

**Julie Thompson Klein. *Creating Interdisciplinary Campus Cultures: A Model for Strength and Sustainability*. San Francisco: Jossey Bass with AACU, 2010.**

- **The Wit:** being savvy about interdisciplinarity from literature and the wisdom of practice
- **The Will:** being empowered by heeding precedents and reading local institutional culture
- **The Wallet:** creating a portfolio of high-, mid-, low-, and no-cost resources and strategies

### **Conceptual Premise**

Interdisciplinarity is a pluralistic idea. It is embodied in a heterogeneity of forms and practices that are changing the way we think about knowledge and education. They range from informal networks and emerging communities of practice to recognized fields and institutional priorities. Individual activities have discrete locations, but they also intersect and cross-fertilize, adding to the increased boundary crossing and complexity of the academy today.

### **Pragmatics for Strength and Sustainability**

Three questions are uppermost in the minds of faculty, administrators, and planning groups:

- What changes are occurring?
- What is happening on other campuses?
- How should we respond locally?

Responding locally requires a systemic approach anchored in **benchmarking** best practices, **identifying** points of convergence, **leveraging** existing resources, **building** capacity and critical mass, **platforming and scaffolding** the architecture for a networked campus, **creating** a resource bank, and **deep structuring** of a robust portfolio of strategies.

### **Figures, Tables, and Exhibits**

- Figure 2.1: Interdisciplinary Ways of Working
- Table 2.1: Features of Simple and Complex Models
- Table 2.2: Ten Most Frequently Offered Interdisciplinary Majors
- Table 2.3: Fields Typically Organized as Interdisciplinary Programs, 2000-2001
- Table 2.4: Framework for an Interdisciplinary Inventory
- Table 3.2: Barriers and Disincentives to Interdisciplinarity
- Table 3.2: Facilitating Strategies and Mechanisms for Interdisciplinarity
- Table 3.3: Strategies for Building an Interdisciplinary Endowment
- Table 4.1: Critical Mass Indicators for Sustainability
- Exhibit 5.1: Interdisciplinary MOU Checklist
- Exhibit 5.2: Checklist for Annotating an Interdisciplinary Curriculum Vitae
- Table 5.1: Strategies for Interdisciplinary Faculty Development

### **Other Data and Guidelines**

- Snapshots of growth in IDS (Chapter 2)
- Strategies for a local inventory mapping interdisciplinarity on campus (Chapter 2)
- Variables of change (Chapter 2)
- Models of institutional change (Chapter 3)
- Strategies for central oversight and central website (Chapter 3)
- Principles for program review (Chapter 4)
- Strategies for hiring, tenure, and promotion (Chapter 5)
- Myths about interdisciplinarity (Conclusion)

**The Resources section** includes overviews and bibliographies; domains of practice; interdisciplinary studies; integration, collaboration, and evaluation and assessment; Web-based searching and networking. **Some key citations follow.**

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