

Utah State University

DigitalCommons@USU

Educational Policies Committee

Faculty Senate

1-11-2019

Educational Policies Committee Program Proposal, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, January 11, 2019 – I-System Institute for Transdisciplinary Studies

Utah State University

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/fs_edpol

Recommended Citation

Utah State University, "Educational Policies Committee Program Proposal, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, January 11, 2019 – I-System Institute for Transdisciplinary Studies" (2019). *Educational Policies Committee*. Paper 493.

https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/fs_edpol/493

This Program Proposal is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Senate at DigitalCommons@USU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Educational Policies Committee by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@USU. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@usu.edu.



11 January 2019

ITEM FOR ACTION

Utah State University's Department of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology in the College of Humanities and Sciences proposes establishing the I-System Institute for Transdisciplinary Studies in the manner described below.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Department of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology in the College of Humanities and Sciences proposes establishing the I-System Institute for Transdisciplinary Studies.

RECOMMENDATION

The President and Provost recommend that the Board of Trustees approve the proposal to establish the I-System Institute for Transdisciplinary Studies in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences' Department of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology.

RESOLUTION
UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

WHEREAS, Utah State University's Department of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences proposes establishing the I-System Institute for Transdisciplinary Studies, and

WHEREAS, The proposed request to establish the I-Sytem Institute for Transdisciplinary Studies will provide a public service to USU students and the larger community as the I-System Model presents a view of individual and collective psychosocial human functioning and embraces a holistic approach to healing and wellness, and

WHEREAS, The proposal has been approved by the academic dean, the Educational Policies Committee, and the USU Faculty Senate, and

WHEREAS, The proposal has been approved by the President and Provost of Utah State University;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Utah State University Board of Trustees hereby approve the proposal to establish the I-System Institute for Transdisciplinary Studies in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences' Department of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology and that notification of this proposal be forwarded to the Utah State Board of Regents of the Utah System of Higher Education.

RESOLUTION APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DATE:

**Utah System of Higher Education
New Administrative Unit Proposal
Cover/Signature Page - Abbreviated Template**

Institution Submitting Request: Utah State University

Proposed Effective Date¹: 10/01/2018

Institutional Board of Trustees' Approval Date:

Proposed Unit Title: I-System Institute for Transdisciplinary Studies

Sponsoring School, College, or Division: College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Sponsoring Academic Department(s) or Unit(s): Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology

Proposed Unit Type:

<input type="checkbox"/>	New Administrative Unit
<input type="checkbox"/>	New Center
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	New Institute
<input type="checkbox"/>	New Bureau
<input type="checkbox"/>	Conditional Three-Year Approval for New Center, Institute, or Bureau

Chief Academic Officer (or Designee) Signature:

I, the Chief Academic Officer or Designee, certify that all required institutional approvals have been obtained prior to submitting this request to the Office of the Commissioner.

Please type your first and last name _____ Date:

I understand that checking this box constitutes my legal signature.

¹ "Proposed Effective Date" refers to date after Regent approval when new unit is operational or change to unit is published.

New Unit Description - Abbreviated Template

Section I: The Request

Utah State University requests approval to establish I-System Institute for Transdisciplinary Studies effective 10/01/2018. This action was approved by the institutional Board of Trustees on .

Section II: Program Proposal

Administrative Unit Description/Rationale

Present a brief description of the unit. Describe the institutional procedures used to arrive at the action being proposed. Briefly indicate why a new administrative unit or change to the unit is justified. Are similar units offered elsewhere in the USHE or the State? State how the institution and the USHE benefit from the proposed unit or unit change.

In 2018, Dr. Stan and Carolyn Block provided USU with an expendable gift of \$350,000 to establish the I-System Institute for Transdisciplinary Studies within the Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Anthropology in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. The Blocks also funded an \$800,000 endowment to sustain the Institute. They also donated certain I-System and Mind-Body Bridging Intellectual Property (IP) to the Institute. The Institute's mission is to provide a public service to USU students and to larger communities and social units through the broadest outreach of education, training, and research using the I-System model and Mind-Body Bridging model IP Assets.

The Blocks developed the I-System Model to optimize health, wellness, and human performance. The I-System Model embraces a holistic approach to healing and wellness. Mind-Body Bridging is an evidence-based therapeutic modality based on the I-System and current neuroscience research. Health and mental health clinicians can through the institute become certified to use Mind-Body Bridging with individuals and groups in clinical settings. The Blocks together with a group of clinicians and researchers developed the clinical modality of Mind-Body Bridging (MBB) through their work with individuals and groups suffering from addiction, violence, trauma, PTSD, cancer, pain, and other health and mental health disorders. The I-System model can also be used to improve organizational functioning through the Productive Mind program, a version of MBB for businesses and other goal-oriented organizations.

No other similar unit is found within USHE or Utah. Both USU, USHE, and Utah will benefit from the Institute's work to increase well-being, decrease suffering, and increase productivity and creativity.

Consistency with Institutional Mission/Institutional Impact

Explain how the unit is consistent with the institution's Regents-approved mission, roles, and goals. Describe how the existing administrative structures support the proposed unit and identify new organizational structures that may be needed. What changes in faculty and staff will be required?

The Institute's mission is consistent with USU's mission (i.e., education, research, service). No new faculty will be required. The director position will be filled by a current faculty member (Derrick Tollefson) who will dedicate a portion (25%) of his time to the Institute. A full-time staff-level Associate Director will be hired to assist the director. Department and college staff will provide additional administrative support.

Finances

What costs or savings are anticipated with the actions proposed? What new facilities or modifications to existing facilities or equipment are needed? Describe any budgetary impact on other programs or units within the institution. If new funds are required, describe expected sources of funds.

The Institute is funded by a generous gift from Stan and Carolyn Block. These funds will support a full-time Associate Director, a part-time Director and cover operating costs. No other USU funds will be used to support the Institute. It is anticipated that the Institute will generate funds to help support its growth over time.