To: University of Vermont Faculty and Staff

From: James Burgmeier, President, Faculty Senate
      Jane Knodell, Interim Provost and Senior Vice President
      Domenico Grasso, Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate College

Subject: Transdisciplinary Research Initiative Steering Committee Membership

In September we invited nominations and applications for membership on the Transdisciplinary Research Initiative (TRI) Steering Committees. We received more than 30 nominations and applications of the highest caliber; the expertise and accomplishment of our nominees is extraordinary.

The selection process was consultative and collaborative. The administration sought input from Faculty Senate leadership, the Council of Deans, and the University Distinguished Professors. A joint Faculty Senate/Administration committee made the final selection decisions. The joint committee included Lynne Bond, Kelvin Chu, Cynthia Forehand, Richard Galbraith, Charles Goodnight, Domenico Grasso, Rachel Johnson and Jane Knodell. This group will continue to work together to craft the charge to the Steering Committees.

We encourage nominees that were not named to Steering Committees to remain engaged in the initiative. There is much to be done, and the Steering Committees will rely heavily on other Spire faculty members to support their work.

An outstanding record of scholarship was primary among the selection criteria. Other selection factors included a commitment to a transdisciplinary and collaborative approach to scholarship, experience building programs, the need to maintain some continuity with working group membership, and a balanced variety of scholarly perspectives.

We have great confidence in the extraordinary group of faculty we have assembled for our inaugural TRI Steering Committees, and look forward to their exciting collaborative work of which we hope many of you will be a part.

Complex Systems:
Professor Peter Dodds, Department of Mathematics & Statistics, Steering Committee Chair
Professor Joshua Bongard, Department of Computer Science, Steering Committee Vice Chair
Professor Jason Bates, Department of Medicine and School of Engineering
Professor Christopher Danforth, Department of Mathematics & Statistics
Professor Christopher Koliba, Department of Community Development & Applied Economics
Professor David Novak, School of Business Administration
**Food Systems:**
Professor Jane Kolodinsky, Department of Community Development & Applied Economics, *Steering Committee Chair*
Professor Naomi Fukagawa, Department of Medicine, *Steering Committee Vice Chair*
Linda Berlin, Center for Sustainable Agriculture and Department of Nutrition & Food Science
Professor Pablo Bose, Department of Geography
Professor Rocki-Lee DeWitt, School of Business Administration
Professor Ernesto Mendez, Department of Plant & Soil Science

**Neuroscience, Behavior and Health:**
Professor Rae Nishi, Department of Anatomy & Neurobiology, *Steering Committee Chair*
Professor Stephen Higgins, Department of Psychiatry, *Steering Committee Vice Chair*
Professor Mark Bouton, Department of Psychology
Professor Brian Flynn, Department of Family Medicine and Office of Health Promotion Research
Professor Sharon Henry, Department of Rehabilitation & Movement Science
Professor Timothy Stickle, Department of Psychology