Determining Outcomes of International Research Partnerships

Chair

Leonardo Villalón, University of Florida

Panelists

Sandra Russo, University of Florida

Chad Hoseth, Colorado State University

Nicola Kernaghan, Queen's University of Belfast

Agenda

- Three Perspectives on Research Partnership Strategies and Outcomes
  - University of Florida
  - Colorado State University
  - Queen's University of Belfast
- Designing a Strategic Road Map
  - Q&A
  - Brainstorming Strategies and Outcomes
  - Connecting Strategies and Outcomes

Determining Outcomes of International Research Partnerships

Sandra Russo

University of Florida

What data, what outcomes, which objectives?

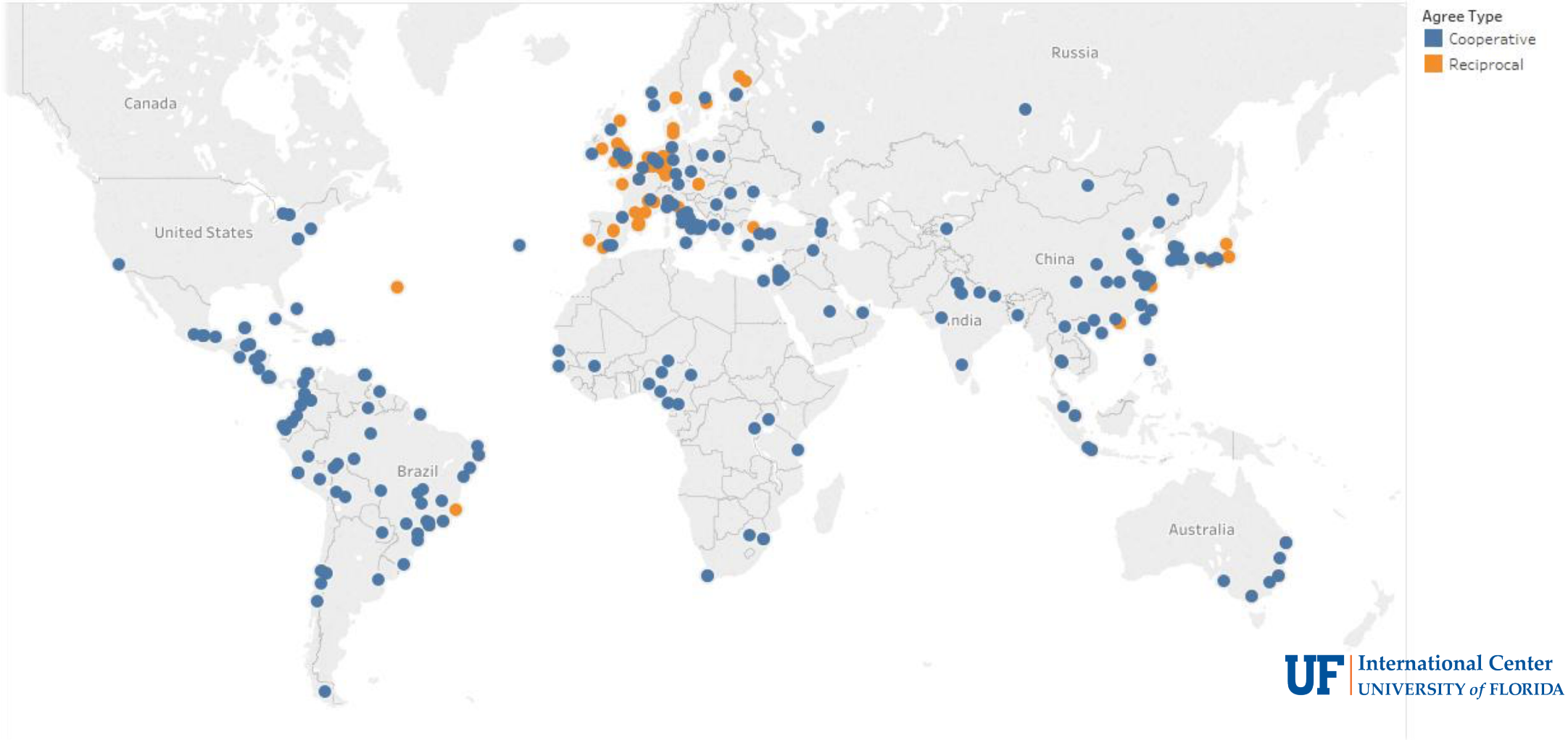
- Data collection and management – where is it, who controls it?
- Why do you need the data?
- What are you reporting on and to whom?
- Which metrics do you use to address which objectives?

Research Partnerships
A broad definition

Sharing resources to support knowledge creation and dissemination. The goal of the partnership agreement is to facilitate:

- Joint **conference** presentations and attendance
- Joint **authorship** and journal submission
- Joint grant **proposals**
- Development of **course content**

401 Agreements in **81** Countries



UF | International Center
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

AIEA

Key Attributes

- 401 Agreements in 81 Countries
- 2/3 focused on research and other strategic partnerships
- Key partners: China, Brazil, and South Korea

Survey of UF Partnership Managers

n=60

- **70%** describe purpose as “to facilitate exchanges among faculty”
- **63%** state purpose is to facilitate joint authorship of scholarly work
- **66%** believe they have been successful in enabling exchanges among faculty
- **95%** report the agreement was worthwhile

When Research is the Purpose

- **57%** joint conference presentations
- **50%** developed new content for courses
- **42%** joint journal submissions
- **36%** joint grant proposals
- **12%** joint grants awarded

Drivers

- Desire to work with colleagues in other countries
- Possibilities for publications, grant awards, exchanges, contribution to teaching

Challenges

- Moving from small grant funding to larger grant funding
- Deepening collaboration with other partners and other donors
- Legal issues
- Political climate and resource differences between the institutions

Strategies

- **Connect** faculty to funding opportunities
- **Identify** and profile faculty expertise
- **Facilitate** networks across organizational units
- **Advise** on opportunities with potential international research partners

Determining Outcomes of International Research Partnerships

Chad Hoseth

Colorado State University

Definitions of international research partnerships

- Research and Discovery embedded our land-grant mission
- International Research embedded in our culture – Peace Corps and USAID
- Scholarship sits alongside Research, capturing a wider range of faculty activity
- Faculty/Research sits at the foundation of our internationalization strategy
- But what gets counted, counts:
  - Tangible outcomes -- Dollar driven
  - Unfunded activity important, but maybe a smidge less important than $$

What do the data show?

My answer six years ago. Then…

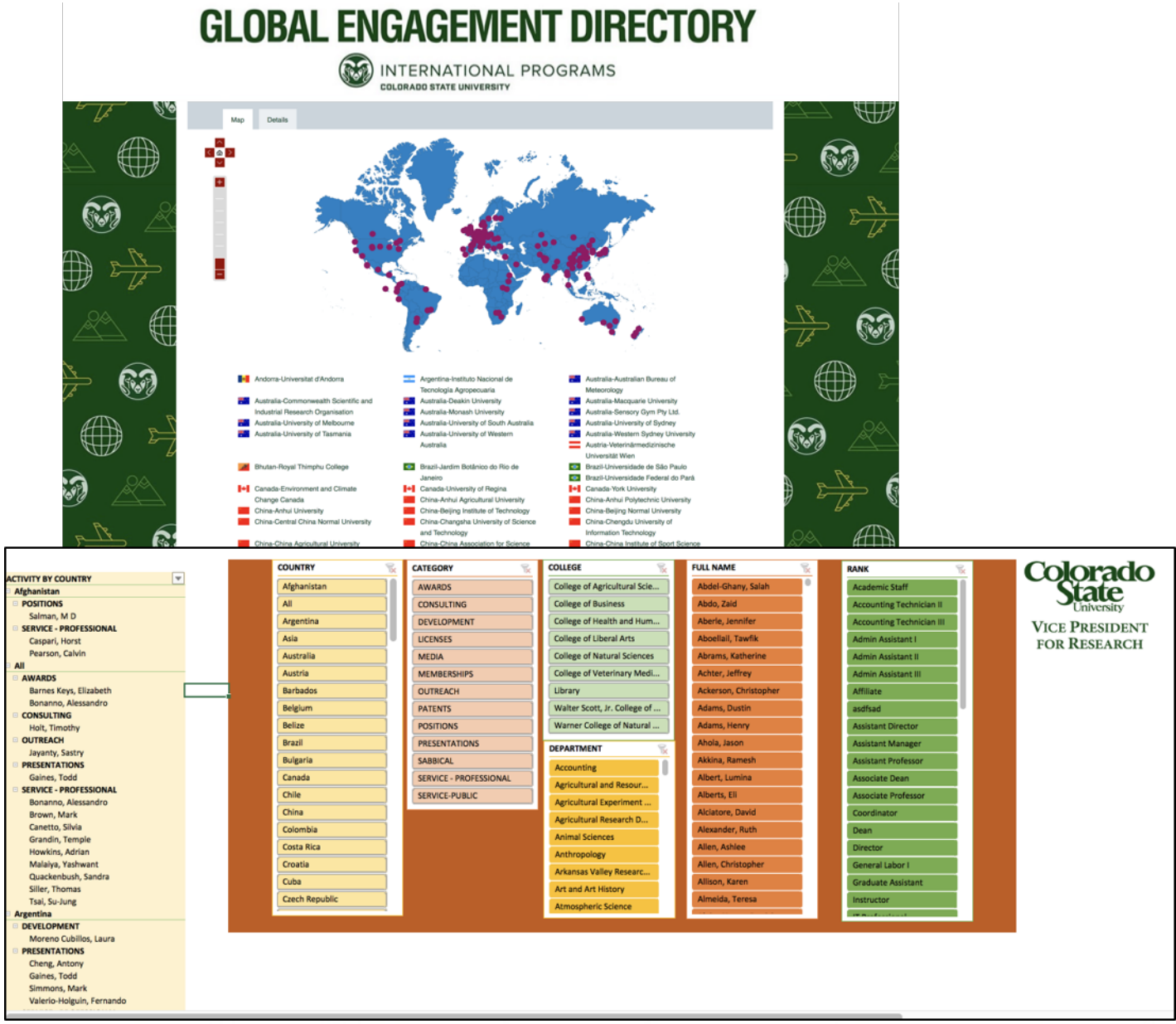
- VPs of International Programs and Research stated a goal of collaboration
- Shared goals on data, funding for faculty, celebrating success, and other good stuff
- Mutual participation on each other's leadership committees
- Collaboration on agreements and lunches
- Data collection...Global Engagement Directory
- Research provides info...initially financial flows, then dashboards, then Digital Measures

What do the data show?

Still working on it, but at this moment…

- $66M over 5+ years from 178 funders
- 22 research-centric agreements
- 9 Joint Research Institutes in China
- 50 int'l sabbaticals in last five years
- Starting to link information on visiting scholars and travel

Just a start, with hopes for the future.



What drives research partnerships?

These folks are important, but…

- Researchers drive research partnerships
- Staff and administrators should support, invest, incent, facilitate, mitigate risk, and celebrate
- *I got good at my job when I realized that I work for the faculty. They do not work for me.*
- Research-oriented faculty are driven by their own motivations. They will develop international and research partnerships to help achieve their goals.
- Our goal should be to help them. This can be messy, time consuming, and inefficient, but it's the best path to generate tangible outcomes.

Challenges

Challenges of Interdisciplinarity
BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT
LITERATURE
CLASSICAL STUDIES
PALLIATIVE CARE
BIOLOGY
LINGUISTICS
MATHEMATICS
POLITICAL SCIENCE
PHILOSOPHY
ECONOMICS AND FINANCE
HISTORY
PSYCHOLOGY
NEUROSCIENCE
MUSIC
PHYSICS
PUBLIC HEALTH AND EPIDEMIOLOGY
SOCIAL WORK
SOCIOLOGY
RELIGION
LAW

NEW YORK
LONDON
CANBERRA
ISTANBUL
MOSCOW
PARIS
BERLIN
BEIJING
DELHI
TOKYO

Information

CHANGE AHEAD

Determining Outcomes of International Research Partnerships

Nikki Kernaghan

Queen's University Belfast

International Partnership Definitions

- Strategic/Institutional Partnership: operates across a range of subjects
- School/Center Partnership: focused on a specific research interest
- Individual Partnership: researcher(s) working on a common project

Drivers: Institutional Vision & Strategy

*A world class **international** university that **supports outstanding students and staff**, working in world class facilities, conducting leading-edge education and research, **focused on the needs of society**.*

Drivers: Funding Agencies

- Funding: Global Challenge Research Fund; Newton Fund; Official Development Assistance

- Research Excellence Framework (REF) UK's system for assessing the excellence of research in higher education institutions.

Databases

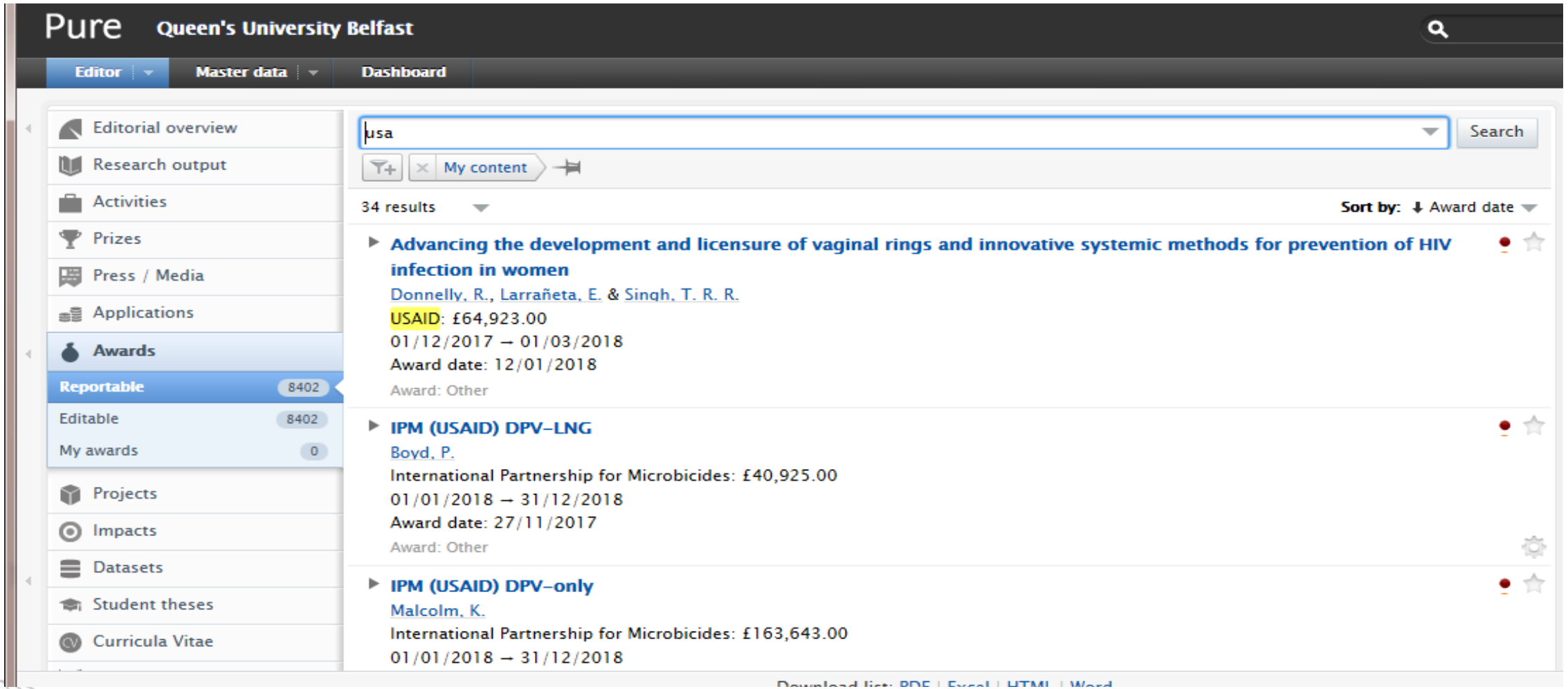
- Number & value of international research awards
- Faculty international activities
- Number of internationally co-authored publications
- Joint publication citations

Pure Queen's University Belfast

Elsevier Research Intelligence

Scopus & SciVal for researchers workshop

Awards Data


Pure
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Editor
Master data
Dashboard
Editorial overview
Research output
Activities
Prizes
Press / Media
Applications
Awards
Reportable 8402
Editable 8402
My awards 0
Projects
Impacts
Datasets
Student theses
Curricula Vitae
usa
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34 results
Sort by: Award date
Advancing the development and licensure of vaginal rings and innovative systemic methods for prevention of HIV infection in women
Donnelly, R., Larrañeta, E. & Singh, T. R. R.
USAID: £64,923.00
01/12/2017 – 01/03/2018
Award date: 12/01/2018
Award: Other
IPM (USAID) DPV-LNG
Boyd, P.
International Partnership for Microbicides: £40,925.00
01/01/2018 – 31/12/2018
Award date: 27/11/2017
Award: Other
IPM (USAID) DPV-only
Malcolm, K.
International Partnership for Microbicides: £163,643.00
01/01/2018 – 31/12/2018

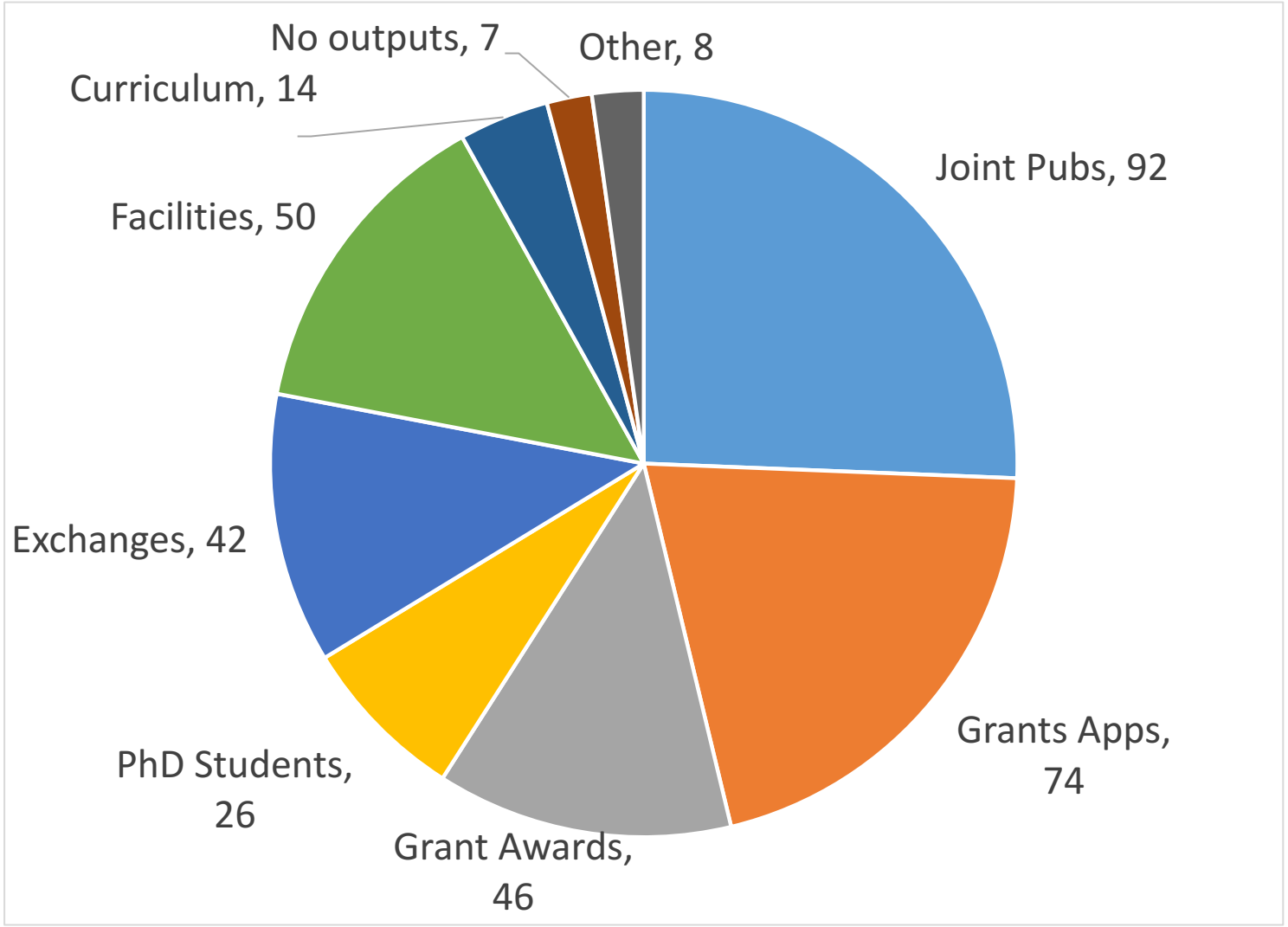
Publication Data

No of co-authored publications by year EPS faculty staff only		
Collaborting institution	Year	No of publications
Beijing University of Chemical Technology	2016	1
	2015	2
Collaborting institution	Year	No of publications
Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics	2017	4
	2016	5
	2015	3
	2014	5
Collaborting institution	Year	No of publications
Guangdong University of Technology	2017	3
	2016	5
	2015	3
	2014	3

Collaborting institution	No of publications 2012-2018	Name	School
Beijing University of Chemical Technology	3	Meilan Huang	School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering
	1	Christopher Lambert	School of Mathematics and Physics
	1	Peijun Hu, P.	School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering
	1	Mao, Yu	School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering
	1	Xu, Yongtao	School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering
	1	Yu, Shui	School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering
Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics	13	Maire O'Neill	School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
	2	Mathini Sellathurai	School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
	2	Fei Wang	School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
	2	Hang Fai Kwok	School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences
	2	Cian McCrudden	School of Pharmacy

Faculty Survey

Answer	%	Count
Memorandum of Understanding	5.60%	7
Memorandum of Agreement	2.40%	3
Contract or collaboration agreement	40.00%	50
Your partnership is informal with no signed agreements	52.00%	65
Total	100%	125



Filter by:
- ✓ Publications
- ✓ Grants
- ✓ Collaborators
- ✓ Activities
- ✓ Agreements

Year:
- ❑ 2012
- ❑ 2013
- ❑ 2014
- ❑ 2015
- ✓ 2016
- ❑ 2017

University:
- ❑ Dalian University of Technology
- ❑ Chinese Academy of Sciences
- ❑ East China University of Science & Technology
- ✓ Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics
- ✓ Beijing Institute of Technology

Collaborating institution	No of publications 2016	Name	School
Beijing University of Chemical Technology	3	Meilan Huang	School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering
	1	Christopher Lambert	School of Mathematics and Physics
	1	Peijun Hu, P.	School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering
	1	Mao, Yu	School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering
	1	Xu, Yongtao	School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering
	1	Yu, Shui	School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering
Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics	13	Maire O'Neill	School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
	2	Mathini Sellathurai	School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
	2	Fei Wang	School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Challenges

Academic Silos
Conflicting Outcomes
Lack of Consolidated Partnership Information
Challenges
Lack of Assessment
Disparate Data Sources
Data Integrity

Discussion and Q&A session

Determining Outcomes of International Research Partnerships

Strategic Mapping

Key questions

- How to measure outcomes in resource limited settings?
- Examples of initiatives that have come out of the data collection experience?
- Examples of getting Arts/Humanities experiences to "count"?
- Have we been able to measure the impact of the contract versus the non-contract (agreement) partnerships?
- How do we convert faculty activity forward beyond to something more substantive
- How do develop an institutional strategy from the diverse faculty-led efforts?

Strategies

- Provide seed funding
- Encourage and incent faculty participation in target experiences (Swaziland cited)
- Support group travel…more than one group within a dept can be transformative
- Examining stronger university partners for more in-depth follow up meetings
- Internal communications can be key, starting with the data that you have, to form the conversation and direct future strategy

Determining Outcomes of International Research Partnerships

Strategic Mapping

More strategies

- Characterize where the strengths exist in partnerships, feeding into internal reports to Senior Leadership and deans
- Bring a faculty voice to the administration
- Recognize that disciplines will have different goals, and seek to celebrate faculty accomplishments regardless of the discipline.
- Understand the departmental assessment better and support those efforts further. Impact teams.
- Consider developing institutional strategies from the faculty activity perspective

Strategies

- Look at faculty CVs, as they are looking to populate the Research Excellence Framework (REF) program (in UK)

Determining Outcomes of International Research Partnerships
Strategic Mapping

Outcomes

- Establish a process that may lead to enhanced research productivity
- The presence of long-standing research connections and scholars can last and bring meaning for an extended period of time. Partnerships can be non-contractual, but still have meaning

Determining Outcomes of International Research Partnerships

Strategic Mapping

More questions

- How to support the establishment of interdisciplinary teams?
- Also, are course buyout opportunities available to participating faculty?
- To what extent can we establish and prioritize a smaller group of "strategic" partnerships? To what extent can/should research partners, mobility partners, and other academic partners overlap to create this small group of key partners? Should research drive this?
- Should there be areas of focus in certain regions? Or operate globally?
- Other examples of publication/citation info products?

Discussion

- Multiple institutions have established seed funding programs that emphasize interdisciplinary work. Different models, though. Other examples of internal funding models.
- Must move beyond seed funding to cluster hires, and other more substantive efforts.
- Consider cotutelle as a way to get faculty involved in collaborative Ph.D. programs, create more research, and so forth.
- Various assessment methods under consideration. Strategic partnerships. Quantitative assessment.