

Negotiating Collaborative Research Opportunities:

Ideas, People, Practices

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OUTLINE

- Potential Collaborating Moments
- Benefits and Risks
- Ideas, People, Practices
- Resources
- Example
- Sustaining Elements of Collaborative Teams & Pitfalls to Avoid

Potential Collaborating Moments

- Centre of Excellence opportunities (OSI, CRC, NHMRC)
- ECU-Industry grants and ARC Linkage grants
- LIEF grants
- Industry prompted requests
- Co-supervision of postgraduate students
- Conferences
- Tenders
- CEED Projects
- Other

Benefits

- Research productivity
- Innovative ideas
- Career satisfaction
- Enhanced reputation of university
- Professional relationships
- Intellectual stimulation

Risks

- Reputation damage
- Unfair returns
- Unrealised expectations
- Academic career damage
- Poor use of time and effort
- Financial penalties

Ideas

- Sources of research ideas
- Internal practices (ie, QI) versus research
- Knowing the literature
- Novelty, innovation
- Match and capacity
- Potential for next steps

People

- Roles for investigators, industry partners, other academic colleagues, government, other institutions
- Skill complementarity
- Integrity and Trust and Respect
- Intellectual Charge

Practices

- Agreements
 - Formality (conversations, letters, MOUs, MOAs, JVAs, Incorporated Associations)
 - Money & In Kind Contributions
 - Ownership
 - Processes
 - Roles
 - Authorship

Practices –

Big Promises & Little Promises

- NHMRC Guidelines for Authorship
- Ethical conduct of research
- Record keeping and quality assurance practices
- Time lines and milestones
- Communication
 - Written, email, face-to-face, phone, meetings

Practices & Promises

- The relationship
 - Front end
 - Maintenance
 - Points of difference
 - Crescendos
 - Final stretch
 - Wrap up

Practices & Promises

- Teamwork
- Leadership
- Financial accountability
- Recognition
- Performance management
- Managing the unexpected
- Reputation

Resources

- FRHD Office
 - Assoc Dean – Kristjanson/Lavery
 - Faculty R & HD Manager – M Crosthwaite
 - Admin Officer – Finance – T Edwards
 - Admin Officer – Higher Degrees – C White
- ORS
 - Charlie Thorn, Murray Wackett, Prof B Loudon
- Commercial advice:
 - Dr Neil Grice, L Kristjanson, Prof Rob Newton, Prof Watson
- External advice – facilitated by Assoc Dean

WA Centre for Cancer & Palliative Care

- Collaborative interdisciplinary
- Clinical partners and agencies
- 20 postgraduate students (medicine, nursing, allied health)
- 5 postdoctoral fellows
- local, national & international talent



WA Centre for Cancer & Palliative Care

- To develop knowledge that will improve the quality of life and relieve the distress of patients facing cancer illnesses and progressive diseases.
- To develop knowledge to help families of these patients cope with the challenges of providing care and support.

State Clinical Research Partners

- The Cancer Council WA
- Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital
- Princess Margaret Hospital for Children
- Silver Chain Home Hospice
- Hollywood Private Hospital
- Murdoch Community Hospice

National Research Partners

- University of Melbourne
- Queensland University of Technology
- Deakin University
- Flinders University
- Curtin University
- University of Western Australia
- University of Western Sydney

National Clinical Partners

- Peter McCallum Cancer Centre, VIC
- Western Sydney Health District, NSW
- Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, NSW
- Royal Brisbane Hospital, QLD
- Flinders Medical Centre, SA
- Royal District Nurses Agency, SA
- Blue Nurses, QLD

International Research Partners

- University of Manitoba, CANADA
- Memorial Sloan Kettering, New York, USA
- University of Vermont, USA
- McGill University, Montreal, CANADA
- Kings College, London, UK

Research Outcomes

- Successful grants with range of partners
- Publications in refereed national and international journals
- Ongoing invitations to collaborate with state, national & international colleagues
- Co-sponsor of conferences to help foster communication and disseminate work
- Enhanced capacity for high quality research training

Sustaining Elements of Collaborative Teams

- Shared goals
- Integrity
- Skill blend - talent
- Energy ++
- Mutual respect
- Focus
- Infrastructure support
- Ability to work with others
- Personal & professional validation
- Leadership
- Risk taking tendencies
- Resilient personalities
- Financial opportunities

Pitfalls

- Egos and power games
- Lack of attention to process
- Lack of focus
- Lack of sustained support
- Rigid thinking and rigid structures
- Negativity

Negotiating Collaborative Research

- Core Elements: IDEAS, PEOPLE, PRACTICES
- High regard for relationship attention, quality work & creation of respectful processes