

Western Research Institute Framework

Overarching Organizational Purpose Statement:

Western Research Institutes promote, recognize, and support interdisciplinary research. They provide leadership and structure to secure resources that advance interdisciplinary excellence to complement faculty-based research and enhance the university's impact and reputation.

Goals	Activities	Short-term Outcomes (1-2 years):	Intermediate Outcomes (3-5 years):	Long-term Outcomes (5+ years):
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote interdisciplinary work on grand challenges of societal importance. Mobilize interdisciplinary teams of researchers and multi-sectoral partners. Facilitate the development and implementation of large-scale interdisciplinary research proposals/projects. Support the recognition of interdisciplinary research, scholarship and creative activity. 	<p>Grand Challenges Thinktanks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate discussions about grand research challenges to identify strategic and emerging interdisciplinary research priorities <p>Diverse Partner Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring together individuals with different academic and non-academic backgrounds/ disciplines to gain new perspectives on grand challenges Serve as a bridge or liaison to local, national, and international partners <p>Growth & Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support exploration of specific interdisciplinary research ideas/project and help develop application for major external funding proposals Create opportunities for all stakeholders (e.g., investigators, undergraduates, graduates, post-doctoral fellows, staff and partners) to build their interdisciplinary research skills, knowledge, leadership, and impact <p>Communication & Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build branding and name recognition for areas of interdisciplinary strength Coordinate access to administrative staff, specialized HQP, equipment, and/or centralized platforms Lead governance and consultation to support operations and sustainability 	<p>Strategic Priorities & Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> more interaction with diverse partners throughout the research process strategic interdisciplinary projects conceptualized and implemented progress on early-stage or high-risk interdisciplinary research ideas <p>Interdisciplinary Profile & Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> new connections and expansion of interdisciplinary skilled teams quality personnel in place to support institute leadership and research community relationship with other units and core facilities established communication platforms and tools launched 	<p>Strategic Priorities & Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> enhanced scope and quality of interdisciplinary research identified more relevant and impactful solutions to address grand challenge priorities <p>Interdisciplinary Profile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> track record established for new diverse interdisciplinary research teams active presence and engagement in internal and external communication platforms new talent attracted by interdisciplinary environment <p>Resources & Supports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> sustainability pathways identified and proposal submissions increased assisted Advancement Operations with initiating cases for support 	<p>Strategic Priorities & Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> uptake of institute-driven solutions in academia, policy, or practice for social impact institute renewal with new strategic plan for continued interdisciplinary growth and impact <p>Interdisciplinary Profile & Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> sustainability plan in place with multiple sources of support secured for continued interdisciplinary growth continued increase in research partnerships among academic and multi-sectorial experts locally, nationally, and internationally enhanced visibility, recognition, and credibility of Western's interdisciplinary research strengths in the global community new talent acquisitions at Western in areas of interdisciplinary strength