Advancing Research & Creative Activity

Michael Blum
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SCHOLARSHIP

FUNDAMENTAL ADVANCEMENT

PURE
BASIC
RESEARCH

USE-INSPIRED
BASIC
RESEARCH

APPLIED
RESEARCH

IMMEDIATE APPLICATION
Urban ecology

Disaster planning & response

Disease ecology

Green infrastructure
PATHOGEN EXPOSURE RISK

NATURAL

RESOURCES
HABITAT USE
FECUNDITY
SURVIVAL

CONTROL, MITIGATION

HUMAN

RECOVERY
DEVELOPMENT
HEALTH
WELL-BEING
1983
Tulane and Xavier sign MOU

1988
$33M inaugural DoD appropriation

1995
John McLachlan (Pharmacology) from NIEHS appointed Director

2004
$6.5M endowments established
A Studio In The Woods gifted

2011
McLachlan steps down
CBR suspended

2016
ByWater Institute established

1989
CBR opens with Director Hans Weill (Pulmonary Med)

1999
Riverfront campus project begins

2005
Hurricane Katrina

2010
Deepwater Horizon spill

2011
Michael Blum appointed Director
VISION. The Institute will advance internationally recognized research, education and outreach on energy, the environment, and resilience.
Engaged Scholarship
Dispersants to leadership training

10-24 proposals submitted per year
~$96M requested funding
~$18M in secured funding

Funding sought and secured from:

- NSF
- GOMRI
- EPA
- NIH
- USDA
- NASA
- NEA
- DHS
- State of LA
- Burroughs Wellcome
- NIH
- NIST
- NASA
- NOA
- Foundations
Creative activities
Forums, residencies, events

Conferences, symposia, working groups community meetings

Community art installations

Artist and writer residencies

Scholarly residencies

Social events, summer camps
ART & SCIENCE INSTALLATIONS

Jebney Lewis, 2016
Faculty collaborator: Rick Snow
sound sculpture with student writing and audio
• Wet labs and offices
• Conferencing and forum
• Warehouse and wharf

New construction: ~5,500 sqft
Repurposed space: ~40,000 sqft
Riverfront Initiative
The Trade District
Center for the Dynamics of Social Complexity

Member of the Executive Committee with:
Sergey Gavrilets, Alex Bentley, Aleydis Van De Moortel, and Suzie Allard

Leading the development of a National Science Foundation Research Training (NRT) grant proposal on the social complexity of science.

Proposal team from 7 depts across 4 schools
(EEB, ANTHRO, MATH, INFO SCI, IND SYST ENG, JOURN, FWF)
PROSPECTUS

VISION & VALUES

PROGRAM

EXECUTION
VISION & VALUES

The Arts & Sciences Research Office will advance extramural funding, cultivate a culture of collaboration, and strengthen centers of scholarship, learning and outreach.

SERVICE — COLLABORATION — SUSTAINABILITY
Program: Advancing extramural funding

Provide resources and staff support for:

- Development of research and creative pursuits
- Pre-award compliance and coordination
- Post-award execution
- Bridge funding and seed funding
Program: Advancing extramural funding

Development of research and creative pursuits
Liaise with research offices and funding entities, faculty travel to program offices, sponsor workshops to elevate proposal quality

Pre-award compliance and coordination
Facilitate routing, support budget development, facilitate subrecipient arrangements

Post-award execution
Support subrecipient arrangements, staffing needs, budget revisions
Program: Advancing extramural funding

Bridge funding
Solicited and responsive support for pursuits designed to secure continuation of extramural funding

Seed funding
Regular, peer-review competitions for pilot-scale pursuits designed to develop promising ideas
Program: Cultivating Collaboration

Cultivating a culture of collaboration

• Promote awareness of scholarship and creative pursuits
• Support workshops (and the like) on multi- and interdisciplinarity

Supporting collaborative pursuits

• Regular, peer-review competitions for scholarly retreats, residencies, and cross-unit collaborations focusing on multi- or interdisciplinary pursuits (e.g., undergraduate and graduate training programs)
Program: Strengthening Centers

For more than a dozen Centers and Institutes in the College…

• **Assess** origination, mission, community, staffing and space needs, programmatic development and financial outlook

• **Partner** with Directors to improve engagement, streamline programming, increase accountability, promote sustainability
Program: Strengthening Centers

Partner with Directors to improve engagement, streamline programming, increase accountability, promote sustainability

- Advocate for institutional programmatic alignment and funding
- Collaborate on program development and extramural funding
- Collaborate to secure legacy support
EXECUTION: Timelines and targets

IMMEDIATE PRIORITIES

1. **Retool staffing** to provide greater support from: research coordinators, budget specialists, data analysts

2. **Improve** A&S Research Office online presence

3. **Reach out** to departments and programs

Summer-Fall 23
EXECUTION: Timelines and targets

NEAR TERM PRIORITIES

1. Roll out RFPs for seed funding, bridge funding, and collaborative pursuits
2. Survey Centers and Institutes
3. Advance early-career opportunities
EXECUTION: Timelines and targets

LONGER TERM PRIORITIES

1. Advance College interests (strategic planning)
2. Achieve key funding priorities (e.g., NSF NRT)
3. Enhance Centers and Institutes
4. Secure legacy support
EXECUTION: Timelines and targets

PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT:
1. More favorable sentiment
2. Greater number of proposal submissions
3. Higher funding rates
4. Elevated expenditures
5. Greater prominence of scholarly & creative pursuits
Questions?