Overview of GWI

Presentation to Council on Academic Affairs

By

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Background Information

- GWI was created in March 2016
- I was appointed Executive Director in January 2017
- GWI functioned as an “Initiative” (Steinmetz) for roughly 18 months prior to becoming an “Institute” (McPheron/Whitaker)
- GWI is a solutions-oriented institute driven by customer requirements – draws upon F2F, HABRI, ADC and OFRN models – applied research focus
- GWI focuses on integrating capabilities, technologies and research to develop innovative solutions and put them in place
- Out of the gate, GWI has put a big effort into framing key relationships with external players – World Bank, DFID, WorldServe, US AID, State of Ohio, Gov’ts and Universities
- Key goal -- gaining recognition for Ohio State as a thought leader – solutions provider
- GWI sees itself as an OSU agent for creating the Land Grant University of the Future – an OSU capable of solving pressing “global” issues
What GWI Signed Up to Do

• Create an interdisciplinary research institute focused on integrated systems solutions – applied research – customer focused requirements – secure new faculty research grants

• Act as a neutral technology integrator of Ohio State and external assets – transition R&T to the field

• Initiate Faculty and Student Engagements around systems solutions / applied research – GWI was a build from scratch Institute – did not come with faculty slots or existing centers

• Engage the External Community – expand OSU’s brand – gain recognition in key organizations for OSU’s capabilities to enhance competitiveness of OSU proposals

• Expand the Ohio State research base in 3 key areas – Field to Faucet (Great Lakes Focus), Wells to Wellness (Africa Focus), Coastal Resilience (International Focus)

• Solicit Traditional and Non-Traditional Funding – Focus on more complex proposals -- $1M and up

• Introduce Innovative Business Models Into the Solution Sets To Ensure Sustainability
GWI Evaluation Criteria – End of Year Three – Institute Proposal

- Project Completion – Major Project in Each Area: 2 out of 3
- Affiliate Researcher Base – 100 Faculty Members: 50 core faculty – Attract Additional Affiliates in early 2019 – Catalyst – US AID Task Orders for Short- and Long-Term Research – LASER, RTAC, STIP, etc
- Strategic Partnerships – Five from Industry, Five Not For Profits: OK
- Discovery Theme Connectivity – Linkage – One Per Year: OK
- External Funding -- $5M by end of year two: $4M for year 2.5 -- $5M by end of year three – represents GWI led proposals
- Events, Lectures, Seminars – Sponsor Three Events A Year: OK
- Student Engagement – Work with HE and GAP – students to field sites – OK and rapidly expanding
- External Recognition – invites to present at key organizational meetings -- OK
What Have We Done to Date

• Built a great GWI team – moved out on key “strategic” priorities aligned to key OSU initiatives
• Created highly interdisciplinary FAC (8 colleges) and EAB – key to networking
• Framed and marketed integrated solution sets – HABRI, ADC, and Sustainable Village Water System – secured State and federal funds to execute them
• Framed initiatives that integrate multiple DTs and Institutes – e.g. – Infectious Disease
• Gained recognition for OSU as source of sustainable solutions – Tanzanian MOW
• Framed key agreements that serve as foundation for GWI activities in Africa – More to Come
• Built a community of practice at OSU -- Did You Know & VFTF – expand awareness
• Engaged -- recruited non-tenured faculty into proposal efforts
• Sustained effective GWI Internal R&D Program – Leading to New Externally-Funded R&D projects -- $840,000 for faculty research plus $378,000 in F&A for WADA and GROWS
• Created Set of Externally Recognized Products and Innovations -- anchor is SVWS Model – next Emerging and Reemerging Disease
What We Plan to Do in the Future

- Get a *Coastal Resilience* Initiative Up and Going -- BRIDGE
- Further Expand Our *Wells to Wellness* Thrust in East Africa -- Kenya, Zambia, Uganda, and Ethiopia
- Work to get an integrated OSU plan for water -- FAES, SI, GWI, IDI, etc -- that capitalizes on breadth and depth of OSU assets campus wide -- *Field to Faucet*
- Spread the word about GWI -- starting with alums, faculty and students -- another Did You Know Session in the Spring focused on East Africa (You will all be invited) and a Collaboration with OSU Alumni Association
- Secure OSU position on new US AID solutions oriented programs -- LASER, RTAC, STIP, and Securing Water for Food
- Secure support in Kenya for a new WADA program-- secure support in Tanzania for a WADA II project -- secure set of Foundation Grants
- Deploy a Bold New Student Initiative in Collaboration with Global Village, Global Gateways, COE International, and Humanitarian Engineering
- Put A Team Together to Pursue the MacArthur Foundation Grant Competition -- $100M winner take all grant
- Create a Big Ten Design to Cost Technology Challenge for Key Needs in Africa -- deflouridation of water, food storage, renewable energy refrigeration systems, etc
- Continue to successfully execute our ongoing projects and activities
- Continue to frame key strategic partnerships
Key Challenges

1. Need to create internal mechanisms that give Institutes predictability regarding funding, focus, staffing, and revenue sharing -- MOUs are not working
2. Need to recognize that there is not one model for all institutes -- they can vary in terms of leadership, measures of performance, engagement strategy, focus, etc.
3. Need to recognize the value of non-monetary outcomes versus traditional measures of revenue and F&A
4. Creating more innovation cells in OSU that can translate research into solutions
5. Maintaining a strong base of support for GWI at the leadership level
6. Continuity -- currently assessing go forward options for GWI -- from maintaining GWI to integrating it with another Institute, to making it a PI Lead activity, to giving it to a Third Party