March 18, 2009

TO: Matthew S. Platz, Dean, College of Mathematical and Physical Sciences

FROM: W. Michael Sherman, Vice Provost for Academic Administration

SUBJECT: Targeted Investment in Excellence Third Year Report
Center for Cosmology and Astro-Particle Physics Targeted Investment in Excellence

The deadline is approaching for submission of the third year report on your Targeted Investment in Excellence initiative. I am writing to keep you aware of that deadline and to pass along a number of related reminders.

- Your third year TIE report should be submitted to Vice Provost Mike Sherman at sherman.4@osu.edu no later than April 17, 2009.
- The report should be compiled according to the attached outline.
- The President’s and Provost’s Advisory Committee (PPAC) will evaluate the reports. A meeting will be scheduled for you to interact with the PPAC review committee. When you are called to schedule that meeting, please be as flexible as possible so the meeting is not unduly delayed.
- The PPAC review will focus especially on the eight perspectives bulleted on page two of the attached outline. I anticipate that PPAC will submit its evaluations by the end of May.
- The Office of Academic Affairs and the Office of Research will conduct an analysis, giving serious consideration to the third year reports, assessments by PPAC, and an examination of the commitments made by the colleges through the general ledger fiscal tracking mechanism. It is anticipated that funding decisions for FY09 will be made in July and August of 2009.

As was the case last year, TIE progress will be reflected in the OSU:pro system. Reporting the TIE information in this searchable Web repository permits the ready sharing of information about these initiatives, thus bringing broader awareness to these programs, which enhances the reputation of the university. We will assure that this third year baseline information is appropriately entered into the OSU:pro system but may follow up with you to secure additional information regarding TIE-related activities.

All information about the Targeted Investment in Excellence initiatives is located at http://oaa.osu.edu/TIE2.php.

If you have questions about your third year report, please contact me at sherman.4@osu.edu.

cc: Vice Provosts
    PPAC
    Donna J. Hobart, Assistant Vice President for Fiscal and Human Resources, OAA
Targeted Investment in Excellence
Third Annual Report Outline
Due Friday, April 17, 2009

Please assure that your dean colleagues (if a multi-college TIE), faculty leaders, and fiscal officer are significantly involved in or have had the opportunity to contribute to this report.

Provide the following information to Vice Provost Mike Sherman at sherman.4@osu.edu by Friday, April 17, 2009:

• Executive Summary narrative

• Accomplishments to date narrative

• Efforts to address concerns, if any, as detailed in the PPAC and OAA/OR assessment of the previous annual report(s); if your TIE received contingent funding, please include the response you provided to address the concerns expressed in your second year review letter

• For cross-disciplinary and trans-institutional TIEs, a report on the progress of integrating efforts, both scholarly and administratively, across traditional boundaries

• Supporting evidence that the goals and objectives of the TIE are being achieved; the items should be listed in two sections: one section should be activities that are a direct result of the TIE, and the other section should be other accomplishments related to the TIE
  o Activities that are a DIRECT result of the TIE include
    ▪ peer-reviewed publications
    ▪ professional presentations
    ▪ honors and awards
    ▪ graduate student and undergraduate student notable accomplishments, including grant funding, publications, and presentations
    ▪ additional funding through OSURF or contracts and grants and outreach and engagement
  o Activities that are an INDIRECT result of, or are related to the TIE, include
    ▪ peer-reviewed publications
    ▪ professional presentations
    ▪ honors and awards
    ▪ graduate student and undergraduate student notable accomplishments, including grant funding, publications, and presentations
    ▪ additional funding through OSURF or contracts and grants and outreach and engagement

• Implementation issues that have emerged and the steps that have been taken to accommodate or remediate those issues

• Data for your adopted metrics to gauge the success of the TIE

NOTE: In April, meetings with the TIE Senior Fiscal Officers will clarify the investment reporting for previous and future years.
Please note that the President’s and Provost’s Advisory Committee will be reviewing Targeted Investment in Excellence initiatives from the following perspectives:

- Are the accomplishments as expected, and is there an appropriate trajectory for success, especially in the area of faculty hiring?
- Are there significant threats to success? If so, what might those be?
- Are there opportunities to enhance success? If so, what might those be?
- Are there concerns regarding the projected allocation of funds for the next and subsequent academic years?
- Is the anticipated impact and influence of the TIE being achieved?
- What is the longer range sustainability of each TIE? Has each program created a foundation that will provide a sustainable competitive difference for Ohio State?
- What are the primary factors for the continuing success of the TIE programs over the next ten years?
- Is release of the next fiscal year’s central funds recommended?
  - If yes, why and what conditions, if any, might be associated with the release of those funds?
  - If not, why not, and whether remediation to recover an appropriate trajectory for the TIE is possible