



2022 PTIE Conference Abstract

Title: Modernizing Scholarship for the Public Good

Authors: Elyse Aurbach*, Kacy Redd, Howard Gobstein

Institution: University of Michigan

Address: 16554 Sunderland Rd, Detroit, Michigan, 48219, United States of America

Corresponding Author contact information: eaurbach@umich.edu

Abstract:

The importance of the public impact of scholarship is commonly cited in the mission and strategy documents of public research universities, but engaged scholars frequently cite gaps in recognition, reward, and support mechanism as obstacles to their work. APLU's Modernizing Scholarship for the Public Good initiative aims elevate ways research universities can support scholars and advance reward and recognition related to Public Impact Research, Cooperative Extension, civic science, and other forms of public engagement (PE), with special attention to the ways that diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice (DEIJ). The project will: synthesize and frame the scholarly literature, highlight case studies of leading-edge institutions, and present a framework for action to inspire coalition-based efforts at institutional change.

We discussed this project, including initial early draft deliverables, at PTIE to surface and examine intersections between innovation & entrepreneurship and public engagement.



Modernizing Scholarship for the Public Good

Elyse L. Aurbach, Ph.D.

*APLU Civic Science Fellow & Assistant Director, Public
Engagement & Research Impacts, University of Michigan*

Raise your hand if...

- You were familiar with and/or connected to the PIR report
- You are familiar with and/or connected to ARIS
- You are familiar with and/or connected to ADVANCE-like programs at your home institution
- You hold a faculty or professional staff role associated with public engagement, Cooperative Extension, DEIJ, public impact research, etc.



Submit Your Research Examples

Learn how to include your PIR examples in [APLU's PIR database](#).

Presidents, Chancellors, and Provosts +

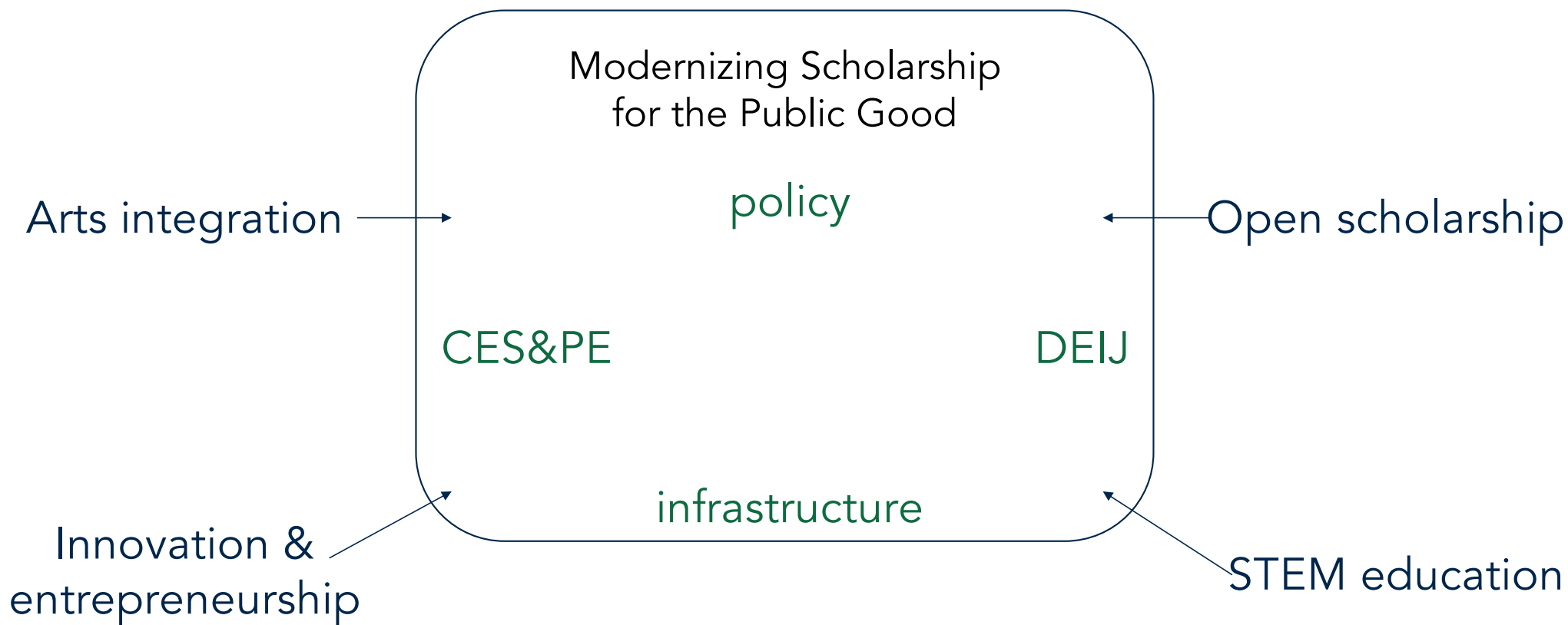
Research Leaders: VPRs/VCRs, Deans, and Chairs −

- Provide seed grants or other funding opportunities for collaborative PIR efforts.
- Convene and coordinate campus-, college-, or department-wide discussions and processes to consider undertaking (and ultimately selecting) research agendas with public impact at their core, such as Grand Challenges and HIBAR.
- Identify and empower champions of PIR, particularly individuals leading research programs that are consistent with PIR principles.
- Identify and convene researchers across campus or in your college or department who are already involved in science engagement, community-engaged scholarship, and citizen science activities on their own or through their professional societies. This includes researchers who actively communicate their research to the public through The Conversation, media, and more.
- Work with other campus leaders to ensure that PIR efforts are adequately appreciated and credited within promotion, tenure, and merit policies and practices.
- Work with your team to compile and disseminate a consolidated resource guide to funding research with public impact at its core. This may include specific programs at NSF, DOE, NASA, EPA, etc., that center public impact.

<https://www.aplu.org/our-work/2-fostering-research-innovation/public-impact-research/>

Initiative objectives:

- Larger goal is to explore how different institutional contexts really support different opportunities to support engaged- and equity-oriented scholars
- Provide scaffolding, guidance, and tools for university leaders to drive & support institutional change efforts



Project Goals



Synthesize & frame the scholarly literature



Develop case studies of “leading edge” institutions



Create a framework for action



Connect aligned efforts



Taking a systemic approach to intervention

Reform appointment, retention, tenure, & promotion practices

Invest in leadership development and support

Invest in infrastructure (develop new centers; connect decentralized unit structures; human infrastructure)

Develop more programs to reward work (awards, fellowships, publication outlets)

Establish stronger accountability/reporting structures at institutional level

Launch & maintain catalytic funding programs



Taking a systemic approach to intervention

Reform appointment, retention, tenure, & promotion practices

Invest in leadership development and support

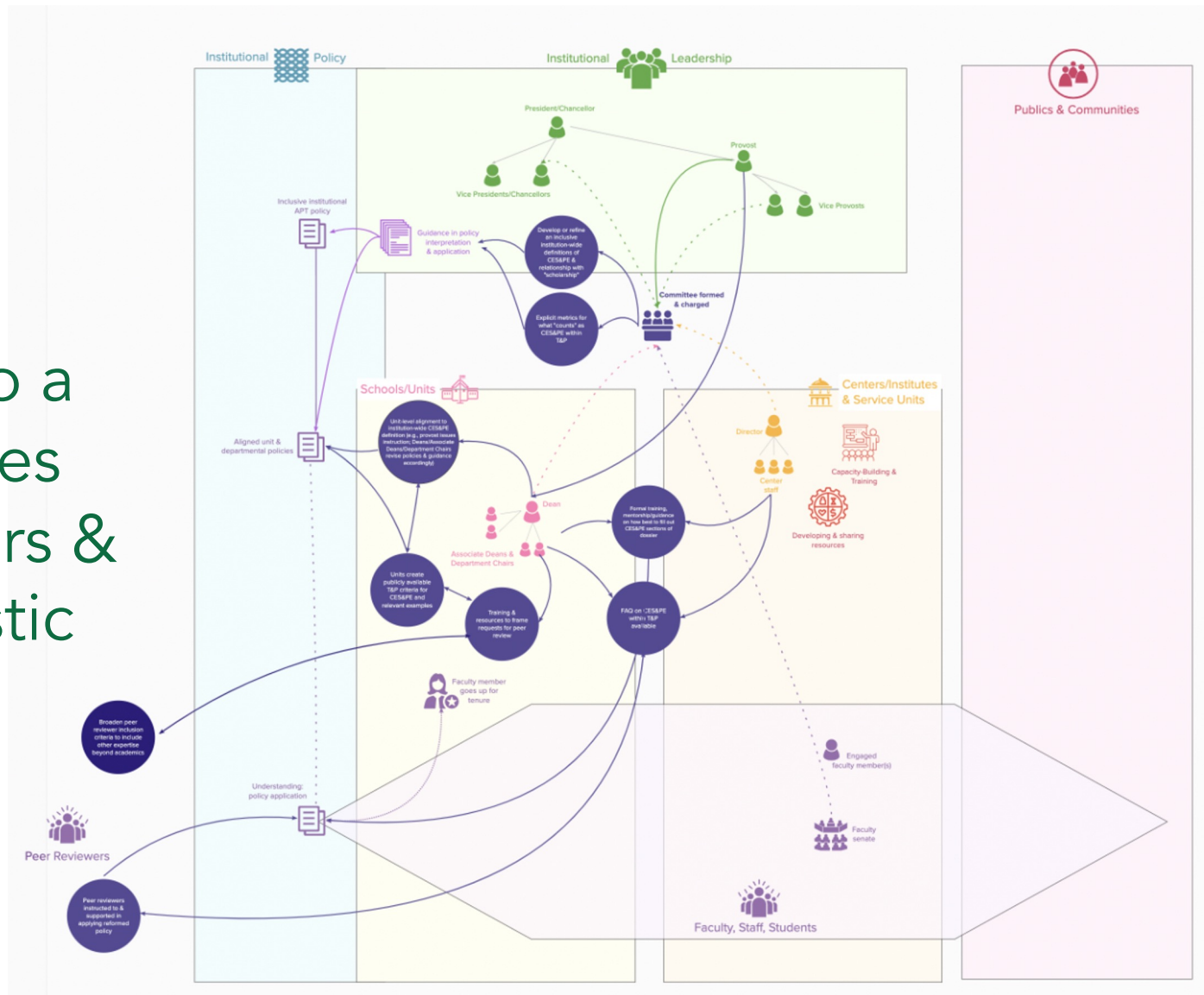
Invest in infrastructure (develop new centers; connect decentralized unit structures; human infrastructure)

Develop more programs to reward work (awards, fellowships, publication outlets)

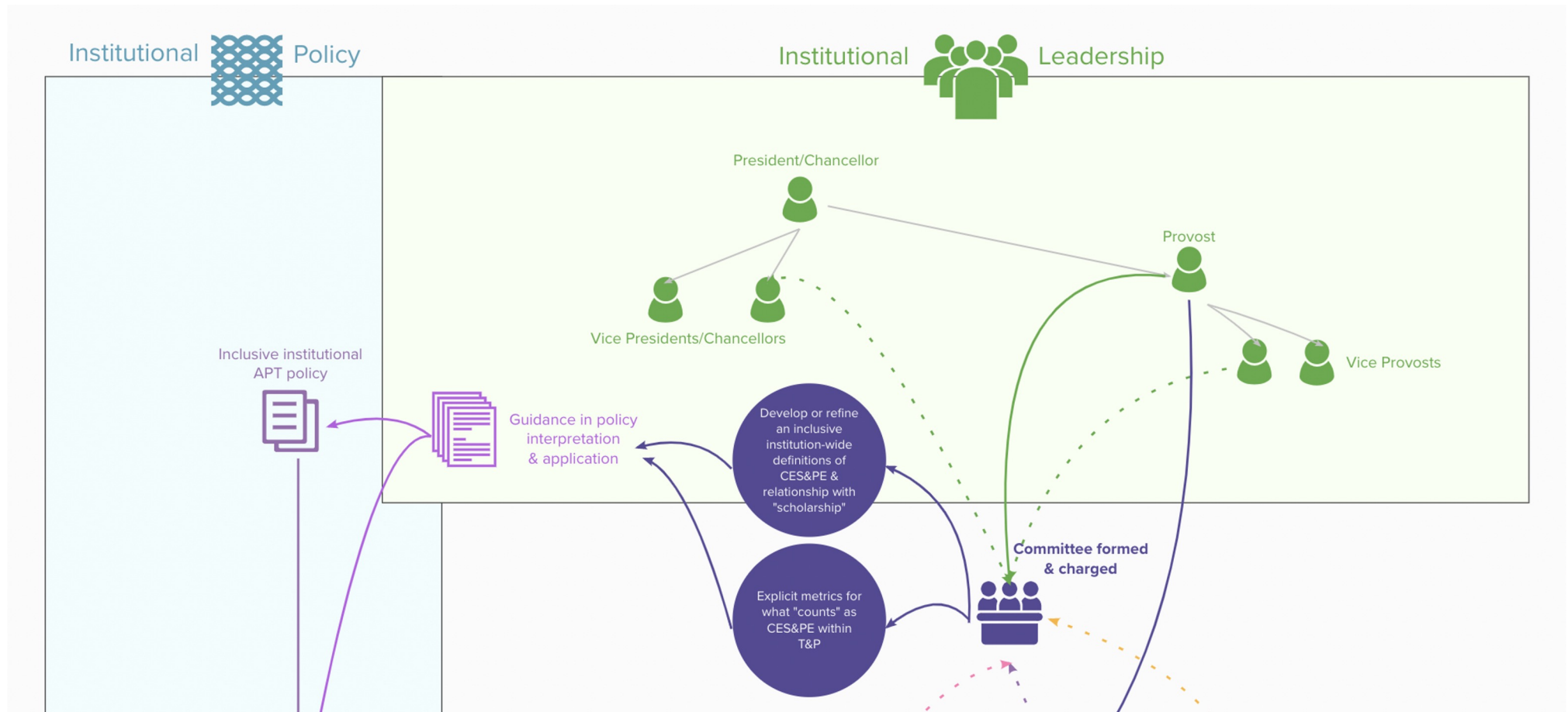
Establish stronger accountability/reporting structures at institutional level

Launch & maintain catalytic funding programs

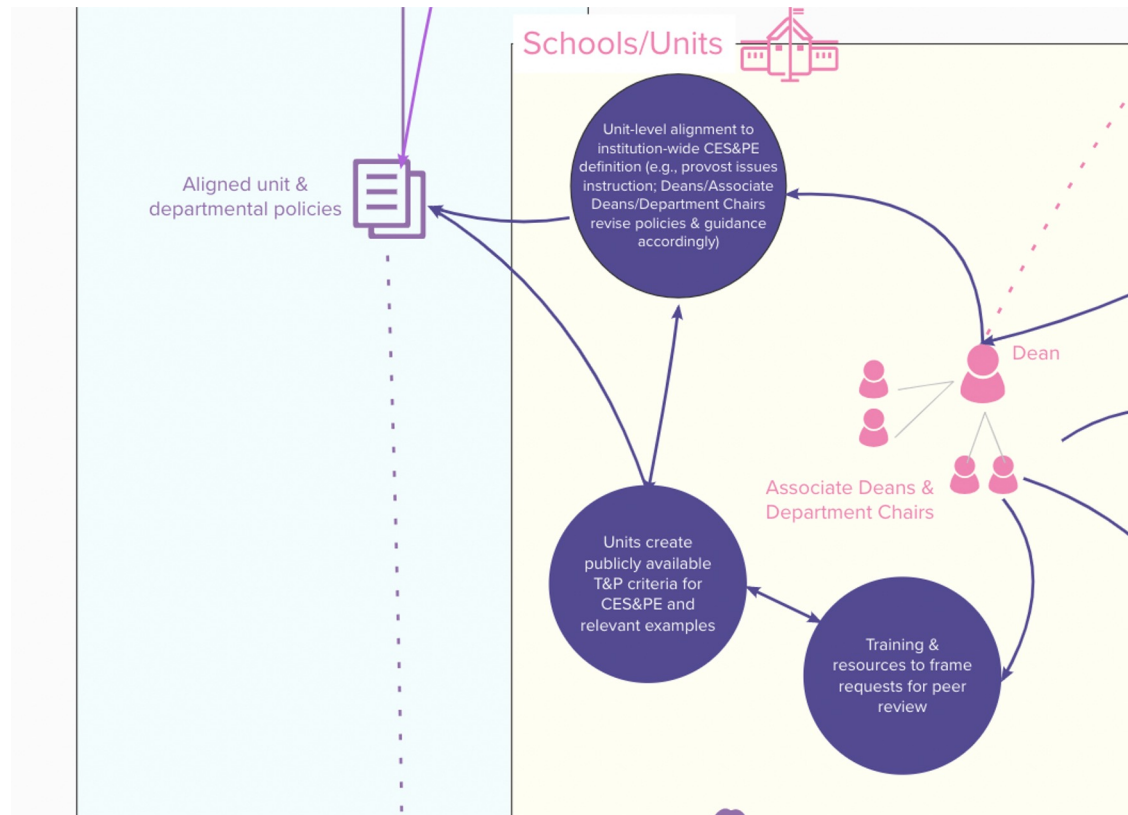
Mapping interventions to a system illustrates key stakeholders & highlights holistic strategy.



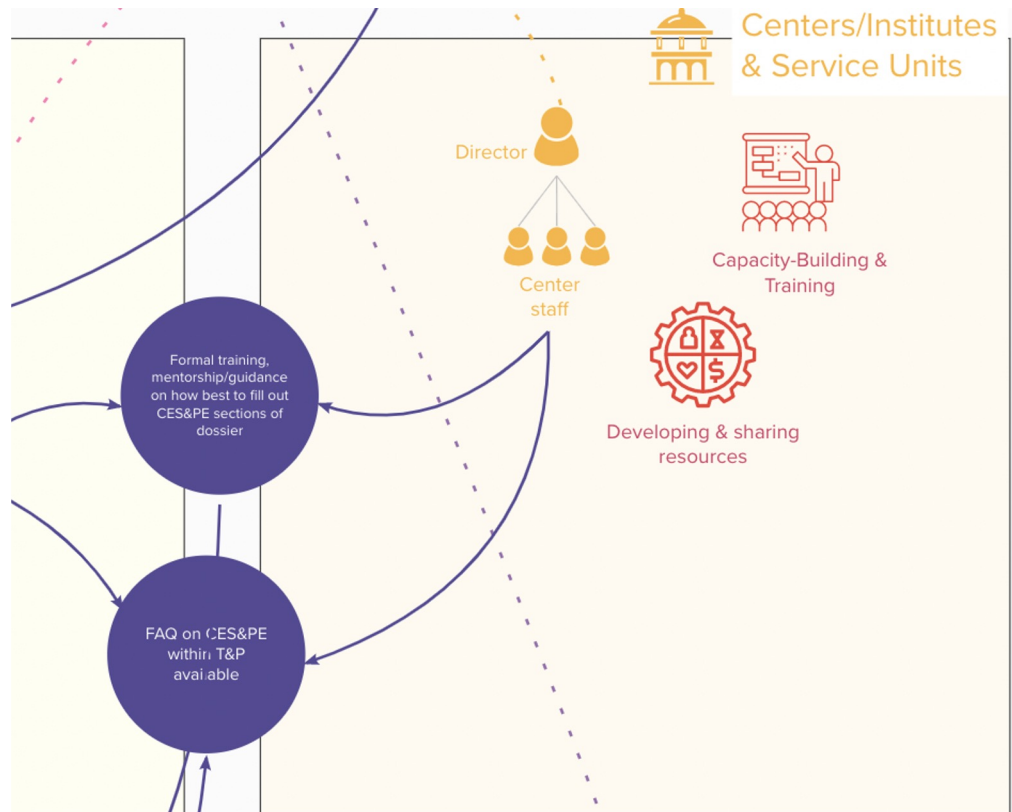
Change & issue university-wide guidance.



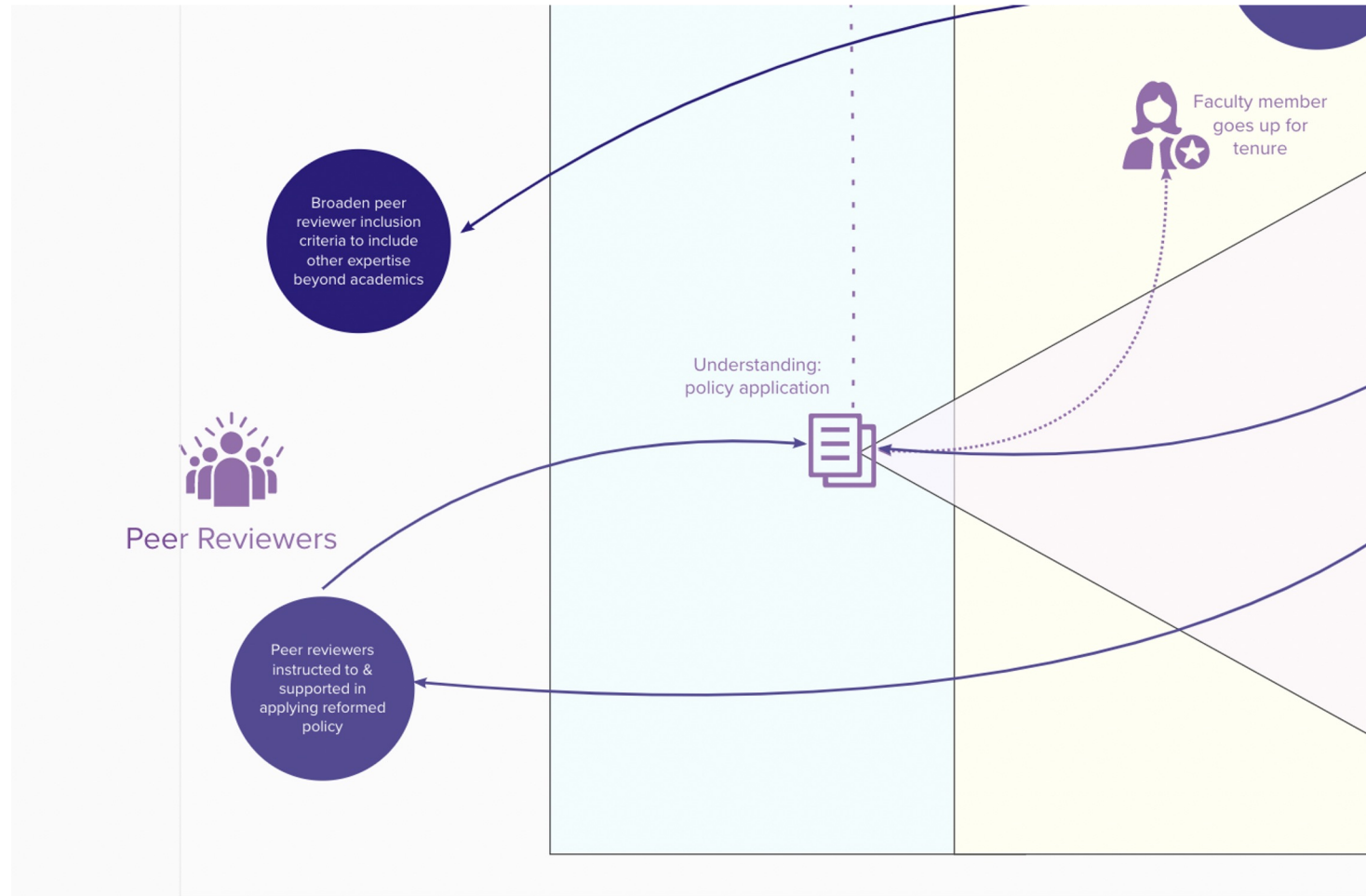
Align across units & departments.



Create resources & trainings for faculty, admins, reviewers.



Support external review.



The Value-Add:

- Highlights a variety of efforts for a holistic strategy.
- Maps (generally) the stakeholders across levels who need to be involved in institutional change efforts.
- Demonstrates how interventions interact.

Modernizing Scholarship & PTIE

Similarities

- High-level policy language applies across contexts
- Captures nearly all the same process recommendations

Differences

- Topical focus
- Modernizing Scholarship focus on implementation & defining necessary stakeholders
- PTIE has already articulated metrics, deliverables, outcomes
- Modernizing scholarship goes beyond P&T

We're looking at (some) sites of reform:



(among others)



Taking a systemic approach to intervention

Reform appointment, retention, tenure, & promotion practices

Invest in leadership development and support

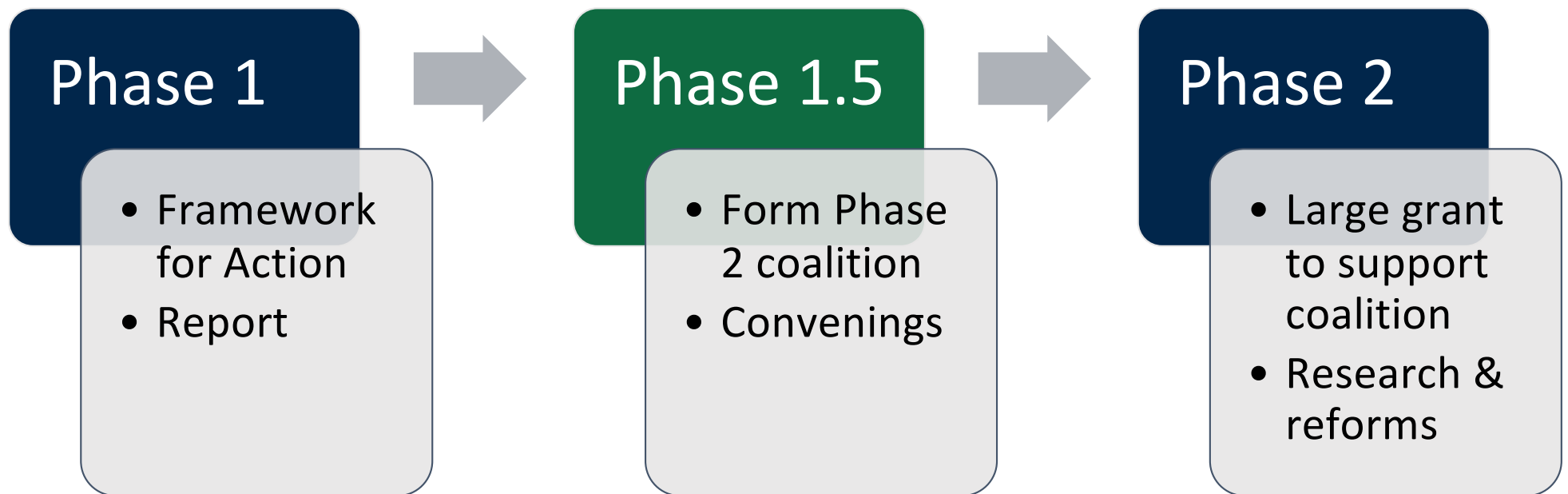
Invest in infrastructure (develop new centers; connect decentralized unit structures; human infrastructure)

Develop more programs to reward work (awards, fellowships, publication outlets)

Establish stronger accountability/reporting structures at institutional level

Launch & maintain catalytic funding programs

Modernizing Scholarship timeline



Questions?

Please share your thoughts & recommendations
for the Modernizing Scholarship initiative:

Visit: <http://sli.do>

Event Code: #ModSch-PTIE

eaurbach@umich.edu & @ElyseTheGeek