March 26, 2013

Dear Colleagues:

As you probably know, one proposal that emerged from the Roadmap Planning process was the suggestion that Binghamton University should pursue a significant new venture in the Life Sciences, including the establishment of a Pharmacy School. As a result, Provost Nieman charged a faculty committee with the task of identifying existing areas of research at BU that might intersect with a new Pharmacy School and providing recommendations for areas of research excellence that might form initial research foci in the pharmaceutical sciences. We write to seek your input on the following issues:

i. How might your own research intersect positively with research in a pharmacy school?
ii. Are there ways in which your program and/or department might benefit by synergies with a Pharmacy school at Binghamton University?
iii. Among the many research areas in which pharmacy-related research and scholarly activity might be oriented, are there specific areas that you think offer significant opportunities for Binghamton University?

We have prepared a preliminary structural diagram (below) to provide a rough visual alignment between some existing departments/programs at BU (listed outside the circle) and programs/departments that typically form the backbone of top-tier pharmacy schools (in the center bubbles). Please note that this preliminary draft is just that—we do not mean to exclude any particular area or over-emphasize the role that any area might play. We seek feedback that will help us identify areas of research where establishment of a pharmacy school might positively enrich or intersect with the work of existing faculty, programs.

Please respond by email to pharmacy@binghamton.edu by Friday April 5th. Once we have received and synthesized input from the campus, we will then circulate a draft summary for additional feedback and refinement from the campus. Please feel free to contact any member of the Pharmacy team (listed below) if you would like to share your ideas with us directly.

The Pharmacy Team,

Terrence Deak, Behavioral Neuroscience Program, Department of Psychology (chair of committee)
Susan Bane, Chemistry
Amber Doiron, Bioengineering
Gary James, Decker School of Nursing/Biomedical anthropology
Karin Sauer, Biology
Susan Strehle, English & Interim Dean of the Graduate School
Anthropology

Biology

Chemistry

Biochemistry

Materials Science

Physics

Bioengineering

Psychology/Neuroscience

Math

Nursing

Social work

Philosophy

Economics

Systems science

Electrical & Mechanical Engineering

Computer science

Drug delivery;
Device development;

Medicinal chemistry;
Toxicology & Pharmacology
Experimental therapeutics

In vivo models/modes; mechanisms
Computational modeling (PK/PD);

Outcomes research;
Pharmacy administration;
Healthcare service, policy & ethics

In vivo models/modes; mechanisms
Computational modeling (PK/PD);

[more specific areas of research emphasis]