UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA **Global Food Initiative**

Global Food Initiative Campus Collaborative Guidelines

Overview:

The vision for the Global Food Initiative (GFI) Campus Collaboratives is to create a central coordinating space on each campus as a hub for supporting and nurturing innovative research, outreach and extension projects focused on solving challenges related to food systems, health and sustainability. Each GFI Campus Collaborative should build collaborative communities with leadership roles being held by faculty demonstrating self-initiative and success in research endeavors**.** The character of each Campus Collaborative should reflect not only a sense of individuality and leadership – building on the unique expertise and assets at each campus - but also one of collaboration and community participation to foster cross-disciplinary innovation. Each Campus Collaborative should seek out diversity (in people and projects) as various members of the campus community engage together with a single vision for solving food system and sustainability issues on a local, national and global scale.

Suggestions on Steps for Forming a Campus Collaborative:

1. **Create an Asset Map:** Perform an analysis of all current campus projects and stakeholders undertaking research focused on food systems and sustainability on your campus
2. **Identify a Research Focus Area:** Conceptualize a space (virtual or physical) where the "players" can become a network incubator so that all stakeholders are connected, potentially sharing resources or leveraging/amplifying knowledge of their work
3. **Recruit a GFI Fellow:** Engaging one or more of the GFI fellows to support the work is a win-win where a research project or projects have an added resource and the student(s) have the benefit of an established project with a built-in mentor
4. **Set Goals:** Establish clear compelling Campus Collaborative goal(s) that focus on the issue(s) your campus research is addressing with a clear vision and purpose and plan for the sustainability of your Campus Collaborative beyond 2020
5. **Identify Achievable Wins for the First Year:** Leverage your Campus Collaborative member's strengths and look for achievable wins within your goals, periodically re-evaluating them to measure and assess progress while celebrating milestones to create momentum
6. **Allocate Responsibility:** Communicate expectations to your Campus Collaborative members by defining individual and collective roles wherever possible; this will foster collaboration and effective engagement to reduce the likelihood of creating conflicts
7. **Foster Cohesion:** Schedule regular Campus Collaborative check-ins so that members can share in important decisions on what the Campus Collaborative will do, how it will operate, and how it will be sustained; this will foster a sense of inclusion and ownership to keep members committed
8. **Engage in Continued Outreach:** Engage broadly in your campus community to encourage others to join ad-hoc or as part of a research project that can forge strategic partnerships to further advance the awareness of the GFI Campus Collaborative
9. **Embrace Power in Numbers:** The more engagement, the more awareness, the more success as a campus community as a whole
10. **Network with Other GFI Campus Collaboratives:** The goal is to leverage each other's strengths and resources of the GFI successes to date from across the system and the other Campus Collaboratives

11. **Share the Rewards:** Recognize and celebrate (and reward if possible) collaborative behavior to honor collective wins (e.g., GFI leadership convening, participation in CHESC, collaborative extramural grant writing, cross campus research papers, formation of multi-campus student work groups)

Establishing a Campus Collaborative can be the root to a more successful and large-scale campus venture. At its heart, building a culture of collaboration around the GFI means creating an environment that gives participants space to communicate, network and form meaningful bonds where they feel they are active participants in shared research, goals and a vision that is greater than the sum of its parts.