

**Science and math education and learning research cluster workgroup  
Meeting Notes**

**Date/Time of Meeting: Tuesday, April 1, 2008**

**Location: Chancellor's Conference Room**

**Note taker: Christine A. DePalma**

**Attendees: Deborah Boisvert, Ramon Borges, Carol Colbeck, Arthur Eisenkraft, Ellie Kutz, Peter Langer, Maura Mast, Sam Museus, Hannah Sevian, Rachel Skvirksy**

**Excused: Bob Chen, Lisa Gonsalves, Maura Mast, Kyle McInnis, Steve Ribisi, Michael Shiaris, Juanita Urban-Rich, Miren Uriarte**

<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION/FINDINGS</b>	<b>DECISIONS</b>	<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>
<b>Progress report</b>	<p>Chair Carol L. Colbeck welcomed workgroup members to the science and math education and learning research cluster meeting. Chair Colbeck informed workgroup members that the group is closer than they may think to making recommendations for the investment plan. The plan could make recommendations for the cluster and also include recommendations that would benefit the entire campus (universal recommendations). Chair Colbeck encouraged the group to think about how they could use the cluster investment to leverage additional money to help the cluster to advance and grow. There were a number of interesting conversation points that generated a lively discussion among workgroup members. Workgroup members wondered how science and math learning would be recognized, encouraged, and rewarded in the future. There is need for a programmatic infrastructure to be built that will support underrepresented students through UMass Boston's pipeline activities.</p>		<p>The workgroup will have an open meeting on Wednesday, April 23 from 11:00am-12:30pm in the Healey Library, Lower Level, Conference Room 135-01</p>
<b>The investment plan: financing</b>	<p>Workgroup members discussed specific objectives for the investment plan regarding financing the cluster, including the</p>		

	<p>following list of topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There needs to be a goal for grant awards, funding opportunities need to be identified, and relationships need to be created and fostered with funding partners</li> <li>• The cluster needs to focus and capitalize on UMass Boston’s urban mission</li> <li>• The cluster needs to build on current initiatives</li> <li>• The cluster should consider recommending that the allocation of F &amp; A be revised</li> </ul>		
<p><b>The investment plan: shareholders</b></p>	<p>Workgroup members discussed specific objectives for the investment plan regarding cluster shareholders, including the following list of topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships with partners need to be nurtured</li> <li>• The cluster needs to consider aligning itself with local and state needs and regulations</li> <li>• Evidence of outcomes should be provided to shareholders</li> </ul>		
<p><b>The investment plan: infrastructure</b></p>	<p>Workgroup members discussed specific objectives for the investment plan regarding infrastructure, including the following list of topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a need for improved and enhanced communication, grants management, and web presence.</li> <li>• Graduate programs need to be enhanced (science and mathematics and perhaps the addition of a research and evaluation methods program)</li> <li>• The guidelines for promotion and tenure and the annual faculty review evaluations should be revised and updated.</li> </ul>		

<b>The investment plan: human capital</b>	<p>Workgroup members discussed specific objectives for the investment plan regarding human capital for the cluster, including the following list of topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There is a need for new faculty and staff hires and a coordination team for the cluster.</li><li>• The coordination team would: help faculty and staff with proposal assistance, be connected to funding agencies, and would help foster external relationships</li><li>• There is a need for professional development for current faculty and staff</li><li>• There is a need for incentives for the cluster (PMYR, small grants, etc.)</li></ul>		

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