

Fostering and Managing Interdisciplinary Research and Education
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Integration Issues

- ID course offerings may produce unacceptably small enrollments in traditional PHY courses.
 - ID Experimentalists want specialized courses.
 - ID students must learn much more than core physics; may have to reduce traditional requirements to attain timely graduation.
 - Perhaps make traditional courses more ID in nature.
- Pre-existing centers may help with above by fostering interaction and formal agreements.
- Must be careful about repetition in curriculum to bring non-PHY students up to speed in ID courses.
 - Faculty time issues: team teaching or share teaching of course between departments in alternate years
- Deans and provosts like to see new creations (centers, etc.) – beware of unfunded mandates.
- Need ‘ground up’ approach rather than administrative fiat to ensure sustainability.
- ID students can be left in ‘limbo’ if not admitted into traditional department; training grants utilized to ensure their integration
- In an ID program, who gets credit for the PhD granted and other accomplishments?
- Tie UG physics recruiting to interdisciplinary MS programs (4/1 program?)

Equity Issues

- New ID hires – letters of agreement between participating departments regarding teaching load, space, F&A funds, standards for tenure/promotion, etc. Should be primary/secondary departments for tenure and promotion - 51/40, 75/25, rather than 50/50.
- Service, teaching load, must be negotiated and continuously monitored to address expectations of participating departments.
- If only one dept. votes for tenure, shift ID’s appointment to that department.
- Hiring in ID position: advertisement, search committee need careful thought
- Who pays ID student support if PI withdraws support before student has completed dissertation?
- Preference is sometimes given for RA position to student in ID program if it has fewer courses required.
- ID faculty from disparate disciplines (e.g. med. school and PHY) – account for different workload expectations with \$.

Resource Allocation

- Good news – there’s money for ID research currently
- External funding of ID proposals may be complicated. Chairs should ‘grease the skids’ with the program directors. Current climate positive for ID proposals.
- Internal reallocations to support ID similar to what has happened inside departments for years.
- Centers make it easier to span wide gulf in ID participants (cultures, terminology, scientific procedures, etc.).
- Multiuse facilities are a benefit to all – guidelines for use and maintenance must be established.
- Will existence of centers drive hiring in departments? Will they grant degrees?

PARTICIPANT LIST

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