CALS NC PSI Information and Listening Session
Vernon James, NC
August 29th, 2016

This document is a summary of ideas that surfaced during an information and listening session of 30 participants on August 29th, 2016 at Vernon James, NC.

1. Impacts
   a. The greatest impact that the PSI is making globally/nationally/regionally is:
      i. **Green Group**: Food Security, Integrated approach to improving agronomic practices
      ii. **Blue Group**: It allows us to grow NC State’s stature as a global plant science research institute; To feed the world’s growing population
      iii. **Goldenrod Group**: Improve access to food; Center plant sciences
   b. The greatest impact that the PSI is making for our state is:
      i. **Green Group**: Economic development for NC; More creativity in dealing with ag issues
      ii. **Blue Group**: The quality of the ag industry will increase; Provide an influx of research & extension in plant science which fills a current void
      iii. **Goldenrod Group**: Create more jobs & contribute to state’s economy; Improve access to enhanced research
   c. The greatest impact that the PSI is making for my local community is:
      i. **Green Group**: Practical solution most likely to be profitable; More up to date info delivered to communities through extension
      ii. **Blue Group**: Increase in job opportunities in agriculture; Economic development
      iii. **Goldenrod Group**: Solutions for local problems (varieties, soil, etc.); Improve pipeline for graduate students (university)

2. Programmatic Improvement:
   a. The PSI makes our research better because
      i. **Green Group**: Easier to collaborate across departments; Vastly improved research facilities
      ii. **Blue Group**: Develops a more refined approach at developing new systems and technologies that will enhance ag production; Cross discipline collaboration is increased
      iii. **Goldenrod Group**: Combined effort gives more transdisciplinary effect
b. The PSI improves our effectiveness of Cooperative Extension because:
   i. **Green Group**: Reward multidisciplinary efforts; improved communication to and from researchers, extension educators and community stakeholders through improved knowledge pipeline
   ii. **Blue Group**: Strengthens the connection between citizens and the land grant universities; Allows us to benefit from a diverse research pipeline which will assist in the education of our clients. Public and private industry enhancement
   iii. **Goldenrod Group**: Improve flow on information, research to extension to grower to consumer; Holistic approach

c. Our Undergraduate/graduate student experience is better because:
   i. **Green Group**: Improved opportunities for students: faculty, internships, co-ops, labs, etc.; Increased awareness and energy recruitment
   ii. **Blue Group**: Provides more globally diverse opportunities; Enhanced teaching and learning environments
   iii. **Goldenrod Group**: Hands on experiments; Holistic approach

3. Partnerships
   a. The new partnerships and collaborations that the PSI helped create are:
      i. **Green Group**: Better collaboration between applied researchers and basic researchers; Cross University and business partnerships and collaborations
      ii. **Blue Group**: Bridges for applied and basic and among academic, extension, and research departments
      iii. **Goldenrod Group**: Non-traditional partnerships; k-12 to industry to consumer
   b. Our partnership model is better because:
      i. **Green Group**: It will change how we partner with people (less limitations and more creativity in thinking); Multidisciplinary efforts will be recognized and rewarded
      ii. **Blue Group**: It fosters collaborative partnerships with university and private industry
      iii. **Goldenrod Group**: Industry and University will invest man power to create new solutions; Better transition from lab to field