Irrigation Innovation Consortium
Governance Structure

IIC Executive Committee

The IIC Executive Committee will be responsible for the overall governance of the Irrigation Innovation Consortium and will provide oversight of the Executive Director. The Executive Committee will set the direction of the Consortium as a whole, decide on future research directions in consultation with the Research Steering Committee, and determine opportunities for technology development.
The Executive Committee shall be Chaired by a University Partner member and co-chaired by an Industry Partner member. The Executive Committee shall provide strategic oversight, guidance and performance review to the IIC Executive Director, who shall be employed by Colorado State University so long as CSU remains the managing partner of the IIC. The Chair and Industry Co-chair shall be elected by the Executive Committee for a one-year renewable term (for up to four consecutive terms).

The Executive Committee shall consist of one seat per university partner, three industry at-large seats, one seat for FFAR and one seat for the Irrigation Association. The IIC Executive Director shall have the opportunity to provide input in all matters. The three industry at-large seats shall be held by Founding Industry Partners and will be nominated by the Founding and Sustaining Industry Partners and shall be elected by a majority vote of the Research Steering Committee. Executive Committee members shall serve two-year staggered terms and may serve up to three consecutive terms (6 years).

Decisions concerning the Consortium as a whole shall be made via majority vote of the members on the Executive Committee. A quorum shall be necessary for all business and Executive Committee meetings; quorum is defined as two-third of the total body, either present in person or by phone, web meeting, email, or proxy if necessary. The Executive Committee shall set the direction of the Consortium as a whole, decide on future research directions to include in the Consortium, develop by-laws, and determine opportunities for technology development.

The Executive Committee shall meet a minimum of twice each year and have the following roles and responsibilities:

- To facilitate, guide and review research programs.
- To review and guide the research and training presentations at Consortium workshops.
- To review all normal business activities such as, but not limited to, budget, annual dues, administration, policy changes, new members, strategic planning, implement needed changes by majority vote, etc.
- To conduct an annual evaluation of the IIC Executive Director.
- To elect an Executive Committee chair from one of the University partners and co-chair from one of the industry partners.
- To set dates for Consortium and Executive Committee meetings.
- To form other committees or task forces of the Consortium as might be required to meet its mission and objectives.

**Executive Committee Officers**

The Executive Committee may empower an Officers Committee, which includes the Chair, Co-Chair and Executive Director to act with the authority of the Executive Committee as needed to conduct normal business operations.
IIC Research Steering Committee

The Consortium shall utilize a Research Steering Committee co-chaired by FFAR or FFAR’s designee and the IIC Executive Director to inform important decisions related to research and technology innovation, in addition to coordinating and helping refine the Consortium’s scientific efforts. Both Founding and Sustaining Industry Partners shall have a voting seat on the Research Steering Committee with one vote per member organization. The committee shall have at least one in-person meeting per year and will be kept informed on the progress of the IIC by the IIC Executive Director. Additional meetings may be held by phone or webinar as needed. Among its duties, the Research Steering Committee shall ensure the Consortium is funding the best and most innovative ideas and is not a closed group of just the initial University and Founding Industry Partners. The Research Steering Committee shall work to avoid any real, or appearance of, silos at any one university. Other advisory committees may be formed to help guide specific projects, tasks, or programs if needed. A simple majority vote of the Research Steering Committee members present shall be required for approval of all business matters. Alternate methods of voting may include webinar, phone, proxy, or e-mail will be allowed. The IIC Research Steering Committee will advise and provide input to the IIC Executive Committee, who will make the final determination on project selection, funding and governance.

The IIC Research Steering Committee shall meet in person a minimum of once each year and have the following roles and responsibilities:

- To serve as an External Advisory Committee to provide advice and input on IIC research to the Executive Committee
- To establish a set of priority topics and areas for the annual call for project proposals
- To review and rank submitted system funded project proposals for IIC funding
- To review and provide input to campus funded projects
- To provide input to researchers on existing projects and potential new projects

Research Steering Committee Chair: Will convene meetings, coordinate agenda, and communicate information to Executive Committee. Outline processes and suggest processes to the Research Steering Committee and Executive Committee. Coordinate between the research theme teams and the Executive Committee.

Research Theme Teams: Will be stood up as needed by the RSC Chair on an as needed basis and will consist of an appointed Chair and co-chair from industry. The purpose of these “theme” teams is to focus on the scientific content that are contains in each of the teams outlined in the IIC as focus areas. Research Theme Teams can meet quarterly or more frequently; the purpose of which would be to determine what research gaps exist in each of the research theme, to vet the proposals being received by the Research Steering committee in each of those specific theme areas and to provide subject matter expertise. If there is not a member from each
research theme team that represents industry perspective, the Executive Committee can also appoint two industry representatives to sit on the research steering committee.

**IIC Executive Director**

The IIC Executive Director shall be responsible for the overall supervision and implementing the policies and procedures of the Consortium. The Executive Director is the main coordinator of activity and information dissemination between the Executive Committee and all elements of the Consortium. The Executive Director shall be a paid employee hired by the Colorado State University to manage the Consortium in accordance with the overall direction set by the Executive Committee. The Executive Director and the Executive Committee shall ultimately be responsible for the success of the Consortium and shall coordinate efforts to ensure strategic goals are met and deliverables created. The Executive Director shall have the following roles and responsibilities:

- Provide management and leadership for the Consortium
- Oversee technical staff
- Staff the Research Steering Committee
- Determine Consortium office policies and procedures under direction of the Executive Committee
- Develop annual work plan for approval by Executive Committee
- Secure gifts, grants and contracts for the Consortium
- Identify and develop additional Consortium partners
- Regularly report progress to the Executive Committee
- Develop criteria and milestones for annual program evaluation
- Ensure program objectives are met for each program on a timely basis
- Shape and direct the IIC based on Executive Committee priorities and guidance from the Research Steering Committee
- Produce an annual report on Consortium activities and progress