Goal 2: Be at the forefront of high-impact transdisciplinary research.

Strategy: 2.2 Actively pursue transdisciplinary research programs and extramural support.

Date: Fall Quarter 2012

Summary of Activities:
During the fall of 2012, the working group (Bart Weimer and Pamela Lein):
1) met together to formulate a plan for addressing strategy.
2) met with Associate Dean Lloyd to discuss their plan to address strategy. This plan focuses on 4 areas (Current research environment and funding landscape; Mentoring; Time & Effort; and Graduate Student Support).

Resource Materials/Data Analysis: n/a

Upcoming Activities/Initiatives:
The Working Group will work with Associate Dean Lloyd to work on the following tasks:
1) Current research environment and funding landscape. This will involve developing a survey instrument to send to faculty requesting input on hindrances to research success and to catalog the types and kinds of extramural research sources to which faculty typically apply.
2) Mentoring. This will involve a variety of approaches, including creating an internal grant application review process that could be accomplished at a regular luncheon involving both basic and clinical scientists.
3) Time & Effort. This will involve a serious reconsideration of the extent to which junior faculty (those not yet tenured) are assigned teaching and service effort which can detract from their primary goal to establish themselves as contributing faculty members meriting advancement to tenure.
4) Graduate Student Support. This will involve ways to further provide administrative support to graduate groups and programs, and reduce the administrative burden on faculty engaged in graduate education.

Accomplishments:
1) Developed 4 points of focus for further workup to promote the pursuit of transdisciplinary research and extramural support.