Background

I/UCRC Evaluation Goals

Primary

• To help document IUCRC outcomes and accomplishments at both the center and program-level

• To promote continuous improvement at both the center and program level by providing data and analysis in a timely way that is actionable and helps identify best practices

Secondary

• To help promote a better understanding of industry/university research cooperation

Purpose of Evaluation Research

Measure effects of a program against the goals it sets out to accomplish as a way to guide subsequent decisions about a program and identify program improvements.
Some Research Contributions to Date

• Action-oriented management recommendations
  – What structures and management practices facilitate innovation and tech transfer
  – Why industry and faculty members join—and stay—in Centers
  – How to recruit new members
  – How to manage and maintain an IU center for the long term
The Opportunity: Data without tears

• Annual Survey: Cross-sectional and longitudinal database of center processes and outcomes

• LIFE forms provide measure of funding priorities and IAB agreement
  – With modest analysis effort LIFE data may also provide information about member satisfaction and investment in the center

• Qualitative interviews

• And more
Solicitation of Research Proposals

“The scientist is not a person who gives the right answers, he is one who asks the right questions.”

–Claude Levi Strauss

“Actionable” results that guide decisions and identify program improvements based on:

- **Stakeholder needs** (NSF Administrators, Center Directors, IAB, Faculty, Students)
- **Evaluator and student expertise**

**Proposal Process**

1. One page description
2. NSF & Peer review
3. Full proposal based on collective input
Evaluator Research as of January 2010

• DVD (in progress?) & Compendium (done)

• Assessing the Post-Graduation Status of I/UCRCs: An Assessment of Self-Sufficiency and Indirect Impacts of Sustained I/UCRCs (awarded, on going)

• Impact of I/UCRC Directorship on Career Paths and Achievement (awarded, on going)

To Be Proposed:

• IAB Handbook (Scott)
Questions / Discussion