

4-19-2017

Transformation Information Issue 5

Office of Academic Affairs

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Recommended Citation

Office of Academic Affairs, "Transformation Information Issue 5" (2017). *Clusters*. 50.
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INTEGRATED CLUSTERS



CLUSTER PROJECT COMMUNICATIONS AND FUNDING

For communications support with upcoming cluster project activity, funded or non-funded, please contact Corey Hoyt (choyt1@plymouth.edu) to assist with web content, photography, student quotes, or resources to help promote project activity. A newly developed [cluster toolkit for faculty and staff can be found here](#) on the Integrated Cluster website with templates for flyers, PowerPoint, and Word documents that include the cluster graphic.

Project funding continues into next year as an investment to get projects started. If you are submitting a project for the fall, you can submit it now; the next two project proposal submittal deadlines are May 15th and June 15th with additional review dates this summer. Ross Humer is a resource for the proposal process and Stephanie Oleson can answer questions related to budgets. [Click here for the project proposal form](#). We have begun showcasing projects please remember to submit a [project completion report](#) so that your project can be featured on the integrated cluster website and in other channels.



SAVE THE DATE

April 24 - Accredited Programs and Integrated Clusters

Join Kristina Lind, Ph.D. and faculty for a focused brainstorm on the accreditation responsibilities to maintain within a discipline and which can be integrated into developing cluster organizing structures. This session will be held from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the HUB Hage Room.

April 28/May 12 - Campus Forums: Cluster Team Design Workshop

Join the next forum in Heritage Commons from 9:30-11:30 a.m. on April 28 or 2:00-4:00 p.m. on May 12 for a workshop on designing cluster leadership teams, outlining responsibilities, and identifying other needs. This workshop will utilize information from past campus forums and will explore organizing structures to support integrated clusters. Two sessions are offered as an opportunity for more faculty and staff to engage in the discussion.



UPCOMING CAMPUS FORUMS

- Friday, April 28, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
- Friday, May 12, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

[Review Past Forums](#)



PROJECT PROFILE: INAUGURAL PANTHER PITCH

As part of PSU's Innovation & Entrepreneurship integrated cluster, the first Panther Pitch kicked off on March 13th by PSU class of 2000 Entrepreneur and Restaurateur Ryan Chadwick telling a packed crowd "not to give up on your idea." Chadwick highlighted the numerous businesses he began after leaving his Wall Street job and said "they will not all be winners. You will fail and it sucks but you get back up and try again just to see if you can." His words were an inspiration to the many young entrepreneurs who turned out to participate in and watch the competition. [Read more here.](#)

REGISTRATION ORIENTATION

A new orientation class for registration is being developed. Hosted on Moodle, the course seeks to help students understand the courses they will register for in their first semester as well as how to navigate the registration system. Incoming students who have paid a deposit, will be given access to the course in May in order to register for classes before they arrive on campus for orientation.

CAMPUS FORUM: MARCH 15 SUMMARY

A campus forum on March 15th explored the concerns faculty and staff have about the transition to integrated clusters. Through a survey more than 160 concerns were raised. During the forum, the 10 concerns receiving the most votes were discussed by 75 faculty and staff. Three of the concerns were about making progress. Goal setting, timelines, and specific plans were strong recommendations coming out of that session. [Review next steps and photos here.](#)

LEADERSHIP FORUM: MARCH 29 SUMMARY

On March 29th, there was a follow up forum to March 15th with more than 50 department chairs, staff directors, program coordinators, PAT/OS/Faculty speakers, and Cabinet members that participated in a session to explore progress made to date and identify activities to be completed over the next 6-9 months. Areas of activity related to curriculum development; instructional delivery and logistics; general education; facility development; external

partnerships; and recruitment and retention. With a foundation of progress and collective understanding of where we are, the group moved into identifying next steps related to these areas as well as where in the institution these steps could be addressed or carried out. Photos and reports of this information can be found on the [Integrated Clusters website](#).

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