Planning Forum Discussions

Theme #1 - Creating a Vibrant and Valued Work and Learning Environment

Discussion Questions:

1. What should being a member of the URI community be like?
2. What is essential to creating a vibrant URI community? What are some barriers and/or what needs to change in the future to allow this work and learning vibrant environment?

Alternate questions if time allows:
3. What is essential to creating an inclusive and equitable community? What are some barriers?
4. How should the URI community show that the efforts and contributions of its members are valued?
5. What training and professional development would contribute to an environment of valued work and belonging?

Theme #2 – Achieving Scholarship Prominence in the World

Discussion Questions:

1. What nationally competitive research/scholarship areas could have potential for URI to build on and develop significant global impacts? (What are we known for that we can build from?)
2. What are potential interdisciplinary and emerging areas or challenges in the world that could allow us to gain world prominence in research/scholarship/creative endeavors?
3. How do we enhance our capacity to significantly advance and support scholarship in the future?

Theme #3 – Developing Students through Exceptional Teaching and Experiences

Discussion questions

1. What will life-enriching educational experiences for ALL students (undergraduates, transfer, international, adult learners, graduate students, post-docs, part-timers, fully online, practicing professionals, etc.) and with meaningful interactions between and among students, faculty, staff, and our partners in the community look like in the

future? (What will excellent and inclusive teaching and learning look like in the future at URI)?

2. What would an innovative overarching year-round 24/7 learning model look like and what might be its potential future for URI?

Other questions, if time allows:

3. What specifically would allow us to advance the institution's capacity to realize this vision for cultivating this learning environment for the future?
4. What professional development opportunities do we need to offer faculty and staff to re-energize and re-engage their motivation and skills to develop their future selves and help students develop theirs?

Theme #4 - Societal and Economic Impact

Discussion Questions:

1. How might societal and economic impact be a renewed and boldly impactful focus area for URI over the next ten years? Consider: economic and workforce development, public service, and community outreach and any other areas. What are the big initiatives we should take on?
2. How might we develop and integrate public/private partnerships to combine living and access to the University so that is have significant impact within our surrounding areas?
3. What other models or visions should be explored that would positively impact society, economic and/or workforce development?