

Longitudinal Sustainability

Challenge Session

Christopher Lawson, Alabama EPSCoR

Anupma Prakash, University of Alaska Fairbanks

Tue, 11/07/2017 - 2:00 pm

The goal of this session is to explore best practices for promoting research competitiveness for NSF EPSCoR projects.

Summary of Challenge Session:

This session consisted of a dynamic session with the objective to get a ‘best practice protocol’ to promote research competitiveness. Attendees were presented with the following questions to discuss and we gave the following feedback:

How can we advance research competitiveness through teams and partnerships?

Include state-level goals as the goals of your research projects, reduce communication barriers, promote internships and partnerships to provide workforce, and let teams form themselves organically to provide poor dynamics.

How can we increase our communication skills and outreach?

Analyze data on a communication outreach, demonstrate the relevance of EPSCoR to people, advertise, partner with community groups and NGO’s, and hire science writers to increase communication quality.

How do we enhance research competitiveness through workforce development, education and training?

Fund graduate and undergraduate students and interdisciplinary research. Pairing will increase undergraduate research quality. Offer workshops on grant writing and writing of broader impacts. Employ external consultants that can familiarize faculty with grant submission procedures. Enforce interdisciplinary seminars within and between departments to foment collaborations. Create programs that enhance education and training projects and link them to EPSCoR projects.

How can research sustainability contribute to research competitiveness?

Establish partnerships with startups and businesses that support long-term collaborations. Maintain high quality research so stakeholders support maintenance of projects.

How can your institution or jurisdiction invest in increasing research competitiveness?

Improve the efficiency of current research activities in terms of faculty workload, mentoring system, economic incentive of successful research, and support of advanced research leading to increase potential sources of funding.

