Emerging Directions for the Science of Team Science

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- The most interesting problems are at the interstices between disciplines.

Funding Agencies

They have goals, perhaps even missions.

Who makes the input into funding recommendations (peers, program staff, Congress?)

What will their rules allow them to fund (students, lab managers, support staff?)

Who can get credit/take responsibility?

Inter-institutional direct costs policies?

Agencies: Building a Team

- You can't force fit a team
- Reviewers can't put together "dream teams"
- Hardening of the disciplines (does the definition morph over time)

Academic leadership challenges

- Hiring practices
- Tenure and promotion cultures
- Space and money
- Does the institution value teams?

Hiring practices to nucleate teams

- Only hire faculty members supported by more than one department?

- Cross communication has to be spectacular (leadership expectation)

- Weave them into the fabric of the institution

- Resources: NSF's ADVANCE program

Tenure and promotion

- Assumption: research, teaching and service
- Role of department chair can't be over-stated
- Context-setting for multi-disciplinary perspectives
- Only be judged by folks who've been through it in the last five years?

Space and money

- Who has 5000 sq ft of unused wet lab space?
- Cross- communication again important
- Tendency for campuses to under-value the planning or management space
- Usually term-limited
- Be sure you know what counts!

Institutional practice

- Needs to match the "culture"
- Rewards and recognition for teams
- Needs to bend to agency's demands
- Make cross-institutional challenges go away

Why support teams?

- Citations and impact factors?

- Rankings?

- External support?

- Reputation?

- Because the most interesting problems are at the interstices between disciplines!