International Breast Cancer & Nutrition (IBCN) Project

** NEED **

The development of large-scale, interdisciplinary projects is challenging because of the complexity of such projects and the need to include expertise in many disciplinary areas. To get new projects initiated, faculty need assistance with proposals, budgets, communication tools, and many details.

** RESOLUTION **

Discovery Park provides the infrastructure for the creation of large-scale, interdisciplinary projects that span Purdue colleges and departments. The infrastructure includes personnel for project development, business office support, proposal development support, programs that may offer seed funding, communication assistance, and connections with other Purdue expertise.

** IMPACTS **

Discovery Park is the infrastructure supporting the creation of several interdisciplinary projects and centers. One of the newest is the International Breast Cancer & Nutrition (IBCN) Project with Purdue co-Project Leaders, Sophie Lelièvre, School of Veterinary Medicine, and Connie Weaver, College of Health and Human Sciences. IBCN goals include: (1) to design a collaborative international effort to understand the link between breast cancer types, nutrition and the epigenome; (2) to foster social sciences studies related to behavior, culture and health law towards the development of breast cancer prevention research and interventions; and (3) to develop an international network of research and activities related to breast cancer prevention. This unprecedented international effort toward primary breast cancer prevention research is conducted in partnership with members of the World Health Organization and the International Agency for Research on Cancer.

In addition to the research team at Purdue University, the IBCN has partner research teams currently in France, Ghana, Japan, Lebanon, and Uruguay. More countries are being involved as researchers from Canada and the United Kingdom are joining the global endeavor. The IBCN sponsors an annual, international symposium to connect the global research teams and learn about current studies from around the world. In 2010, the initial symposium was held at Purdue University. The second international symposium will be held at the French School of Public Health (EHESP) in Rennes, France in October 2011. For more information, go to: [http://www.purdue.edu/discoverypark/oncological/ibcn/](http://www.purdue.edu/discoverypark/oncological/ibcn/)