

UCEDD Directors Meeting

February 17th, 2022 3-5pm ET

Breakout Room Notes

Breakout Room Title: Navigating Relationships with University

Facilitator: Lesley Cottrell, WV

Notetaker: Jamie Koenig, AUCD

Attendees:

- George Gotto, MO
- Julie Fodor, ID
- Jesse Suter, VT
- Randall Owen, NV
- Sandy Friedman, CO

Notes:

- Sandy: don't really have a relationship with the somewhat new dean of the medical school. He signed the last MOU but there's been little interaction since
- George: working on a new MOU but not negotiating with the person who signs it. The people who will sign it are scrutinizing it closely. They want to renegotiate and revisit the university funding half of the director's salary (which is all that they provide)
- Julie: trying to get new director salary completely covered for first 2 years, but they're balking at that. In negotiations, raised that the UCEDD could go elsewhere if not supported.
 - Have previously sent the past one with changes. The attorneys went over it and signed
- George: the URC tip sheets are helpful. Important to note that federal guidance does say the university needs to show support
- Some universities don't like the term MOU and choose a charter, cooperative agreement, or other term
- Jesse: university promises up to 50% of director's salary and they use that flexibility liberally, sometimes with significant annual swings. It's one of the only sources of university hard funds
 - At least want to get a year notice of significant changes
 - All of center is research so if don't bring in money, they don't continue
- Lesley: Required to give 90-day contract renewal. Used fact that UCEDD would need to start giving notices to to push for locking in funds.
- What other ways can the university support?
 - Sandy: gets about \$200k from the state, use it for things that can't apply to a federal grant. There is some clinical revenue from clinicians on faculty.
 - Julie: point out how much money brought in to solidify position
 - University takes 75% of indirects, but doesn't really support
 - Lesley: point out how UCEDD contributes beyond department to the whole university. Use that impact to show how important the UCEDD is
- George: space is increasingly an issue. University previously paid a third of the rent in a nice space. Now, UCEDD has 90 staff but the space only has 20 offices. Trying to negotiate adequate



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A project of AUCD, in partnership with ACL, to strengthen the network of UCEDDs

space. Additionally, not all provided space is accessible and it would cost \$60k to make it accessible. The university wants the UCEDD to pay for it

- Jesse: the threat of 90-day notice doesn't work at all universities. The tradeoff of little to no indirects is the need to build in own mechanisms for administrative costs, which is time consuming
- Indirects Most have higher ROI and indirects seem to be going up



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