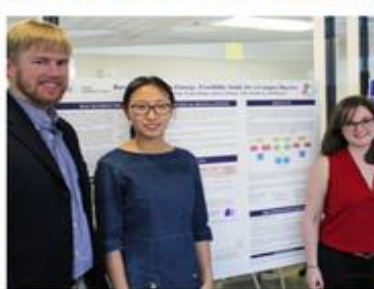


Duke

UNIVERSITY

BASS CONNECTIONS



THE BASS CONNECTIONS MODEL: *INTEGRATION OF RESEARCH, TEACHING & ENGAGEMENT*

Interdisciplinary research teams tackle complex societal challenges defined by three core connections:

1. Across areas of disciplinary expertise
2. Across learner levels (undergraduate, master/professional, doctoral and medical students)
3. Between the academy and the broader world

Project Teams

- 68 teams in 2019-20: 450+ undergraduates; 170+ graduate students; 180+ faculty; 45+ external partners
- 59 new teams in 2020-21

Courses

- ~ 40 affiliated courses incorporating collaborative, project work
- Collaborative Project Courses Faculty Fellows Program

Summer Research Experiences

- Story+
- Data+
- Summer Neuroscience Program
- Global Health Student Research Training Program

Linked Experiences & Capstone Work

- Student research awards
- DukeEngage, DukeImmerse
- Master's projects

5 Interdisciplinary Themes

+ *Bass Connections Open*

Brain & Society

@ Duke Institute for Brain Sciences



Information, Society & Culture

@ Rhodes Information Initiative at Duke

Global Health

@ Duke Global Health Institute



Education & Human Development

@ Social Science Research Institute



Energy & Environment

@ Duke University Energy Initiative

ROLES: THEMES

- Project proposal review & selection
- Onboarding & best practice sharing
- Communicate key timelines, events, policies
- Support & advice; connect teams to resources
- Administer academic credit
- Financial administration
- Opportunities for teams to share their work
(varies by theme)

THEMES



Information, Society & Culture



Robert Calderbank
(Computer Science;
Rhodes iiD)



Victoria Szabo
(Art, Art History &
Visual Studies)



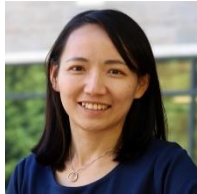
Kathy Peterson
(Rhodes iiD)



Education & Human Development



Anna Gassman-Pines (Sanford School
of Public Policy)



Ying-Chun Lin
(Social Science
Research Institute)



Global Health



David Boyd
(Duke Global
Health Institute)



Mary Story
(Community &
Family Medicine)



Lysa MacKeen
(Duke Global
Health Institute)



Kate Sullivan
(Duke Global
Health Institute)



Brain & Society



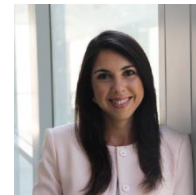
Len White
(Neurology)



Dana Ripperton
(Duke Institute for
Brain Sciences)



Energy & Environment



Luana Lima
(Nicholas School of the
Environment)



Bryan Koen
(Duke University
Energy Initiative)

CENTRAL PROGRAM OFFICE/BASS CONNECTIONS OPEN



Ed Balleisen
Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary
Studies



Laura Howes
Director, Bass Connections



Meghan O'Neil
Assistant Director, Bass Connections



Sarah Dwyer
Director, Interdisciplinary Communications



Dorothy Nam
Staff Specialist, Bass Connections

ROLES: CENTRAL OFFICE

- Student recruitment & tracking student participation
- Program-wide events, awards & student funding opportunities
- Program-wide policy/guidance
- Internal & external communications
- Resources to address challenges & support best practices
- Program evaluation
- Bass Connections Open projects

GENERAL OPERATING PRINCIPLES FOR TEAMS

- **Length:** 9 to 12 months (with possibility of continuing)
- **Course credit:** Primarily **research** independent study
 - Exceptions: advanced graduate students; no-credit options
 - Workload = 10 hours per week
 - [Grading practices and rubrics](#)
- **Team structure:** Intact team vs. sub-team models
- **Team meetings:**
 - At least once a week
 - **Set time in advance!** (try to avoid spanning multiple [class periods](#))
 - Space
- **Project managers**

ELEMENTS OF TEAM SUCCESS

1. Foundation setting

- Resources to help students get up-to-speed
- Assignment to jump start the year
- [Team building](#)

2. Shared, clearly defined goals and roles for the project

- [Team charter](#); engage students in goal-setting/problem-solving
- Expect student initiative/ownership but provide scaffolding
- Team and individual goals

3. Clear expectations for participation and engagement

- [Syllabus guide](#) & [Team charter](#)
- [Grading rubric](#)
- [Team ground rules](#)

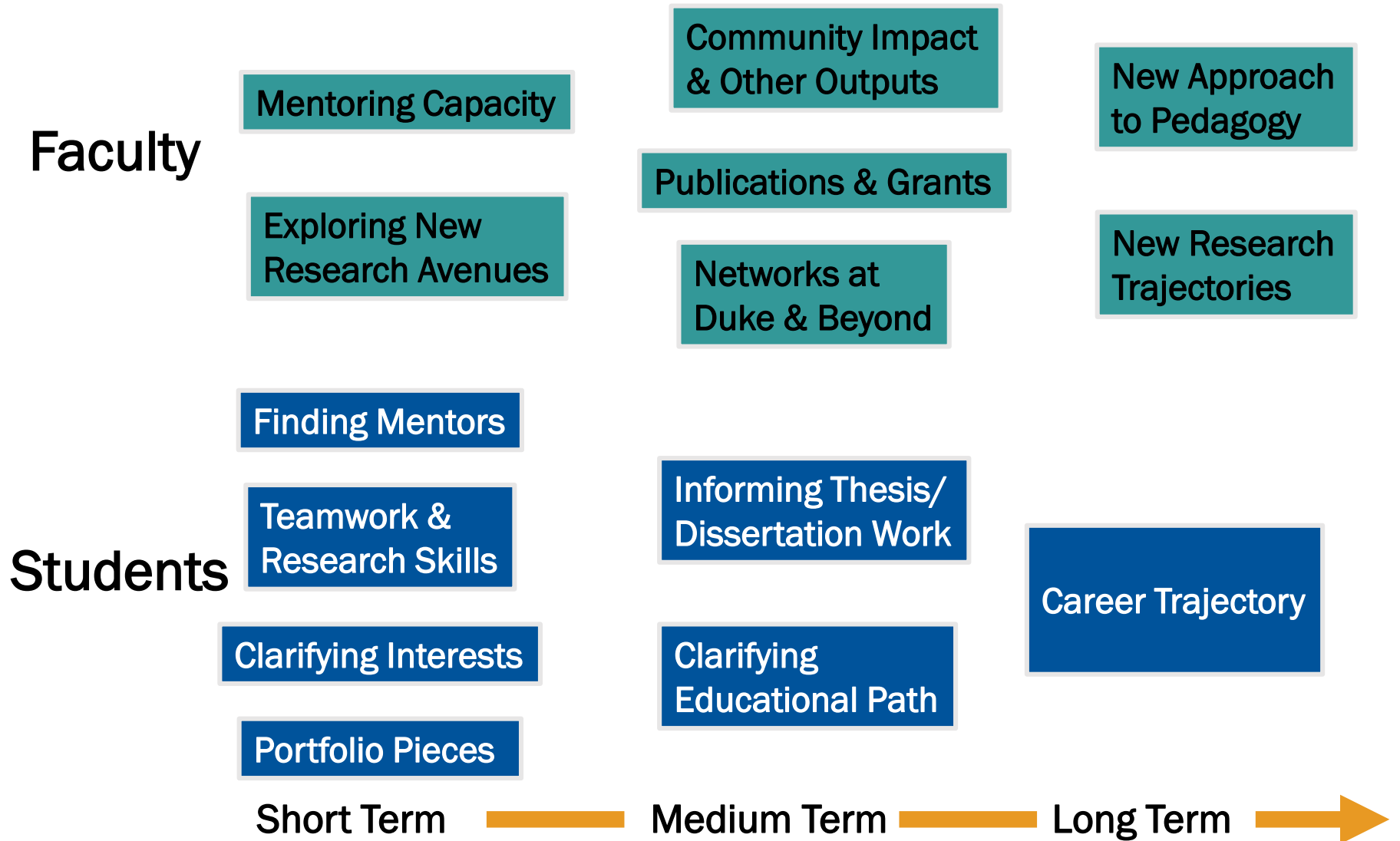
ELEMENTS OF TEAM SUCCESS

4. **Regularly scheduled and well-organized meetings**
 - Use time to tackle group issues; not just reporting out/lecture
 - Assign shared ownership of meetings; roles
 - Action items and follow-up
5. **Team leader engagement and partnership**
 - Team leaders attend meetings
 - Team leaders communicate shared messages to students
6. **Layered mentorship/leadership roles for graduate students (or advanced UGs)**
 - Project managers
 - Sub-team leads
 - Technical leads
7. **Opportunities for reflection and presentation**
 - Blogs, journals, portfolios
 - Formal and informal presentations

OUTPUTS & OUTCOMES

- Your team defines success
- Failure (of outcomes) is an option
- Outputs and outcomes are wide-ranging:
 - Policy/white papers
 - Publications
 - Conferences, events, symposium
 - Prototypes
 - Algorithms
 - Data collection/Data analysis
 - New processes
 - Exhibits
 - Websites
 - Grant submissions

IMPACT: SOME HYPOTHESES



BASIC EXPECTATIONS

- Successful student recruitment; including undergrads
- Meet student selection deadlines
- Inform your theme of any travel involving students
- Notify us of roster changes
- Communicate with us about issues and successes
- Follow standard academic policies
- Stay within budget
- Recognize Bass Connections in publications, conferences, etc.
- Participate in the Bass Connections showcase
- Participate in evaluation survey and report on outcomes

STUDENT RECRUITMENT

- Bass Connections Fair: Jan. 24 (2:00-4:30), Penn Pavilion
- Student applications: Jan. 24 to Feb. 14
- Application review/interviews: Feb. 15 to March 4
- First round offers: by March 4
- Students respond to offers: by March 17
- Offers to waitlisted candidates: by March 18
- Students respond to second round offers: by March 23
- All student selection completed: by March 30

STUDENT APPLICATIONS

- Collected centrally via “AwardSpring”
 - Each team designates a primary POC for selection
- Students may apply to up to three teams – only participate on one
 - May hold a few students in reserve; don’t over use this option!
- Teams can:
 - Select based on application alone
 - Conduct interviews
 - Check references
 - Seek additional information via email
- Rejections sent centrally
- Can add students off-cycle (esp. grad students) – let us know!

STUDENT FAIR: QUESTIONS TO PREPARE FOR

- What types of skills/backgrounds are you seeking for the team?
- What roles do you envision for students? How will students contribute?
- When and how will the team meet?
- Does your project include summer research? **If yes:** Is it mandatory?
- Does the project include travel? **If yes:** Will all students have the opportunity to travel? When will travel take place?
- Do you have paid roles for graduate students (e.g., project manager/TAs)?
- Do I have to participate the whole year? What if I'm studying abroad?
- Will I receive credit? What is the time commitment?

A SPECIAL NOTE ON DKU STUDENTS @ DUKE

- First class DKU students @ Duke in 2020-2021: ~250 total
- Fall or Spring, with option to add summer term
- Can apply for Bass Connections –application will ID them as a DKU student
- **Questions to consider:**
 - Could your team benefit from perspectives of DKU students?
 - Does the particular student have skills your team needs?
 - Would it be disruptive for students to leave after 1 semester?
 - Would it be possible for students to continue with team remotely?
 - Is your team still developing?

SETTING EXPECTATIONS EARLY

- Set a meeting time before forming the team or before student registration
- Consider using interviews to provide students a “realistic job preview”
- Consider a spring kick-off meeting
- Set clear expectations for attendance at meetings and participation on the team
- Don’t oversell

FINANCE

- Funding period: July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021
- Themes will provide a designated fund code
- Transactions processed by faculty's home departments
- Students generally set up on department payrolls – standard rates and payroll processing (see [hourly rates](#) for all students)
 - May not pay *and* offer credit for same work
- May not charge faculty time to projects/unbudgeted staff time
- Unspent funds will be returned at end of year; extensions available for continuing work with students
- Be mindful of asking students to incur expenses

RESOURCES

- [Team Resource Center](#)
- [Grading and Crediting Guidance](#)
- [Bass Connections Contacts](#)
- [Student & Team Leader Policies & Expectations](#)
- [Project manager trainings](#)
- Duke Libraries:
 - Workshops
 - Subject matter and research specialists
 - Data consulting
 - Data visualization & digital project support
- Social Science Research Institute:
 - [ModU](#) (videos on social science research methods)
 - Data security and management
 - Workshops and custom training/consulting
 - Help desk