



Office of the Executive  
Vice President for Research

BOARD APPROVED  
June 5, 2026  
Cindy Ream  
Corporate Secretary

Date: May 27, 2026

To: Purdue University Board of Trustees

Cc: Mung Chiang, President  
Patrick Wolfe, Provost  
Christopher Ruhl, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer  
Steven R. Schulz, General Counsel, Chief Legal Officer

From: Daniel DeLaurentis, Executive Vice President for Research, Office of Research

RE: Elevating Eli Lilly and Company and Purdue University Research Alliance Center (LPRC) from a CENTER to an INSTITUTE as the Lilly Purdue Innovation Institute (LPII)

**Purpose:** On behalf of the Eli Lilly and Company and Purdue University Research Alliance Center (LPRC), I am writing to formally request an elevation of the LPRC to Institute status, and a name change from LPRC to the Lilly Purdue Innovation Institute (LPII). Since its establishment in 2023, the LPRC has undergone tremendous expansion to meet the bold vision set forth in the charter for the Lilly Purdue 360 Initiative. Below, we provide some background information, current impacts, and elaborate on the rationale for the request.

**Background:** The formal Eli Lilly and Purdue University strategic research relationship dates back to 2017 when both entities embarked on a focused partnership to directly explore Lilly’s key research priorities. Between 2017 and 2023, insights were gained on how to develop a long-standing research engagement and leverage all of Purdue’s resources to the benefit of the partner. To provide a robust and coordinated structure around the partnership, the Eli Lilly and Company and Purdue University Research Alliance Center (LPRC) was established. Launching LPRC (hereafter the Center) enabled Purdue University to support wider engagement with faculty and students across campus. The metrics captured below highlight some of these impacts:

- 155+ intellectual property disclosures through 2025
- 11 patents and one copyright finalized through Eli Lilly
- 143 published manuscripts and conference proceedings
- Graduated 83 students directly from the program, with 24 hired by Lilly
- 25 internships/co-ops with Lilly to date

**Discussion: Rationale for Elevation to Institute:**

The elevation to Institute and concurrent name change to the Lilly Purdue Innovation Institute reflects the broader scope of our efforts across campus and the evolution of the Center from predominantly research-focused to include student talent development and Lilly-specific workforce enablement. As such, the current entity leverages innovative approaches in all aspects of Purdue University’s academic mission. An acknowledgement of this effort by changing the entity to institute status would dovetail accurately with the mission and vision.

The Center’s current diverse scientific research programs, undergraduate and graduate student engagement professional development program, Lilly workforce enablement program, and extended membership program (launched in calendar year 2026) serve an expanded set of faculty and students from 9 colleges on campus, supporting the justification for transition from center to institute status.

Contractually, the Center currently supports the Lilly Master Research Agreement (through 2032), Universal Research Agreements with Lilly, and Freedom To Operate arrangements to allow faculty to use IP that was conveyed to Lilly for continued research efforts. By promoting the Center to an Institute, Purdue University would create a front door for cogent and cohesive Lilly engagement with campus on these initiatives and additionally connect disparate programs across campus into one central, integrated communication point for streamlined coordination with Lilly collaborators.

With the 2025 announcement of the Lilly Purdue 360 Initiative, the scope of the partnership has expanded significantly demonstrated by the metrics below. This expansion places the existing Center on the same level as other notable institutes on campus and would reflect the significant contribution of this partnership to our campus academic mission.

**Discussion: Key highlights befitting transition from Center to Institute include:**

- Expanded sponsored expenditures from the previous contract of \$50M (2017-2023) and \$50M (2023-2025) to \$250M (2025-2032).
- Expanded research areas that cover the breadth of the Lilly enterprise (from one program in 2025 to six programs in 2026)
- Expanded the number of faculty engaging in research funded by Lilly from 25 in 2025 (Genetic Medicine program) to over 44 (Lilly Purdue 360). Faculty contribution to the partnership is rapidly expanding with at least 10 more faculty officially supporting the partnership effective July 2026.
- Expanded research-focused student base (83 students in 2025 through the Genetic Medicine program to over 120 under the Lilly Purdue 360 to-date and growing)
- Introduction of a membership program to engage faculty on the WL and Indy campuses- 186 faculty representing nine colleges and the Discovery Park District within 30 days of the offering
- Expanded non-Lilly Purdue 360 funded student base (77 undergraduate students in Spring 2025 and 177 undergraduate students in Spring 2026, plus new onboarding of membership faculty graduate students and post-docs- 51 in the first two weeks of opening the offering)

**Requested Action:** We respectfully request that the Board approve the advancement of the **Eli Lilly and Company and Purdue University Research Alliance Center (LPRC)** from a “center” to an “institute.” while simultaneously requesting the Board approve the new name of the entity to **Lilly Purdue Innovation Institute (LPII)**.

Very Respectfully,



Daniel DeLaurentis, Ph.D.  
Executive Vice President for Research  
Bruce Reese Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics

To: Dan DeLaurentis, Executive Vice President for Research, Office of Research  
From: Preeti Sivasankar, Executive Director, Lilly Purdue Research Center  
Date: April 15, 2026

Re: Request for elevation from center to institute and corresponding name change from the Eli Lilly and Company and Purdue University Research Alliance Center (LPRC) to the **Lilly Purdue Innovation Institute (LP II)**

Dear EVPR DeLaurentis,

On behalf of the Eli Lilly and Company and Purdue University Research Alliance Center (LPRC), I am writing to formally request an elevation of the LPRC to Institute status, and a name change from LPRC to the **Lilly Purdue Innovation Institute (LP II)**. Since its establishment in 2023, the LPRC has undergone tremendous expansion to meet the bold vision set forth in the charter for the Lilly Purdue 360 Initiative. Below, we provide some background information, current impacts and elaborate on the rationale for the request.

### Background and Impacts

The formal Eli Lilly and Purdue University strategic research relationship dates back to 2017 when both entities embarked on a focused partnership to directly explore Lilly's key research priorities. Between 2017 and 2023, insights were gained on how to develop a long-standing research engagement and leverage all of Purdue's resources to the benefit of the partner. To provide a robust and coordinated structure around the partnership, the Eli Lilly and Company and Purdue University Research Alliance Center (LPRC) was established. Launching LPRC (hereafter the Center) enabled Purdue University to support wider engagement with faculty and students across campus. The metrics captured below highlight some of these impacts:

- 155+ intellectual property disclosures through 2025
- 11 patents and one copyright finalized through Eli Lilly
- 143 published manuscripts and conference proceedings
- Graduated 83 students directly from the program, with 24 hired by Lilly
- 25 internships/co-ops with Lilly to date

### Rationale for Elevation to Institute

- The elevation to Institute and concurrent name change to the **Lilly Purdue Innovation Institute** reflects the broader scope of our efforts across campus and the evolution of the Center from predominantly research-focused to include student talent development and Lilly-specific workforce enablement. As such, the current entity **leverages innovative approaches in all aspects of Purdue University's academic mission**. An acknowledgement of this effort by changing the entity to institute status would dovetail accurately with the mission and vision.
- The Center's current diverse scientific research programs, undergraduate and graduate student engagement professional development program, Lilly workforce enablement program, and extended membership program (launched in calendar year 2026) serve an expanded set of faculty and students from 9 colleges on campus, supporting the justification for transition from center to institute status.
- Contractually, the Center currently supports the Lilly Master Research Agreement (through 2032), Universal Research Agreements with Lilly, and Freedom To Operate arrangements to allow

faculty to use IP that was conveyed to Lilly for continued research efforts. By promoting the Center to an Institute, Purdue University would create a front door for cogent and cohesive Lilly engagement with campus on these initiatives and additionally connect disparate programs across campus into one central, integrated communication point for streamlined coordination with Lilly collaborators.

- With the 2025 announcement of the Lilly Purdue 360 Initiative, the scope of the partnership has expanded significantly demonstrated by the metrics below. This expansion places the existing Center on the same level as other notable institutes on campus and would **reflect the significant contribution of this partnership to our campus academic mission.**
- Key highlights befitting transition from Center to Institute include:
  - Expanded sponsored expenditures from the previous contract of \$50M (2017-2023) and \$50M (2023-2025) to \$250M (2025-2032).
  - Expanded research areas that cover the breadth of the Lilly enterprise (from one program in 2025 to six programs in 2026)
  - Expanded the number of faculty engaging in research funded by Lilly from 25 in 2025 (Genetic Medicine program) to over 44 (Lilly Purdue 360). Faculty contribution to the partnership is rapidly expanding with at least 10 more faculty officially supporting the partnership effective July 2026.
  - Expanded research-focused student base (83 students in 2025 through the Genetic Medicine program to over 120 under the Lilly Purdue 360 to-date and growing)
  - Introduction of a membership program to engage faculty on the WL and Indy campuses- 186 faculty representing nine colleges and the Discovery Park District within 30 days of the offering
  - Expanded non-Lilly Purdue 360 funded student base (77 undergraduate students in Spring 2025 and 177 undergraduate students in Spring 2026, plus new onboarding of membership faculty graduate students and post-docs- 51 in the first two weeks of opening the offering)

#### Why Institute status will be beneficial to Purdue University's efforts

- In the highly competitive and quickly evolving pharmaceutical and healthcare sector, Eli Lilly sets key priorities with a focus on rapid execution. Leveraging our graduate student and postdoctoral talent to complete research is vital to Purdue's mission. This will continue, but additionally, we will need to expand the talent pool to include research scientists and research faculty to activate a more robust dedicated team to enable aims within the scope of work. The new Institute structure will support the hiring of a diverse set of researchers to directly support Lilly research endeavors, generating faster impacts for Lilly.
- Research institutes typically have (or are perceived to have) a higher status or prestige over centers. An Institute structure accommodates several centers. As the Lilly-Purdue 360 partnership evolves, we see several existing programs (e.g. Agentic Drug Discovery; Embodied AI; Routes of Administration) each grow in breadth, scope, and research expenditures, to Centers in their own right within the Lilly Purdue Innovation Institute. Our request would support and prepare for this anticipated growth.

- Conversion from Center to an Institute elevates Purdue University brand awareness and **supports the campus One Health Initiative** as a notable component of the human health and well-being pillar.