate Program Director, Center for Animal Health and Food Safety

Jon Kenning, Graduate Student, Ecology, Evolution and Behavior

Kristopher McNeill, Assistant Professor, Chemistry

Steven Ruggles, Director, Minnesota Population Center and Distinguished McKnight University Professor

Claudia Schmidt-Dannert, Associate Professor, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology/Biophysics