Opening remarks

Nicholas Jones, PhD
Provost
Pennsylvania State University

Neil Sharkey, PhD
Vice President for Research
Pennsylvania State University
Today’s Panelists

Leslie Parent, MD
Vice Dean for Research and Graduate Studies
College of Medicine

Lorah D. Dorn, PhD, CPNP
Professor of Nursing and Pediatrics
College of Nursing

A. Craig Hillemeier, MD
Dean, College of Medicine
Chief Executive Officer, Penn State Health
Senior Vice President for Health Affairs

R. Keith Hillkirk, PhD
Chancellor
Penn State Berks
Penn State University is committed to achieving impact as part of its strategic plan.

Enhancing Health is one of the thematic priorities for impact.

As such, PSU has committed to being a leader in promoting quality of life through comprehensive approaches to enhancing personalized and population health.

This objective will be achieved through a commitment to and investment in relevant research, education, clinical practice, and outreach.

PSU will work to support innovative health research and community health outreach initiatives through the Enhancing Health Executive Committee, Enhancing Health Steering Committee and University Health Sciences Council.
What are the Enhancing Health Committees?

• The Enhancing Health Executive and Steering Committees, working with the University Health Sciences Council, identify health-related priorities for the University to focus on through the year 2020.

• The Committees provide resource and infrastructure investment to advance progress in these priority areas through seed-funding and mentoring initiatives.

• The Committees convene on a routine basis to review the progress of these initiatives, to seek and receive feedback from stakeholders, and to review and award funding for applications received through the Strategic Plan program.

• Feedback from stakeholders is key: as a result of feedback at the 2017 Forum, Opioid Addiction research gained greater support & momentum.
What are the Enhancing Health Priorities?

1. Enhancing the health of the Penn State community, including students, faculty and staff;

2. Addressing vulnerable populations and health equity through research, teaching and service, with particular attention to substance abuse and the opioid epidemic;

3. Building a research infrastructure that supports excellence in biomedical and health research; and

4. Investing in biomedical and health research excellence by focusing on cancer.
Enhancing Health: Progress to Date

Enhance the Health of Everyone in the Penn State Community

Actions Taken:

− Penn State is now a smoke and tobacco free campus. The COM campus has been smoke and tobacco free since 2007.

− The Penn State Employee Health and Wellness Center opened at University Park in February 2017.

− Penn State Health is expanding to reach patients and PSU community members in Berks, Lancaster, York & Cumberland Counties.

− Acquisition of physician groups in primary care, oncology, and cardiology to enhance treatment availability.

− Plans for new facilities in Lancaster & Cumberland Counties.

− Expansion of Penn State Health into our community provides opportunities for patients to receive cutting-edge therapies & participate in clinical trials.
Address vulnerable populations/health equity, with attention to substance abuse and opioid epidemic

Actions Taken:

- Two key summits focused on the opioid epidemic: the fourth annual College of Medicine Penn State Addiction Symposium will be held on November 28; and, the first Penn State Summit on the Opioid Epidemic, which was held in January at University Park, had more than 200 participants from across the University.

- Cross-Campus/CTSI leadership in the Appalachian Translational Research Network as an Executive Committee Member.

- Creation of the Penn State Addiction Center for Translation (PSACT).

- Launch of Project Echo Program: A faculty consortium using telehealth to deliver specialist care & advice on Opioid Addiction treatment to family & community medical practitioners across Pennsylvania.
Build an Infrastructure that Supports Excellence in Biomedical and Health Research

**Actions Taken:**

- Enhanced investment in collaboration across campuses among the Life Sciences program, the Engineering program, and Biomedical Engineering program.
- Investment in elite research equipment at both campuses (7T MRI, Krios CryoEMs, NovaSeq).
- Planned construction of the Innovation Pavilion at the College of Medicine to enhance research & education activities.
- Reviewing proposals for creating an Institute for Biomedical Sciences (IBS).
- Proposed creation of a gene editing and tissue bank core facility.
- Create a task force to assess needs for wet lab space, including renovations and new construction.
Enhancing Health: Progress to Date

Invest in Biomedical and Health Research Excellence by Focusing on Cancer

Actions Taken:

- Strategic recruitment for faculty across wide disciplines with cancer research tracks to enhance inter-departmental & campus collaboration.
- Increased financial investment in Cancer Research through Highmark Partnership.
- Investment in TriNetX & other clinical trial design tools in support of Penn State Cancer Institute Clinical Trials Office growth & activity.
- Tobacco clinical research facilities built in the CRC.
- Creation of a cancer-focused seed grant program to encourage interdisciplinary collaboration.
- Invest in co-funded post docs and data-science professionals to stimulate research collaborations across campuses.
Strategic Plan Applications Cycle 1: 3 Awarded; amount totaling: $659,317

- “Enhancing Interdisciplinary and Collaborative Cancer Research Activity Across Penn State Campuses” – Dr. Andrew Patterson & Dr. Jeffrey Peters
- “Integrated Data Systems Solutions for Health Equity” – Dr. Susan McHale
- “On Campus Ambulatory Intensive Care (AIC) to Improve Health and Wellness of Penn State Employees and Adult Beneficiaries with Chronic Illnesses” – Dr. Dennis Scanlon

Strategic Plan Applications Cycle 2: 1 Awarded; amount totaling: $232,225

- “Lion Pulse: Networking Employee and Student Wellness Initiatives” – Dr. Jennifer Kraschnewski

Strategic Plan Applications Cycle 3: Awards to be announced Dec 2018

Strategic Plan Applications Cycle 4: Submissions Open (Deadline Jan 31, 2019)
**Content for a More Competitive Application**

1. Focus on an area outlined in the “Enhancing Health” mission of University Strategic Plan
   - Think outside the box: it’s not requesting $ for your research portfolio enhancement

2. Consider scope of both the foci (could be far reaching across PA or a narrow population) and involved players. Leaders & team cut across departments/colleges/campuses
   - Does not need to focus on all or many campuses; best not to be campus specific
   - Interdisciplinary is a plus
     - As appropriate, consider various levels across disciplines of researchers, clinicians, students, community members, etc.

3. Have a clear and measurable outcome with an appropriate evaluation plan

4. Indicate how findings are disseminated (publishing, presentations to public and scholars)

5. What current support/buy in is there for project? How can project be sustained?

6. Addresses guidelines of the application & includes all components
Steering Committee Members

Co-Chairs: Leslie Parent, College of Medicine
          Lorah Dorn, College of Nursing

Sarah Bronson
College of Medicine

Lynette Chappell-Williams
College of Medicine

Vernon Chinchilli
College of Medicine

Christopher Davis
Student Member, College of Medicine

Kathleen Keller
College of Health & Human Development

Cynthia Lightfoot
Penn State Brandywine

James Marden
Eberly College of Science

Stephen Matthews
College of Liberal Arts

Shane McElwee – Student Member,
College of Health & Human Development

Alissa Meister
Student Member, College of Medicine

Andrew Patterson
College of Agricultural Sciences

Andrew Read
Eberly College of Science

Cynthia Robinson
College of Medicine

Cara Ruggiero – Student Member,
College of Health & Human Development

Dennis Scanlon
College of Health & Human Development

Martin Sliwinski
College of Health & Human Development

Praveen Veerabhadrappa
Penn State Berks

Daniel Newhart – Resource Member,
Office of Planning & Assessment
Executive Committee Members

**Co-Chairs:**
- **Doug Cavener**, Dean, Eberly College of Science
- **Craig Hillemeier**, Dean, College of Medicine; Chief Executive Officer, Penn State Health; and Senior Vice President for Health Affairs

- **Neil Sharkey**, Vice President for Research (Ex-Officio Member)
- **Francis Achampong**, Chancellor, Penn State Mont Alto
- **Laurie Badzek**, Dean, College of Nursing
- **Keith Hillkirk**, Chancellor, Penn State Berks
- **Peter Hudson**, Director, Huck Institutes for the Life Sciences
- **Susan McHale**, Director, Social Science Research Institute