Role of Provost

- Historic Perspective
- Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
- UGA Provost
- Leading vs. Managing

Outline

- Role of Provost
- Approach to Academic Leadership
- UGA Academic Initiatives
- Lessons Learned

Vice President for Academic Affairs vs. Provost

“The traditional role of a vice president for academic affairs is to promote and maintain a distinctive academic vision. That means leading the intellectual community on the campus, playing the role of visionary, and, when necessary, defending lofty principles.”

“The vice president’s central responsibility is to make sure the institution clarifies and stays true to its mission.”

“By contrast, the provost’s traditional role is to make sure that administrative and support operations run as they need to on a daily basis. The provost monitors those processes, resolves personnel matters, balances budgets, arbitrates demands for facilities, and oversees the marketing of business operations (such as revenue-generating performing-arts and sports events).”

“To be an effective second in command means developing the instinct to know when to put on which hat.”

UGA Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

Investments in Learning Environment

- First Year Odyssey Seminars
- Small Class Initiative
- Academic Enhancement
- Experiential Learning
- Honors College and Foundation Fellows Program
Experiential Learning for All

- Learning through doing
- Requiring at least one experience for graduation:
  - Internships
  - Research
  - Study abroad
  - Service-learning
- William M. Burke Presidential Award for Excellence in Experiential Education

Double Dawgs

- Bachelor’s Degree + Master’s Degree
- 5 years or less
- 250+ Double Dawg pathways

Provost’s Task Force on Academic Excellence

Leveraging strengths to maximize impact on society through research and graduate education

- Integrative, precision agriculture
- Environmental sciences
- Security, including cybersecurity, national security, and food security.
- Biomedical research
- Social and behavioral sciences
- Addressing rural challenges

Presidential Hiring Initiatives & Team Science

2019 - 2020
- Precision Agriculture
- Security
- Climate and Environment
- Major Integrative Proposal Planning Award

2020 - 2021
- Precision Agriculture
- Brain and Behavioral Health

2021 - 2023
- Data Science and Artificial Intelligence: 50 positions over five years
- Expansion for 2022 - 2024

Interdisciplinary Centers and Institutes

Existing
- Center for Vaccines and Immunology
- Complex Carbohydrate Research Center
- Owens Institute for Behavioral Research
- Regenerative Bioscience Center
- Williams Center for Humanities and Art
- Arts Council
- Humanities Council

New
- Center for Human Trafficking Research and Outreach
- Institute for Integrative Precision Agriculture
- Institute for Integrative Police Science and Neurological Disorders
- UGA Research Institute and Battelle Alliance
- Many others

Large Scale Multi-Investigator Projects

NIH Collaborative Influenza Vaccine Innovation Centers
Up to $130M / 7 years
Universal flu vaccines;
studies of vulnerable populations;
COVID-19 studies thru supplement
Ted Ross, PI
UGA leads team:
St Jude Children’s, NYU, UCLA, UNC, Mayo, Emory, GA Tech

NIH Centers for Influenza Research and Response
Up to $92M / 7 years
Studies of animal and human flu; forecasting and workforce development; emergency preparedness network
S. Mark Tompkins, Pej Rohani, PIs

SPARTA:
Long term response
to SARS-CoV-2
With UConn, UW-Madison
Art Edison, Co-PI

National Network for Advanced Nuclear Magnetic Resonance
$40M / 4 years
UGA leads team:
Boston and St Jude Children’s Hospitals, U Rochester,
U Melbourne
Provide researchers easy access to the most powerful instruments, simplify the discovery and use of NMR resources, and foster good data stewardship

Presidential Hiring Initiatives & Team Science

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Continued Investment in Learning Environment

- New Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate School
- GradFIRST seminar series: First year introduction to Research and Scholarship Training
- Graduate Tuition Return incentive
- Active Learning
- School of Computing

Strengthening Partnership with Communities

Rural Engagement
- Workshops
- Seed projects

Connected and Resilient Communities
- Facilitated by UGA Archway Partnership
- Helps communities tap into the expertise of UGA
- Addresses local challenges and economic development
- Communities complete three resiliency projects over a period of 12-18 months

Office of Business Engagement

Align Incentives to Support Strategic Initiatives

- Matching Model for Interdisciplinary Hiring Initiatives
- Formula for Teaching
- IDC in Support of Faculty Startup
- Graduate Research Assistant Tuition Return Incentive

UGA Academic Excellence

- #16 among public universities
  - US News and World Report
- #10 among public universities
  - Niche.com
- #2 Colleges with Best Student Life
  - Niche.com
- Top graduate & professional programs

Lessons Learned

- Leading vs. Managing
- Focus
- Importance of a diverse, talented, and empowered leadership team
- Altruism

Questions?