

# Tactic 1: Temporary Interdisciplinary Lab Assignment

New Buildings Governed in the Same Way as Existing Facilities

## The Devolution of an Interdisciplinary Building

Institution builds new interdisciplinary research facility intended to increase cross-unit collaboration



Dean permanently allocates entire floors to departments and defers individual lab assignments to chairs

Investigators occupy more shared lab space than originally assigned (e.g., take over additional benches, "claim" freezers).

1 Institution delegates authority over space allocation to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences

3 Departments treat all assigned space—even shared areas—as their own; chairs assign lab space to investigators within the same discipline

5 Facility becomes a traditional, siloed research building that is "owned" by a few departments



# Revisiting Space Management



Centralization and Temporary Assignment Critical to Achieve Research Aims

## Management Models for New Interdisciplinary Research Buildings

<b>Lab Assignment Duration</b>	<i>Temporary</i>	<b>Rarely a Reality</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Very uncommon</li><li>• Politically unpalatable; often devolves into a siloed department/college building</li><li>• Low interdisciplinarity<sup>1</sup></li></ul>	<b>Gold Standard</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Uncommon</li><li>• Difficult to garner implementation buy-in; requires ongoing assignment adjustments and oversight</li><li>• High interdisciplinarity<sup>1</sup></li></ul>
	<i>Permanent</i>	<b>Illusion of Success</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Most common</li><li>• Often devolves into a siloed department/college building</li><li>• Low interdisciplinarity<sup>1</sup></li></ul>	<b>Close, But No Cigar</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Less common</li><li>• Unable to respond to new teams or priorities; lack of incentives for productive use</li><li>• Medium interdisciplinarity<sup>1</sup></li></ul>
		<i>Decentralized</i>	<i>Centralized</i>
		<b>Space Management</b>	

1) Assessed on a three-point scale of low, medium, or high.

# A Double Achievement

Idaho's New Facility Interdisciplinary in Both Name and Governance



## University of Idaho's Integrated Research & Innovation Center (IRIC)



- \$52 million, 78,600 square feet facility opened in January 2017
- Designed to host interdisciplinary research across broad range of science, engineering, and other disciplines
- Space is controlled by ORED<sup>1</sup> but governed by Facility Committee with representatives from every college, ORED appointees, and the building manager
- Facility Committee temporarily assigns supplemental space to investigators for the duration of proposed interdisciplinary projects

### Key Elements of Interdisciplinary Space Management



Research office has managerial oversight



Research teams must apply for space



Space allocation guided by project alignment with strategic goals



"Clawback" policy allows for space reallocation

1) Office of Research and Economic Development.

# Now Accepting Applications

## All Space Assigned on Temporary Basis to Collaborative Teams



### IRIC Space Request Application

IRIC-001  
08/17/2016  
Rev. 2

**PHASE I: INITIAL SCREENING OF IRIC POTENTIAL PROJECT** Page 1 of 3

To make this process as easy as possible, before you start filling out this form, contact Russell McClanahan, IRIC Facility Manager (888-1527) to support you in its completion. To expedite screening, you should also contact IRIC Facility Committee member associated with their college or unit. After completion, submit this form to IRIC Facility Manager at [irc@uidaho.edu](mailto:irc@uidaho.edu).

**Background:** A two phase process is used to request access to and perform work in the IRIC Facility.

1. Initial screening to assess if projects can be conducted in IRIC. This and discussions with the IRIC Committee and the Facility Manager will ensure the activity aligns with the IRIC mission and whether IRIC can support the project's needs.
2. Ensure the project has been adequately planned and can be performed safely, confirm the project is ready to start work.

Requester Name(s):	Submittal Date:
Department(s)/Unit(s):	Phone No.:
Project Collaborators (Name and Department/Unit):	
Project Title and Description (If needed use separate sheet or space at end of form to provide detailed project description, immediate space needs and why being in IRIC would benefit project):	
Is this a collaboration among multiple colleges/departments?	If so, which unit(s)?
Other units that will support performance of this work scope:	
Customer/Sponsor: (Identify the agency that is sponsoring the work and providing the funding.) This is not required for projects that are not receiving external funding.	
Sponsoring Agency:	
Internal Funding Program (e.g., Seed Grant):	

Requires explanation of units involved

Gathers information about space needs and relevance to IRIC mission

### Policy Document

### Description

#### [Space Guidelines and Policies](#)

Describes space policies and occupancy expectations (e.g., common areas and resources, facilities and maintenance)

#### [Facility Committee Bylaws](#)

Explains the function, members, and duties of the IRIC Facility Committee

#### [Appendix – Space Assignment Procedure](#)

Outlines eleven steps in the process of requesting and approving the placement of a project in IRIC

#### [Initial Space Request Application](#)

Mandatory application for regular (6+ months) IRIC space assignments

#### [Short-Term, Low-Risk Activities Space Request](#)

Application for short-term (<6 months) IRIC space assignments

#### [Space Utilization Review Protocol and Guidelines](#)

Summarizes the process and responsibilities associated with reviewing IRIC space assignments

#### [Waitlist Protocol and Guidelines](#)

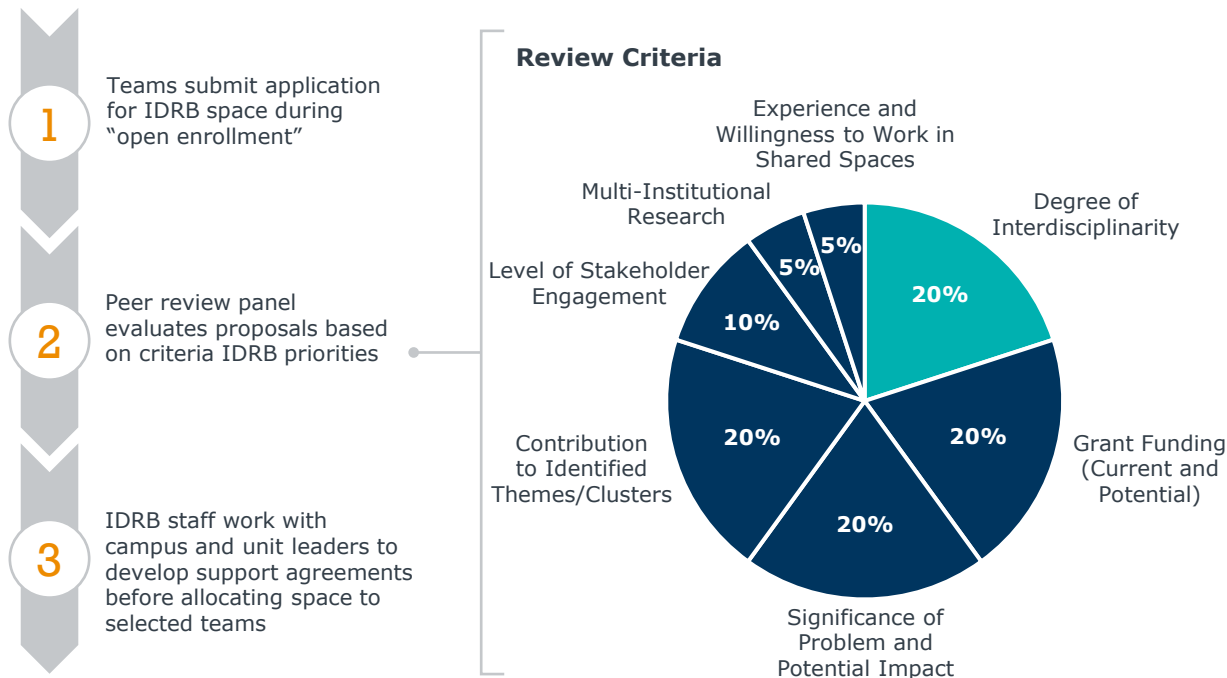
Explains the waitlist protocols and responsibilities for IRIC applicants

# Talk Is Cheap, Space Allocation Speaks

## Make Strategic Alignment a Factor in Assignment



### University of Texas at El Paso's IDR<sup>1</sup> Space Allocation Process



1) Interdisciplinary Research Building.

# Assignment Duration a Third Rail Issue

UTEP Sets Fixed Occupancy Ranges to Clawback Space in New Building



University of Texas at El Paso's IDR<sup>B</sup> Space Assignment Durations

Short-Term

Medium-Term

Long-Term

1-10 days



Team rooms



Core facilities and shared equipment



Conference space, meeting rooms, and visualization labs (up to 1 day)

1-12 months



Vivarium (up to 2 months)



Specialized spaces for human subjects research (up to 1 month)



Makerspace and large work/performance space (up to 1 month)

1-5 years



Wet laboratories



Dry laboratories



Interdisciplinary suites that include offices, student workstations, and group meeting space

1) Interdisciplinary Research Building.