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.

Stakeholders:
- NSF
- Industry members
- CD and Faculty members
- Broader Academic Community
So what?

• **Action-oriented management recommendations based on sound research**
  
  – Structures and management practices that facilitate innovation and tech transfer
  
  – Understanding 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
Evaluator Research as of June 2012

- Human Capital Impacts of Serving as an IUCRC Director (Denis Gray & Drew Rivers)
- Center Fidelity Survey (Gray, McGowen, Leonchuk & DeYoung)
- Technological Breakthroughs (C. Scott)
Research Ideas

- IAB Representative Toolkit (Expectations, Schedules, Best Practices, Materials)
- Survey of Deans regarding attitudes towards IUCRCs
- Gate-keeper effectiveness (part 2)
- Optimal funding level for I/UCRCs (Napkin Study)
- Training CDs to Support Human Capital Development
- Economic Impacts
- Career Impacts on IUCRC students (part 2)
- IUCRC program impacts on US innovation & innovative capacity
Solicitation of Research Proposals

―Actionable‖ results that guide decisions and identify program improvements based on:

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

―The scientist is not a person who gives the right answers, he is one who asks the right questions.‖
– Claude Levi Strauss

Proposal Process

1. One page description
2. NSF & Peer review
3. Full proposal based on collective input
Questions / Discussion