CPI November 11, 2015 Panel Questions

QUESTIONS FOR ALL INVITEES:

Respondents to the CPI survey raised the following questions:

1. What approaches/strategies is your college/unit taking to foster interdisciplinary research and education (graduate level), particularly across colleges? How could support for multi-disciplinary research be improved, or how could this type of work be incentivized?

2. How does your unit manage opportunities for strategic funding that fall into the areas of bridge funding or pilot funding? What is the mechanism, strategy and funds available for distribution on bridge or similar funding in your units?

3. Adequate graduate student support and excellent graduate training are of high concern to PIs in all colleges surveyed. What are the strategies used in your unit to support and improve graduate education and research? How do your plans involve interdisciplinary strategies?

4. What is the plan to reinforce research infrastructure (i.e. how will aging equipment and facilities be supported)? And… By what mechanisms can you improve access to shared resources, instrumentation and laboratory services (animal facilities, core facilities)?

5. On the CPI survey, morale was noted from CPI represented faculty to be relatively low- why are research active faculty so unhappy- and what are you going to do about it…. ?

SPECIFIC QUESTIONS FOR SPECIFIC UNITS:

Health Science Center
There is a longstanding issue around subcontracting with TAMU- has this been resolved and if not, why?

Colleges of Science and Engineering
What are the strategies being used by the college to go after big $$ for centers and institutes?

College of Engineering
There are tentative plans for Engineering to be more integrated with other units including the COM. Could you elaborate on these plans?

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences/Texas A&M AgriLife Research
How can the college/agency strengthen PIs competitiveness for international research programs?

College of Veterinary Medicine
Please briefly summarize what has been achieved so far on the "grand challenges" and on the "One Health" Initiative.

Vice President for Research
Update on SRS, ongoing issues around SRS (Russell and VPR)

Please address concerns regarding usability of many of the online systems, and progress in increasing usability of these online systems (IRIS, Maestro, Concur are 3 consistently mentioned by faculty). (VPR)

How will progress, success of RDF funded facilities and initiatives be evaluated over time?