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Bernadette M. Marriott Vice President for Science Integration

**Social and Statistical Sciences** 



turning knowledge into practice

## Congratulate ODS:

- Well written and thoughtfully developed strategic plan that clearly builds on the past accomplishments of the office and refines goals – growth and impact has been phenomenal!
  - Botanical Research Centers Program
  - Public Databases & Conferences
- Newer Program Areas
  - Analytical Methods & Reference Materials
  - Evidence Based Reviews
  - Training



## Compliment the ODS:

- Approach it has taken to manage the large and growing diversity of projects and programs:
  - Organizing the projects into program areas with Program Directors
  - Each Program clearly addresses ODS mission
  - Each Program crosses and contributes to multiple aspects of the plan goals and initiatives



## Perspective for Comments:

- Charge: Review the plan in light of additional and emerging needs
  - Think to the FUTURE
  - Be SPECIFIC with suggestions
- In developing comments my approach was:
  - Be BROAD in identifying suggestions that will contribute to more than one goal
  - Focus on DOABLE items within the existing NIH structure



## Four Suggestions for research, education & communication:

- Grow new small grant opportunities (research, education)
- Evaluate cost/benefit of several long term programs (research, communication, education)
- Assess the target audience and dissemination reach of a few key programs (education, communication)
- Create a national low-cost training opportunity two tiered (education)



#### **Small Grants:**

#### Rationale:

- NIH budget & Opportunities for new scientists difficult RO1 situation
- Need to continue to bring creative, interdisciplinary thinking to dietary supplement research
- Use existing mechanisms to:
  - Create more opportunities for new investigators
  - Raise visibility for ODS as sponsor
  - Create milieu of interest in DS research as multidisciplinary and funded from across NIH
- Specifically:
  - Partner with ICs on PAs where ODS is clearly identified as sponsoring RO3s – grow portfolio to all ICs
  - Identify new investigator ODS opportunities on web & consider emails to research offices of major research universities (NSF list)



## Program Evaluation:

#### Rationale:

- NIH as research vs NIH as business
- Be convinced that balance of portfolio is most effective for the times and year
- Tool for annual internal review

#### What?

- Specific off the shelf cost/benefit analysis including desired sort term outcomes, full staff time, financial cost, long term outcomes, tracking, and impact
- Programs:
  - REAP
  - Workshops & Conferences



# Evaluate Target Audience for Programs:

- Rationale:
  - What is ODS? Why go to ODS?
  - Where is the need?
- What: Systematic 2-part needs assessment develop a rubric (differs from and augments communication assessment in progress)
  - Is desired audience being reached?
  - Are audiences receiving what they need?
- IBIDS & CARDS
- Dietary Supplement Fact Sheets



### Dietary Supplement Training Laboratories

#### Rationale:

- Need many more analytical DS researchers
- Current educational systems DS research not on the horizon – few visible opportunities

#### What:

 Network of "ODS Sanctioned" training laboratories (Compliments Botanical Centers)

#### ■ How:

- Partner with ICS & selected agencies for crossover needs; consider: Fogarty, UN Agencies, World Bank
- 5 page contract proposal of laboratory specifications, plus bios; guarantee capacity for training at PhD/PharmD, Post Doc levels, interns and mid-career professionals



## Dietary Supplement Training Laboratories (cont.)

- Re-competed every 3 years nominal core support that scales with # of participants
- Lab must track student outcomes
- Competitive training money available to participants
- Program direct advertised to potential participants in chemistry, pharmacy, biology, etc graduate departments
- Labs also can apply for funds for special, short term focused technique training programs



## Thank you!

