



**UNO Big Ideas
Academic Excellence and Community Engagement
(Strategic Plan Goals 2 & 3)**

Ten Themes for Campus Collaboration

After a meeting of the Senior Vice Chancellor and deans, the following ten themes are identified to be developed as full proposals for consideration as a UNO Big Idea. Faculty and staff from across the colleges who are interested in learning more and/or participating in the initiatives are encouraged to contact the lead dean(s) for the proposal. The proposals are in the preliminary stages of development and actively seeking cross-campus and community expertise and collaborations.

Consistent with the process described for the campus in early September, the deans and colleges developed Big Idea pre-proposals designed to build on each college's strengths and allow the campus to select strategic signature areas of excellence. The pre-proposals were discussed by the Deans, Senior Vice Chancellor Sacha Kopp, and Associate Vice Chancellor Ken Bayles on October 1. From the 20 pre-proposals, 10 broad themes were identified that encompassed one or more pre-proposals into even more aspirational ideas. All faculty and staff are welcome to contribute to these proposals. The 10 broad themes are briefly explained below.

Between now and November 25 (when full proposals are due), multiple campus groups will be engaged in conversation on the broad themes. A detailed timeline of discussions for the UNO Big Ideas process is included below.

Ten Themes for Campus Collaboration

1) *Artificial Intelligence* (Hesham Ali)

Artificial Intelligence focuses on human-aware artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, and creation of a robotics pavilion. The focus will be on establishing both academic and corporate partnerships, workforce development for an AI-fueled economy, and engagement of the public/community in broad conversations about AI technologies. Given numerous potential applications across campus ranging from STEM fields to social work, IST will be working with other colleges to expand faculty engagement in this effort. Proposed outcomes include collaborative research, certificate and graduate programs, and community engagement through establishment of a Robotics Pavilion.

2) *Business of Health Care* (Lynn Harland, John Bartle, Hesham Ali, The Business of Health Care combines work in business and healthcare, aging, early childhood education, and precision medicine informatics. A multi-disciplinary perspective will be applied and common themes will include workforce development, technology applications, health and wellness, therapeutic interventions, care-giving, business and entrepreneurial development and policy. The work will address traditional degree programs, non-credit professional development, internships and clinical programs for students, market feasibility analyses, research on policy, interdisciplinary partnerships, and applications in practice.



3) Medical or Health Humanities (David Boocker, Michael Hilt)

Health Humanities centers around expanding the capacity for research on Health Humanities and the development of a named center. It will employ artist-led, research-driven integrated programming that involves UNO faculty from multiple disciplines including for example, English, Biology, Art & Art History, Religious Studies, Social Work, and Gerontology, along with many UNMC faculty from wide-ranging programs. Novel approaches will be developed to enhance empathy, compassion, and resiliency. Partnerships with community organizations will be pivotal.

4) Global Supply Chain Management (Lynn Harland, John Bartle, Hesham Ali)

Global Supply Chain Management (GSCM) is a rapidly emerging focus for programs in the Colleges of Business Administration, Public Affairs and Community Services and Information Science and Technology. Including a focus in IT includes advanced wireless technologies, enterprise resource planning systems, web-based tools, machine learning, and the emerging/ubiquitous internet of things. Working collaborating, new graduate programs and certificates and cutting-edge research will be supported. All facets of GSCM and logistics research, public policy, regulations, and economic policy implications will be included under this initiative's domain of work.

5) Biomechanics (Nancy Edick, Hesham Ali)

Biomechanics combines the idea of creative, state-of-the-art biotechnology development (such as prostheses and new medical instrumentation), with that of brain and spinal cord rehabilitation research and treatment (development of new 'clinically deployable' devices). These efforts will build on past and current federal and private funding/grants. Several patenting and licensing efforts are already in process. Community engagement, industry partners, and clinical work will be an important component of this work. Translational clinical research that supports the incorporation of the research with those steps necessary to ultimately bring affordable products and practices to scale/broad use in the wider health care community, will be a critical component.

6) Vulnerable Populations (David Boocker, John Bartle, and Nancy Edick)

Vulnerable Populations focuses on research and effective practices for addressing the needs of vulnerable populations including highly mobile populations such as refugees and asylum-seekers, youth at risk including justice-involved youth, individuals who have suffered trauma, the very young, and very elderly, to name a few. The intractable and complex nature of these problems suggests a multi-disciplinary approach. Collaboration built on working relationships with human service agencies, justice organizations, school districts, refugee groups, and public health is instrumental to the design of this effort.



7) Security and Intelligence (Lynn Harland, David Boocker, John Bartle, Hesham Ali)

Security and Intelligence is based on bringing together expertise in the colleges of Business Administration, Information Science and Technology, Arts & Sciences, and Public Affairs and Community Services focused on security and intelligence issues. This initiative will include emphases on: 1) interdisciplinary research and training around global and security studies from the perspectives of a wide variety of disciplines, 2) the business aspects of terrorism including resource and capability analysis, financing and accounting practices, leadership and organizational factors, market theory, collaboration science, business analytics, and supply chain management relate to terrorist groups; and 3) cyber-security.

8) STEM TRAIL Center (David Boocker, Hesham Ali, Nancy Edick, John Bartle, David Richards, Michael Hilt)

STEM TRAIL Center focuses on the improvement of pedagogy including the Stem Trail Center work on Discipline-based Educational Research (DBER), the involvement of the Aviation program, and the Library's interests in Open Educational Resources. In addition incorporating science literacy and science communication can engage the broader public in science education and issues affecting society today; such a focus will allow engagement of faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Education, IS&T, CPACS, College of Communication, Fine Arts, and Media and the Library

9) Data Sciences (David Boocker, John Bartle, Lynn Harland, Hesham Ali)

Data Sciences focuses on data and decision sciences, data analytics and visualization, and data-informed governance. It will create a collaborative environment for education and research associated with the creation, display, understanding, and application of data for various purposes, for example, in support of effective governance, human services, and health care. New courses and programs are envisioned. Key community partners will include governmental agencies, health care institutions, corporations and non-profits

10) Human Rights (David Boocker, Nancy Edick, Michael Hilt)

Human Rights brings together work on human rights and migration with the current collaborative efforts that facilitated the lecture and exhibition of the work of Samuel Bak. This concept expands the collaborative work done by Centers in the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of the Arts in CFAM, and Teacher Education in the College of Education. Community partners such as the Joslyn museum, Durham Museum, and local K – 12 schools, etc., would likely be interested in participating with such a Big Idea, especially if a potential longer-term residency of some of Bak's works can be facilitated.



October 31, 2019

Dissemination/Discussion Timeline (may require adaptations which will be communicated):

October 16	Sr. Vice Chancellor reports on Top 10 to Chancellor's Cabinet and Faculty Senate Executive Committee/Administration meeting
October 18	Deans report to Strategic Planning Steering Committee
November 11	Sr. Vice Chancellor reports to Graduate Council
November 12	Sr. Vice Chancellor reports to Chairs & Directors
November 13	Sr. Vice Chancellor reports to Asst./Assoc. Deans & Vice Chancellors
November 13	Sr. Vice Chancellor reports to Faculty Senate
November 21	Sr. Vice Chancellor reports to Staff Advisory Council Executive Committee
December 2 at 8:00 a.m.	Full proposals due
December 4	Full proposals reported/discussed at Chancellor's Cabinet (Deans)
December 11	Full proposals reported/discussed Faculty Senate
December 13	Campus Strategic Forum on Top 10
January 6	Deans Retreat to review determine 4 big ideas + 2 alternates
January 8-10 (approximately)	Discussions with Chancellor and Vice Chancellors
January 13-24	Sr. VC and Deans developing budgets
January 31	Public announcement of 4-5 Big Ideas