

Notes from the Bright Ideas Session: (Reported by Mrs. Kathryn Michel, MAST Center)

Center Name	Idea
Center for Health Organization Transformation (CHOT)	To ensure we work on projects that support members' needs, we ask IAB members to share their "wicked problems" and speak at a panel at the meeting (before RFP is initiated). The Center emails the top executives at the company and they reply before the meeting. Then they have a panel discussion, and often common themes emerge.
Center for Advance Manufacturing of Integrated Microfluidics (CADMIM), U.C. Irvine	Monthly Newsletter to IAB Members, including updates, faculty and students achievements and awards, publications list, meetings where faculty will be presenting, etc.
Center for Advance Manufacturing of Integrated Microfluidics (CADMIM), U.C. Irvine	When beginning a center it is important to form a high-quality core of faculty; expansion can occur on subsequent RFP cycles.
Center for Metamaterials	At meetings, it is useful to separate the agenda into separate research thrusts (related research projects).
Center for Advance Manufacturing of Integrated Microfluidics (CADMIM), U.C. Irvine	For meetings, produce a book of graduate student and post-doc resumes/vitae to be available to the IAB. It is also useful to have a members-only site on your website which also includes this information—easier to update electronically.
Membrane Science, Engineering and Technology Center, University of Colorado Boulder	Get registration on-line if you charge for your meetings; use www.regonline.com . It's a useful tool for attendance lists, printing lists, catering counts, nametags, etc. You can build the credit card surcharges into your meeting fee, and they handle all of the refunds/returns etc. Note that the only people who pay a meeting fee are IAB, potential sponsors, and NSF reps.
Membrane Science, Engineering and Technology Center, University of Colorado Boulder	Online Report Submission Engine: www.formsite.com . It attaches by a link on your webpage (like the registration portal), and you can upload progress reports, presentations, proposals, etc. Advantages: No bounced messages, automatic confirmation emails to submitters, and no stripped attachments. Costs \$9.95/month and well worth it!
Center for Metamaterials	Use LinkedIn, create an account for yourself and/or your Center. Join the newly created I/U CRC Operations Group!
Center for Energy Harvesting Materials and Systems, Virginia Tech	Can use Scholar or Blackboard for communications, wide-band emails!
Membrane Science, Engineering and Technology Center, University of Colorado Boulder	Submit your annual reports early. Research.gov is different than FastLane, and requires different elements. Go check out the tutorial now so that you won't be trying to fight through it at submission time.
Center for Energy Harvesting Materials and Systems, Virginia Institute of Technology and UT Dallas	Working with Researchers: IAB meeting is held to correspond with research conference, usually at the end. Thus, visibility and attendance for both events.
Membrane Science,	Rotate IAB Meetings to be at/near IAB member's sites, this may induce faculty and

Engineering and Technology Center, University of Colorado Boulder (Repeating something heard somewhere else at the meeting)	students to want to attend so that they get a look at the facilities/corporate culture of the members (also potential networking for more research/jobs, etc.)
Membrane Science, Engineering and Technology Center, University of Colorado Boulder	Be aware when scheduling your meetings of sports schedules (especially in the Fall), as this may curtail availability of sites, caterers, lodging, and flights. Also a good idea to schedule around national research conferences in your field of research, religious holidays, and semester/quarter breaks.
Center for Health Organization Transformation (CHOT)	Monthly Webinars featuring project results are available to IAB Members and prospective members.

Bright Ideas (Reported by Dr. Eric Burger, Georgetown Center for Secure Communications and S2ERC)

Great Ideas

CiIT

Embed video into I/UCRC Web page

- Up to 90 second elevator pitch
- Up to 4 minutes total, site director, IAB members, researchers, students, etc.

CIDeR

Affiliate section of Web site

- DB of student resumes
- Archive of presentations
- Etc.

CIDeR & S²ERC

Bring in outside speakers for IAB meeting

- Not necessarily pure tech – can be fun
- Bring in non-Center university researchers

S²ERC

Advertising: branded clothing, pens, bags, luggage tags, etc.

S²ERC

Poster session speed dating

- Matchmaking: S²ERC has software to match posters to IAB interest
- Ensures all posters get visits by interested IAB members
- 8 minutes for pitch, “moving music” for 2 minutes
- 6 rounds for an hour total

- Then 20 minutes of free roaming
- IAB members get Personal Poster Session Schedule, like conference schedule

S²ERC & CiiT

Have IAB preselect proposals for IAB meeting

S²ERC

- Send out topics to IAB members months before meeting
- IAB members vote on what gets face time at IAB meeting
- Researchers know beforehand there will be interest in their presentation
- IAB members are made aware of proposals that might not make the bar for face time, but still may be interesting to fund

CiiT

- IAB members propose topic areas in December
- Researchers interact with IAB members before IAB meeting
- IAB meeting in May has refined proposals

S²ERC

- IRFP process
- IAB members write up and distribute proposals
- University researchers respond to IAB RFP
- IAB member selects proposals for face time
- All IAB members get proposals and projects are regular S²ERC projects with respect to selection, funding, etc.

ALL

WE NEED SOMETHING BETTER THAN DEATH BY POWERPOINT!!!

- Some of the best presentations happened when the power went out (S²ERC)
- Helps to give training in storytelling and speaking skills
- Use technology, especially for non-native English speakers, e.g. aural prompters in researcher's language
- Do dry runs with researchers before presenting to IAB

Another Bright Idea - January 10, 2014, Arlington, VA NSF IUCRC Meeting Submitted by Karen Reay - Science Center for Marine Fisheries

1. Compile presentations from operational booth (Thursday) on the IUCRC NSF site for all to be able to download.
2. NSF-based web page of best practices for IUCRC's including a live version of "The Purple Book" which is currently very static.
3. Software such as "TeamworksPM" (<http://www.teamworkpm.net/>) is an effective communications tool for across sites; relatively inexpensive ~\$200/year. This is not software but a service that is maintained externally. It gives you a secure and unique URL site for your Center. Dropbox only is an exchange for documents.
4. Communicate expectations often and regularly to all researchers and IAB people, so no one is caught unaware. Frequent reminders to faculty, tailored to individual faculty (not mail blasts)

5. Quad Charts for existing and new projects, summary (see attached PowerPoint files)

- Goals and Objectives
- Status, progress results and publications
- Schedule/Milestones and Graphics
- Budgets and financials

6. To manage intellectual property you should keep a running list of which company/which attorney/signed which legal document/when, so that no memory effects are invoked when the time comes to exercise royalty rights.

List of Bright Ideas (Reported by Keith Clark, UCSB)

{TX, issues of losing sponsors

NJ Big data. 9 members. Greek tragedy. Dismal as it is. Not completely out of hope,

UCSB, AK Operations Chemical Engineering, applied for site status

Child Injury, PA, Ohio State. 21 members. 9th year phase 2.

Water Equipment and Policy, WI Marquette 4th year. Phase 2 approaching, 6 stable sponsors, picked up 1 lost 2. Selected as Manager center.}

IDEA 1: Learned from last year's meeting. During IAB meeting team up IAB members with students over lunch. Printed document with photos. Works well especially for student hiring. No agenda, discussion ranges from careers to guidance.

IDEA 2: Relationship building. As IAB has grown, complaints that IAB meetings have become too large and meetings are too packed and exhausting. Called and interviewed all IAB members, learned that all hated evening speaker, so replaced with a musical chairs social/round table. Chat packs. Became important way of creating ties. Invitations to mingle and foster dialog.

IDEA 3: Lightning talks as alternative

IDEA 4: Difficult time growing membership. Problem of being secondary site, getting no help from principal site. Taking recruitment to faculty, "soft sell".

IDEA 5: Trade shows. Get attendee list prior and make hit list, zip-zag between booths to talk with individuals. Got one new member last year this way.

IDEA 6: Figure out what people care about that will retain them as members. E.g. a cause, a product, student involvement. Companies often champion a project, but need to move to companies reap benefits from collaborations. IABs evolve over time, build collaboration "maturation". Need long term vision. Need patience.

IDEA 7: Benefit of having all members located with 10 miles of each other. Monthly free box lunches. Can identify problems quickly. Talk about operations, not projects. Sends out gift certificates. Can also use webinars, highlighted projects. Reached out to over 100 people this way.

IDEA 8: Monthly PI telecoms.

PROBLEMS: Support. Using students as helpers.

Operations Round Table—Another Bright Ideas Roundtable (Reported by Pam Moeller, Gulf Coast Research Lab, Univ. Southern Mississippi)

How do you keep communication between sites:

- Conference calls every few weeks for the Directors. **Virginia Tech**
- Multi site meeting the night before the IAB meeting—**Virginia Tech**
- Webinars for grad students to update on projects—**Colorado State University**
- REGONLINE –meeting scheduler –**University of Arkansas**
- Site Selection—help with planning meetings with hotels—**University of Arkansas**

How do you keep up with the individual projects:

- Word documents that detail each project; funding, start-end date, code system, PI---**Virginia Tech**
- Make documents available to the IAB and PI's—**University of Southern Miss, Virginia Tech**
- HUBZERO, Teamworks—web programs to share files, documents updates on projects for IAB and PI to able to look at.-- **University of Southern Miss, and University of Arkansas, Virginia Tech**

How to coordinate with Federal Agencies

- Interagency Transfer Agreement—transfer funds from Federal agencies—**University of Southern Mississippi and Virginia Tech**

Membership Fees: levels, payment frequencies, differences in how sites within a center handle membership fees and payments.-

Another Bright Idea (Presented by Davood Tashayyod, Drexel) – please open .pptx presentation --



Bright Operation
Ideas.pptx