

SUBMITTED BY: KIMBERLY ANDREWS ESPY, PH.D., PRESIDENT

**CENTER AND INSTITUTE RECOMMENDATION FOR THE CREATION OF THE
BEN L. SILBERSTEIN INSTITUTE FOR BRAIN HEALTH**

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve the creation of the Ben L. Silberstein Institute for Brain Health for a period of six years.

BACKGROUND AND MISSION STATEMENT

The Ben L. Silberstein Institute for Brain Health at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan, has at its core the mission of advancing our understanding of the brain's structure, chemistry, and function as it relates to both disease and the promotion of health and well-being. It does so by accelerating and promoting team interactional science including, but not limited to, biomedical imaging platforms, neurogenetics, addiction and pain biology, post-traumatic stress disorder and trauma neurobiology, gerontology nanotechnology, neurodevelopment, targeting and reducing health care disparities and innovative and novel diagnostic and treatment development.

The Institute aims to coalesce transdisciplinary, cross-campus neuroscience research and undergraduate, graduate, and post-doctoral neuroscience education. This will result in the identification, protection, marketing, and licensing of intellectual property. The Institute will include important components relevant to health equity and challenges related to brain and behavioral health in urban environments, particularly in southeast Michigan and the City of Detroit.

A key element of the Ben L. Silberstein Institute for Brain Health is to expand its multidisciplinary team of researchers and students to bridge the basic-science clinical interface where findings in clinical labs are being communicated in real time to basic science labs and *vice versa* to accelerate the time from discovery to translation into the community with clinical practice. The Ben L. Silberstein Institute for Brain Health aims to have a significant impact on promoting brain health by targeting and accelerating diagnostic and therapeutic advances for real-world childhood and adult-onset brain disorders impacting our community and beyond.

Some of the thematic and enabling technologies platforms for the Institute will include:

- Addiction and pain biology and treatment
- Bio-behavioral health
- Coordination and development of imaging resources
- Expanded clinical research and care partnership with health care provider networks
- Integration of biological psychiatry with imaging, genetics, immunology of neuropathologies and systems neuroscience
- Addiction and pain biology and treatment
- Traumatic Brain Injury and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Neurogenetics
- Neurogerontology
- Neurodevelopment

The Institute aspires to be a leader in translational neurosciences that inspires the next generation of students and researchers to improve the health and care of individuals affected by psychiatric or neurological disorders, or injuries in the nervous system through identifying mechanisms promoting brain health as well as enhancing our understanding of disease mechanisms as it can relate to enhanced diagnosis and treatment.

CENTER APPROVAL

The interim vice president for Research, Timothy Stemmler, the president of the Academic Senate, and the Policy Committee of the Academic Senate reviewed and approved the proposal to create the Ben L. Silberstein Institute for Brain Health.

Ben L. Silberstein Institute for Brain Health Charter

Purpose and Mission

There shall be an Institute for Brain Health known as the Ben L. Silberstein Institute for Brain Health (i.e. the Institute), whose mission will be to advance the understanding of the brain's structure, chemistry, and function as it relates to both disease and the promotion of health and well-being. It does so by accelerating and promoting team interactional science including, but not limited to, biomedical imaging platforms, neurogenetics, addiction and pain biology, post-traumatic stress disorder and trauma neurobiology, gerontology nanotechnology, neurodevelopment, targeting and reducing health care disparities and innovative and novel diagnostic and treatment development.

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In pursuing this mission, the Institute shall seek to obtain and expand external funding support from both private and public sources. The Institute will also seek to cooperate and collaborate with public and private agencies and corporations in the development of research, demonstration, and training programs.

Personnel

The Institute shall be managed by co-directors appointed by the President or his/her designee and serving at his/her pleasure. The co-directors shall report to the Vice President for Research or his/her designee.

The co-directors are jointly responsible for institute decisions regarding budgeting, recruitment and hiring as well as prioritization of activities within the institute.

The co-directors of the Institute will be responsible for coalescing neuroscience research and training program efforts, brain and behavioral health activities and relevant enabling technologies across campus and across institutions with strategic partnerships e.g. with the VA, identifying other potential health care system academic partnerships to target themes and thrusts of the Institute that will lead to the development of broad programmatic-based funding and applied technologies for commercial development. A high priority of the co-Directors is the development of programmatic grant initiatives that involve multiple departments, schools/colleges and institutions in the targeted theme areas. An additional high priority focus for the co-Directors is patent development facilitated by cross-campus, trans- and multi-disciplinary research efforts.

The key role of the co-directors is to advance the Institute's mission and objectives. The primary responsibilities and functions of the co-directors in this context include:

1. **Leadership and Vision:** The co-directors share the responsibility for providing leadership and shaping the strategic vision of the Institute. They work closely with faculty members and staff to set the Institute's research and educational goals and ensure they align with the broader mission of advancing brain health.
2. **Team Building and Collaboration:** Each co-director plays a pivotal role in building and nurturing a multidisciplinary team of researchers and students. This involves recruiting and mentoring faculty, graduate students, and post-doctoral researchers with diverse expertise in neuroscience-related fields to foster collaboration and innovation.
3. **Research Oversight:** Co-directors are responsible for overseeing and promoting team interactional science across various neuroscience research areas. They facilitate collaboration between clinical and basic science labs, ensuring that findings from clinical research are communicated effectively to basic science researchers, and vice versa. This collaboration is essential for accelerating the translation of research findings into clinical practice.
4. **Education and Training:** Co-directors are typically involved in developing and overseeing undergraduate, graduate, and post-doctoral neuroscience education programs. They ensure that students have access to cutting-edge research opportunities and a comprehensive curriculum that aligns with the Institute's mission.
5. **Intellectual Property and Innovation:** Co-directors may also be involved in identifying, protecting, marketing, and licensing intellectual property arising from the Institute's research endeavors. This can include patents, inventions, and innovations that have commercialization potential.

6. **Community Engagement:** Co-directors play a role in engaging with the local community, particularly in southeast Michigan and the City of Detroit. They may work on initiatives related to health equity and addressing challenges related to brain and behavioral health in urban environments. This can involve collaborating with local organizations and healthcare providers.
7. **Promoting Brain Health:** Ultimately, each co-director is responsible for advancing the Institute's mission of promoting brain health. This involves targeting and accelerating diagnostic and therapeutic advances for real-world childhood and adult-onset brain disorders, making a positive impact on the community and beyond.
8. **Endowment Funding, Grant Identification and Acquisition:** Co-Directors will be responsible for securing endowment fundraising, grant identification and acquisition including Program Projects, Conti Center, consortium, government, and private foundation. Co-directors will be intricately involved in donor engagement and relationship management.

In summary, the role of the co-directors encompasses leadership, collaboration, research oversight, education, community engagement, and the promotion of brain health. Co-directors work in close partnership with colleagues to drive innovation and make meaningful contributions to neuroscience research and the well-being of the community.

The internal directors of each of the core groups are appointed by the co-directors. Their function is to incentivize faculty research in their fields of expertise, to assist with recruitment and hiring of joint faculty, to engage with affiliated faculty within their fields of expertise, and generally to oversee the center's work in that area, in coordination with the co-directors and advisory committees.

The primary responsibility of the staff of the Institute shall be to conduct research, provide instruction and training, engage in community outreach and service, and obtain extramural funding in support of the Institute's research. The staff of the Institute shall be multidisciplinary and include, as necessary, research faculty paid fully or in part from Institute funds, faculty and staff from University departments, research scientists, research associates and assistants, clerical support and such other personnel as may be needed to carry out the Institute's mission. The faculty and staff of the Institute shall not be limited to a single discipline, college, or school, but will include, as appropriate, faculty and staff representing a variety of disciplines from those colleges and schools expressing interest and expertise in the development of brain health education and research. In the case of a participating faculty member holding tenure, or with tenure-track status, his/her tenure or tenure-track status shall be in his/her academic unit.

Governance

The primary responsibility for the day-to-day operation of the Institute shall reside with the Institute co-directors, who shall also draw upon the advice and counsel of an internal advisory committee to be composed of the dean of the School of Medicine, the dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Vice President for Health Affairs, the Vice President

for Research, and the co-directors of the Institute. The advisory committee will meet twice per year in the spring and the fall to give the co-directors advice on the operation and development of the Institute and will be chaired by the Vice President for Research. The Vice President for Research may appoint two additional faculty members that would serve for two-year rotating terms.

The Institute shall have an external advisory board to give guidance and direction in setting priorities, in assessing results, and in identifying new opportunities. The external advisory board members shall be appointed by the co-directors after consultation with the Vice President for Research or his/her designee. Membership shall include representation from public and private organizations with recognized expertise in the neurosciences and in brain and behavioral health. The external advisory board will meet each year and will be convened by the co-directors of the Institute.

Operating and Financial Procedures

The Institute shall follow all operating, personnel and financial procedures that apply to academic units in the University.

In seeking external funding to support research and other activities, the Institute shall conform to the University's standard grant application procedures and to University research policies.

The Institute shall be governed by standard University budgetary and financial procedures, and it shall annually submit a budget for approval by the Vice President for Research and the Board of Governors in the course of the regular University budget review process.

The Institute periodically will be audited by the Internal Audit Department. It may be subject to such additional audits by State auditor or others, as are periodically conducted in the University or that may be specially conducted in connection with specific funding sources for the Institute.

Review

The Institute shall prepare an annual report for the President or his/her designee describing its research and training accomplishments and community interactions as they relate to its mission.

Every five years following the adoption of its permanent charter, the Institute shall undergo a comprehensive review in accordance with the existing Statute on Centers and Institutes approved by the Board of Governors.