## Development of a successful E-CORE proposal

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## Overview of the Jurisdiction: What types of institutions exist?

- Small state - geography and population
- Research activity is heavily concentrated in just two locations - UNH and Dartmouth account for $99.8 \%$ of higher ed R\&D activity
- Existing institutional relationships through EPSCoR and INBRE
- Strong desire to avoid dividing state
- Potential to coordinate and strengthen backbone of partners



## Engagement strategy for developing E-CORE

## Data Driven:

Compiled existing state-level reports to identify capacity strengths and gaps

- S\&T plan, state workforce assessment, economic recovery \& expansion strategy, R\&D expenditures, employment data and projections


## Inclusive:

Customer discovery approach to identify what stakeholders perceived to the be the major challenges to building a dynamic and sustainable research ecosystem in NH

- Series of one-on-one and small group listening sessions, led by RD teams and state EPSCoR office; particular focus on primarily undergraduate institutions


## Collaborative:

Collective approach to integrate inputs, gauge feasibility and impact of different approaches, identify assets and partners, and develop scope for E-CORE

- State EPSCoR committee, NH-INBRE, partner institutions, state S\&T stakeholders


## Summary of the E-CORE Proposal. What institutions are participating?

## NH-LIFT (NH Long-Term Investment to Fuel Transformative Research)

Vision: To create a collaborative and inclusive research ecosystem, where:

- students pursue research experiences in areas that align with their interests,
- academic and industry researchers expand their research pursuits through external funding and accessible research infrastructure,
- partnerships across sectors drive NH research innovation, and
- NH's skilled workforce-ready population is increased and retained.


## 17 Partner Institutions:

- Community College System of New Hampshire;
- Primarily undergraduate-serving institutions: Antioch University New England, Colby-Sawyer College, Franklin Pierce University, Keene State College, New England College, Plymouth State University and Saint Anselm College.
- UNH and Dartmouth College, NH's two research universities;



## Long-term strategy for E-CORE progression



## How is the proposal structured? What the goals?

## Research Support Core

Broaden funded research participation at non-R1 institutions and small businesses through improved research support and service capacity

## Academic Infrastructure \& Research Facilities Core

Create a statewide network of core facilities to broaden access to advanced instrumentation and technical expertise in support of research, workforce training, and economic development.

## Early Career Research Trainee Pathway Core

Increase student and early career researcher success through programming and partnerships to support mentoring, career development, and retention across the jurisdiction.

## Administrative Core

Create a coordinated jurisdiction-wide culture of inclusion that connects and democratizes the research environment for all participants.

## Challenges encountered as we worked through the process

## The curse of first.

No successful models to learn from. No insight into who would review and what would resonate. Needing to educate stakeholders about all of the changes, while also developing a new future in only a few months.

Right-sizing.
How many "cores"? How many partners? How do we define success and plan for sustainability?

Structural elements.
What is the appropriate role of the state EPSCoR committee? How to integrate with E-RISE submissions, Track 2 projects, and other research capacity programs? How to maintain the critical backbone structure role of the EPSCOR office?

## Discussion



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