

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Regents
From: Board Office
Subject: Proposed New Institute, Iowa State University
Date: January 5, 2004

Recommended Action:

Accept report of a new institute to be called the Partnerships in Prevention Science Institute.


Executive Summary:

Proposed New Institute	Iowa State University reports the establishment of a new institute, "Partnerships in Prevention Science Institute (PIPSI)." The Institute Director will report to the Vice Provost for Research and Advanced Studies through an executive committee of participating units. The request to formally recognize the activities of this unit as an institute is, in part, due to the long-term success of the Director in securing extramural funding (with current annual direct awards totaling \$3-4 million) and for the benefit of future funding. The indirect cost generated from these activities (\$1.5-2 million annually) benefits ISU and allows for future growth and opportunity.
Purpose – Conduct Various Activities Related to Substance Abuse	The mission of the proposed institute is to conduct research directed toward partnership-based evaluation, refinement, and diffusion of interventions designed to prevent substance abuse and other problem behaviors, through increases in the proportions of healthy, competent caregivers and youth in targeted general populations. This research will be conducted in collaboration with leading prevention research institutes at other universities. Research at the proposed institute will emphasize the role of school/community/university partnerships to promote research/practice integration.
Extension-Assisted Research	With the focus on Extension-assisted, preventive intervention research, this institute will be the first of its kind in Iowa. The Preventive Intervention Center at the University of Iowa has a clinical/medical focus.

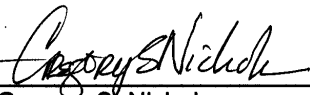
Most Funding from NIH Grants The majority of funding for the institute is from National Institutes of Health grants.

No Funds from General Fund There will be no new financial obligation to the general fund. In fact, previous state support for activities of the unit (pre-Institute – with funding through the Agriculture and Home Economics Experiment Station) has been discontinued, and operational support has shifted to indirect cost sources of funds.

Regent Questions Attached are Iowa State University's responses to the Regent Questions for New Centers and Institutes (pages 3-6).



Robert J. Barak

Approved: 

Gregory S. Nichols

Proposal to Establish An Extension-Assisted Network Institute

1. What is the title of the proposed center or institute?

Partnerships In Prevention Science Institute (PIPSI)

2. What is the administrative relationship of the proposed unit to other entities on campus, such as departments or colleges?

The proposed prevention research unit and its director will report to the Vice Provost for Research and Advanced Studies through an executive committee of participating units chaired by the Vice Provost for Research and Advanced Studies.

The groundwork prevention research for the proposed institute has been conducted through Project Family, a project that is already informally functioning as a unit in the Institute for Social and Behavioral Research (ISBR), under a multi-unit institute (IRISS, the Interdisciplinary Research Institute for Survey Science). There are four key reasons for formally establishing a new unit that would be more closely affiliated with ISU Extension and would have its own identity and administrative structure.

First, there has been substantial growth in Project Family, with over \$51 million in grant funds secured, primarily from the National Institutes of Health over the course of the last 12 years. Creation of an institute dedicated to partnership-related prevention research will serve to facilitate this growth, and to provide a readily recognizable administrative entity for Iowa State University—for what is already a large-scale, nationally recognized program of Extension-assisted, community partnership-based prevention research.

Second, such a recognizable administrative entity is critically important to the successful funding of a planned research initiative involving a national prevention partnership network assisted by the Extension System, as noted under Item 4 below. This entity would be well positioned to establish relationships with leading research institutes at other land grant universities that would collaborate with the network initiative. Strong working relationships with a number of such institutes already exist and would be the basis for more formalized network agreements. In addition, the Institute structure would facilitate affiliations between the Partnerships In Prevention Science Institute and faculty in other colleges at ISU.

Third, the Project Family staff believes that functioning as an institute would be of mutual benefit to other research projects currently within IRISS, in particular. That is, with a dedicated, Extension-assisted prevention research institute, the potential synergies of this applied research and other basic research now conducted through the Institute for Social and Behavioral Research could be enhanced.

Fourth, IRISS will be phased out this fiscal year. Because of the necessary reorganization of the institute and centers previously falling under IRISS, the organizational timing for initiation of the new Institute is optimal.

3. To whom will the administrative director of the unit report?

The Administrative Director of the proposed institute will report to the university administration specified under item 2.

4. Succinctly state the basic purposes and objectives of the unit.

The mission of the proposed institute is to conduct research directed toward partnership-based evaluation, refinement, and diffusion of interventions designed to prevent substance abuse and other problem behaviors, through increases in the proportions of healthy, competent caregivers and youth in targeted general populations. This research will be conducted in collaboration with leading prevention research institutes at other universities. Research at the proposed institute will emphasize the role of school/community/university partnerships to promote research-practice integration.

The primary foci of research at the proposed institute will include: preventive intervention efficacy; Extension-assisted intervention diffusion and engagement; advancement of methods for the study of intervention efficacy and diffusion; understanding intervention processes, and building community capacity for sustained implementation of evidence-based activities.

A key goal of the new unit will be to support the development of proposals to fund a national research network. This network will be supported by an Institute that will promote the diffusion of evidence-based preventive and health promotion interventions.

4a. How will the activities of the unit relate to the general mission and teaching programs of the university?

The proposed institute will further the university mission to advance and support excellence in research, outreach, teaching and learning. With regard to research, the collaboration of institute prevention researchers will both facilitate the high quality implementation of currently funded research projects, as well as support the efforts of involved scientists/faculty to successfully compete for externally funded grants. Scientists, faculty, and staff to be affiliated with the proposed institute represent the multiple disciplines and broad range of expertise (including psychology, sociology, human development and family studies, statistics, and Extension) needed to successfully integrate science with practice. With regard to the mission of outreach, the new institute—by design—will conduct its work in close cooperation with Extension, as a natural outgrowth of earlier work with public school systems. Research activities will include investigating how to most effectively identify evidence-based preventive and health promotion interventions and subsequently diffuse those programs in collaboration with Extension—to be competently delivered by local implementers in individual schools. Institute activities also will provide teaching, learning, training, and research opportunities to a wide range of graduate students, who also would be able to utilize data from institute projects for completing their theses and dissertations. Similarly, undergraduate students affiliated with institute faculty could acquire research experience through independent study projects. Research activities also would afford the opportunity to provide some financial support to both graduate and undergraduate students, through such vehicles as research assistantships or work study. Finally, long-term plans include the development of a proposal for a cross-disciplinary graduate minor in prevention science.

4b. How do they relate to the strategic plan of the university?

The description of how the unit will relate to the general mission and teaching programs of the university in the immediately preceding section includes a number of points of relevance to ISU's strategic plan; this section will detail how the work conducted by the planned Institute would map unto the specific goals in the strategic plan. The proposed Institute will directly address all of ISU's Strategic Plan goals and many of the characteristics of those goals.

First, concerning engagement of key constituents, it will be marked by responsive and productive involvement in improvement of the quality of life in Iowa's communities, based on a clear understanding of the needs of those communities. A salient feature of the Institute will be demonstration of Extension-assisted, community/university partnerships that entail increased integration of science with practice. Further, the Institute's work will involve the widespread use of information technology and will offer life-long learning opportunities to local communities through the community/university partnerships.

Second, concerning the promotion of discovery, the Institute builds on Iowa State's strengths, as represented by a nationally-recognized program of prevention science research focusing on skills building among general population youth and families. It already has secured over \$51 million in grant dollars, primarily from the National Institutes of Health over the course of the last 12 years. The planned work will be firmly grounded in interdisciplinary research and will foster an initiative that entails a network of Land Grant Universities conducting multi-site research projects, promoting large scale, quality implementation of scientifically-tested interventions.

Third, concerning learning enhancement, by fostering dissemination of scientifically-tested programs that instruct in life and family skills, the Institute will provide "access to success" for youth and adults alike. Thereby, it also will address aspects of life-long learning designed to enhance quality of life. In addition, as noted earlier, it will provide learning opportunities to a wide range of graduate students.

Finally, common to all three goals of learning enhancement, promotion of discovery, and engagement of key constituents, it will:

- *Promote original, peer-reviewed scholarship;
- *Communicate and collaborate with constituent stakeholders in partnership communities;
- *Encourage and support interdisciplinary collaboration, and
- *Promote life-long learning.

5. Do similar units exist at other public or private colleges or universities in Iowa? If so, how does the proposed unit relate to them?

There are no similar Extension-assisted units in the state. As noted earlier, ISU's outreach mission as a Land Grant University is central to the purpose of the proposed institute; key administrative linkages will be with ISU Extension. Institutes or centers conducting preventive intervention research at the University of Iowa have a more clinical/medical focus.

6. What are the proposed sources and annual amounts of funding for the unit? Please itemize. (Include faculty, staff, and clerical salaries; supplies; equipment; travel; other costs.)

The estimated direct and indirect costs for FY04 delineated below are based on funding already secured.

Budgetary Item	Source of Funds	Annual Amount *
Institute Research Staff (P&S Scientists, Associate Scientists, & Assistant Scientists)	** National Institutes of Health (NIH), ISU Extension, Central Funds	\$789,319
Institute Administrative & Support Staff (P&S)	Indirect cost, NIH	\$82,749
Institute Clerical Staff (Merit)	Indirect cost, NIH	\$34,456
Space in ISU Research Park	Indirect cost, NIH	\$191,400
Supplies	Indirect cost, NIH	\$35,183
Equipment	Indirect cost, NIH	\$10,436
Travel	Indirect cost, NIH	\$36,516
Extramural Research Project Costs (excluding costs itemized above): Project-specific costs associated with data collection, intervention implementation, video coding, etc.)	NIH	\$3,137,986
Grand Total		\$4,318,045

* Estimated annual amount based on projected FY04 expenditures.

** \$110,255 of staff support is from central University funds, to cover 50% of the Director's salary. Other research staff salaries and benefits are covered from NIH direct costs and by ISU Extension.

7. Which of the costs in item 7 represent new financial obligations to the general fund of the university?

There will be no new financial obligations to the general fund of ISU. Indeed, the director's salary was previously paid 78% from the general fund; now that amount will be reduced to 50% because the remainder of his salary will come from grants and other sources. ISU Extension will contribute \$100,000 to the Institute from non-state funding sources.