Summary of Conversation Topics

Outline

• Mission statement
  o Discussed including more that simply the mission statement in the white paper

• Goal of the paper
  o Incorporating the Grand Challenges approach
  o Number of examples, framework used in national academies, Princeton etc. Not going to focus on everything, will pick some grand challenges and key issues to look at how to organize around those and be responsive to them across all scales.

• Cabinet priority one: University of Choice
  o How to make it accessible not just financially but how to we be flexible

• Priority 2: Enrollment stabilization and growth
  o Concern over demographic trends, how do we become the University of Choice for the

• Priority 3: Research and commercialization
  o Gap between the research conducted by UNH, higher than many peers, with low amount of revenue generated through commercialization.

• Priority 4: STEM: doubling STEM graduates by 2025
  o Science, Tech, Engineering, Math traditional disciplines. Many places across the core we intersect with that

• Think about not only what we have but what we can offer
  o Adult education
  o How to draw in farmers and people entering market place to offer them some support and create a revenue stream

• Each Subcommittee: Research, Engagement, Curriculum and Operations, will reframe their outlines and information to work with the four priorities, and assess each of their focused areas across the CORE.
  o Groups broke out for a discussion on this during the meeting, see below for more details
Key Agreements
• The group will structure its white paper around the four priorities for UNH set by the cabinet
• Stating more than the bare mission statement in the white paper would be a good idea to introduce what we’re doing

Outstanding Questions
• All New England states have programs like Food Science and Food Technology, except UNH
  o Could that be a recommendation for us to include in white paper?
  o Do you need Dept. of Food Science to meet the producers’ needs? Or is there some one or two key hires within an existing department?

Next Steps
The group identified the following next steps (or commitments) during the meeting:

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<tr>
<th>What</th>
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<td>• Inventory of what’s already happening and being offered at peer universities in the northeast</td>
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| • Look at other summer programs and focusing on summer programs  
  o Hard to stay on campus because you need to have a job in the summer  
  o People working on the farms able to take classes  
• URI has a summer farm camp  
  o Week sessions but for 6-7 weeks  
  o Is that a possibility at UNH? | Caroline to look at other schools/programs | Next meeting |
| Meet in Subcommittee’s once more before next meeting to draft an outline | All subcommittees | Before November 6th Meeting |
| • Subcommittees: send outlines and information from check-in meetings before Nov 6th to Jackie to gather together | Jackie | Next Meeting |
| • Worth getting together with Amy and Charlie to get input from them | Who?? Tom has been the one doing this but will likely be away during our next TF meeting. | Before next meeting |
Welcome and Introductions
Check in and overview of meeting
• Break out into subcommittees to begin discussing what should be highlighted in white paper to bring back to the cabinet

Template for White Paper
Next Steps
• Cabinet priorities: if that’s our audience, framing around those would be beneficial and help the paper have impact
• Quick way to sort is CORE how do things relate to each cabinet priority knowing full well that we will not have under each priority a full set of activities we want to highlight, suggest etc.
• May want to say more than just bare mission statement

Outline
• Mission statement
• Goal of the paper
  o Incorporating the Grand Challenges approach
  o Number of examples, framework used in national academies, Princeton etc. Not going to focus on everything, will pick some grand challenges and key issues to look at how to organize around those and be responsive to them across all scales.
o Members think about what are some of the grand challenges we see UNH having as it invests in food systems work, what does UNH contribute to solving those issues
  o Can fully bank on fact that NH ranks #3 on 50 states for farmers markets. We’re already right in the core of leadership
  o Can think about Jan Nisbet, will provide people with basic facts about why UNH is a leader in this area
• Cabinet priority one: University of Choice
  o How to make it accessible not just financially but how to we be flexible
  o UNH is a complex system itself and thus makes it hard to be flexible, need a system to be efficient
  o Food systems is an evolving and kind of young field so it continues to be flexible, some things that have been done that work with “University of Choice”. i.e. just thinking about what counts as learning, how to count credits.
  o How are we delivering education, face to face, hybrid, online, summer, when does it happen?
• Priority 2: Enrollment stabilization and growth
  o Concern over demographic trends, how do we become the University of Choice for the populations what will be looking at education. The more diverse pathways we offer, the better
  o Implications of tuition-dependent institution amid a changing demographic, technological, financial
  o Law school LSAT pool has declined by 40% in three years
• Priority 3: Research and commercialization
  o Gap between research conducted by UNH, higher than many peers, with low amount of revenue generated through commercialization.
  o How to discuss this in a white paper?
  o People in Agriculture on campus have gotten patents before
  o Drop in total number of proposals going out the door (at UNH)
  o Are we speaking of food or local food? NH has never been a leader on a national/international scale, local is where our strength is.
  o Commercialization as value-added on farms, very decentralized, if more farms could get value-added, would be a huge contribution
    ▪ How does that tie in to this context? Researchers connecting with farmers that could add into that revenue stream thus helping both at the same time.
    ▪ Falls under research and also engagement
• Priority 4: STEM: doubling STEM graduates by 2025
  o Science, Tech, Engineering, Math traditional disciplines. Many places across the core we intersect with that
  o What does STEM mean in terms of food system work?
  o Seems to focus on training teachers and middle/high school students to attract them into those fields
  o Food is an attractive topic to attract research, curriculum and projects for those fields.
    ▪ Depends on the proposals that could be worked out, research, training etc.
Nutrition science program exists but no food science, food technology programs, hard from engagement perspective, those are the folks doing value-added projects

- All New England states have programs like that except UNH
- Could that be a recommendation for us to include in white paper?
- People have to be sent to other states for tech support, testing and other things
- No formal contracts with other institutions, informal and built relationships
- Most offer a “for fee” service, in a lab etc., will charge for service, but at a lower cost than private industry.

Any schools involved in meat processing?

- Depends, Midwestern states have programs,
- USDA is meat and poultry
- USDA and FDA recognize cooperative extension as a way to get information out

Anyone know history of why other land grants in region got food science and we did not?

- Balance between not duplicating what every other university has
- Do you need Dept. of Food Science to meet the producers’ needs? Or is there some one or two key hires within an existing department?

Anything about NH’s agriculture that is emerging that needs certain supports that VT and ME doesn’t need?

- Mostly more continuity with the region

Shellfish: a lot of great science around vibrios in shellfish, emerged out of similar conversations a few years ago, prediction on that science

- Vibrios would start impacting shellfish in warming climate, and has happened.
- Research leads to possible testing that could be commercialized
- How will food safety be addressed in a small-scale, diversified and decentralized local system

NH has market, suggesting social science research, always had better than ME and VT, and have a lot of ability to pay, others held back by poverty issues that we do not have.

- Have a major social science component in Natural Resources dept., and are being included in STEM

Another component is STEM literacy for non-STEM students, Lisa McFarlane sees it as equally important

- Looking at “tool kits’ one/two credits that non-STEM majors could take

A lot of adult and continuing education as well. Goes back to University of Choice angle

- Think about not only what we have but what we can offer
  - Adult education
  - How to draw in farmers and people entering market place to offer them some support and create a revenue stream
- Sustainability Institute at UNH and Cooperative Extension
Have been meeting to update, important that they’re included/reflected in our work here.

Subcommittees

Engagement

- Looking at University of Choice
- Continuing Ed opportunities, coop ext., market their role that would bring people in to UNH
  - Coop often promotes UNH through programs throughout state, i.e. 4-H
- Enrollment
  - Reaching out to donors, education to support more students
  - Continuing education courses again
  - Job opportunities as a way to engage students
- Research/commercialization
  - Coop ext. design practical solutions in the state and raise research questions
  - Producers, growers, different commercialization opportunities
  - Marketing techniques, partnering with Paul school students
- STEM
  - Math through cooking
  - Combining operations, Extension, COLSA, what we can learn from students
  - Focus on where you start losing students,
  - STEM as a food system primer, literacy in science in food related topics

Research

- Choice
  - Makes it more attractive/visible to a range of students to have a good research program
  - Want to have broad/interdisciplinary research
  - How to get a lot of different research going
  - Business/economy/public policy research
  - Trying to encourage capstone projects that have a food research focus
  - Summer research linked, diverse populations, students in from community colleges,
  - Research that has different types of data, that is not collected
- Enrollment
  - Food related career paths for students and involve research as part of that career path might attract more students, long term trajectory towards post-grad programs
  - Programs to have more research projects included i.e. EcoG
  - More money into internships, work-study etc.
- Research/commercialization
  - Look for what can lead to patents, money
  - Highlight key hires, faculty/staff that can do research that’s always seen as secondary to academic role but is also a key component to what they do as faculty
  - Small-scale accessible technology that can be the focus of research
• STEM
  o Engaging students in food-related STEM projects,
  o Connect to people, businesses,
  o Summer K-12 programs focusing on food research projects

Curriculum
• University of choice
  o What exists: SAFS, EcoG, what else is there?
  o Propose incorporating summer opportunities, J Term, certificate programs,
  o Check with cooperative extension - is it curriculum or engagement?
  - Is there something in there that could be a certificate?
  - Master Gardener's program, Backyard poultry
• Frame some questions
  o Food system science for practitioners
  o UNH doesn’t have a general studies degree, many others do
  o Who can take courses? Typical approach is to create a product, what if there was a flexibility to design your own food systems certificate
  o 2060 vision could be used as a context. New England food vision in your back yard?
  o Think about the regional landscape
    - UVM has six month farmer training program
    - U Maine has some sort of farmer training as well
    - Should inventory what others have
    - UMass: permaculture
    - EcoG rises as a unique UNH program
  o Health Angle
    - Social Work/ Family studies programs
    - Equity and Food Justice, no place for that now in curriculum
      - Could do a one-week intensive program, collaborators we already have in Boston
      - Weekend offered by Sustainability Institute at UNH or some department
      - What exists like this at other Universities?
      - What doesn’t exist? What is no one really doing?
  o List assets that we have
    - Teaching kitchen, organic dairy
    - Regional network work, food system focused
• Enrollment Stabilization and Growth
  o Related to above, programs that attract students
  o How to make it more accessible to people with families, working full time, etc.
  o People in health care industry who don’t know enough about food
    - What about producers knowing more about health?
      - New ways to market their product?
      - Would producers have that ability?
    - Mental Health and diet/food
  o Mitigation/adaptation, EOS a huge strength of this campus
  o Cooking for all
- Staff/faculty pull
- Cooking courses here are very, very popular

**Next Steps**
- Inventory of what’s already happening and being offered
- Looking at other summer programs and focusing on summer programs
  - Hard to stay on campus because you need to have a job in the summer
  - People working on the farms able to take classes
- URI has a summer farm camp
  - Week sessions but for 6-7 weeks
  - Is that a possibility at UNH?
- Time for Subcommittee to meet before next SFSTF meeting?
- Caroline looking at what’s being offered at other schools
- Coordinating information online and El and Jackie including Subcommittee materials in Check-in meetings between now and Nov. 6
- Worth getting together with Amy and Charlie to get input from them