

November 25, 2020

Dear Faculty in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine,

At our department meeting in September, we announced that the Research Committee will be embarking on a project to identify our areas of research and innovation excellence. This task is a key deliverable of our integrated (Western and Hospital) department Strategic Plan for 2018-2023 (i.e. "broadly supporting knowledge creation, with a focus on themes where PaLM can excel").

The timing of this project is optimal in that it aligns with Western and Schulich's strategic planning exercises over the next two months.

To facilitate data collection, we have created a web-based form to capture the information we are seeking from you. The information we collect will be used for a variety of purposes, including:

In the short-term:

- Updating faculty website biographies;
- Updating our current listing of [research areas](#) and researchers;
- Informing ongoing, parallel strategic planning processes at Western and Schulich.

In the longer-term:

- Providing pathways for synergy among researchers in the department;
- Maximizing our success in team grant applications and other clinical-translational activities;
- Attracting investment and resources for our key research and innovation programs;
- Informing learners' decisions regarding their research areas and potential supervisors;
- Enhancing our reputation in research and innovation, both nationally and internationally.

Following the initial collection of data, the Research Committee will analyze the results and identify Research Clusters. We will then request leaders to assist us in developing brief narratives for the identified clusters of excellence.

The Joint Senior Leadership Team, including ourselves, Dr. Ian Chin-Yee, Dr. Meg McLachlin, Dr. David Driman and Dr. Zia Khan, is strongly supportive and enthusiastic of this initiative. We have asked Angela DeCandido to be our Department Champion.

Thank you for your participation in this important departmental initiative. We will provide updates on our progress at regular intervals.

To proceed to the form, please click [here](#).

Sincerely,



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