



MEMORANDUM

TO: Strengthening University-Wide Interdisciplinarity Task Force

FROM: Fred Wright  
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Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine 

CC: Kelly Wick

SUBJECT: Agenda for February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting, 3-5 pm

DATE: February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020

We propose the following agenda for our forthcoming meeting:

1. Approval of Minutes of February 21<sup>st</sup> meeting
2. Definition of Interdisciplinarity (ID) (proposals from members shown in Appendix below)
3. Why do we want and need ID? What advantages does an ID approach bring?
4. Models of success, internal or external: bring ideas to the meeting
5. What is here now, and what have we accomplished in 2011-2020?
  - a. Overview of previous strategic plan (white paper attached)
  - b. How can interdisciplinarity and its successes be measured? (Breakout groups?)
  - c. Assessment possible strategies
    - i. Poll CFEP Clusters & Focus Groups with Cluster Leads
    - ii. Poll Centers/Institutes & Focus Groups with Center/Institute Leads
    - iii. Poll Graduate and Undergraduate Programs/Students
6. Proposed agenda for the next meeting

## **Appendix:**

Proposed interdisciplinarity definitions:

“Interdisciplinarity encompasses research that integrates information, data, techniques, tools, perspectives, concepts, and/or theories from two or more disciplines to advance fundamental understanding or to solve problems whose solutions are beyond the scope of a single discipline or area of research practice.”

“Interdisciplinary studies are a methodology for answering a question, solving a problem, or addressing a topic that is too broad or complex to be dealt with adequately by a single discipline or profession. It draws on multiple disciplinary perspectives and integrates their insights through the construction of a more comprehensive perspective.”