

# NIOSH Translation Research Roadmap and Implementation

Paul A. Schulte, Ph.D.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health



*The findings and conclusions in this presentation have not been formally disseminated by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and should not be construed to represent any agency determination or policy*



# Workgroup

- Fred Blosser
- Chia-Chia Chang
- Pietra Check
- Thomas Cunningham
- Donald Eggerth
- Sarah A. Felknor
- Michael Flynn
- Christy Forrester
- Rebecca Guerin
- David Hard
- Heidi Hudson
- Jennifer Lincoln
- Lauralynn Taylor McKernan
- Leslie Nickels
- Preethi Lakshmi Rao Pratap
- Paul A. Schulte\*
- Carol Merry Stephenson\*
- Donna Van Bogaert

\*Denotes Co-Chairs

# In the last 20-30 years: new emphasis in science

- “Science could no longer be regarded as an autonomous space clearly demarcated from the ‘others’ of society, culture, commerce” (Nowotny et al 1996)

## Mode-2 Science

Science generated in the context of application  
(Gibbons et al 1994)

# New emphasis in government

**1993** Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)

**2003** Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART)

**2010** GPRA Modernization Act (GPRAMA)

# New emphasis in NIOSH

**1994** Intervention Effectiveness Research Conference

**1996** National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA)

**1996** Intervention Effectiveness Research (NORA focus)

**2004** Research-to-Practice (R2P)

**2006** Second Decade of NORA

**2011** Translation research program established in EID

**2013** BNI workgroup—“impact science”

# NIOSH Research to Practice (r2p) Program



Initiative focused on transfer and translation of knowledge, intervention, and technologies

*into*

effective practices and products which are adopted in the workplace.

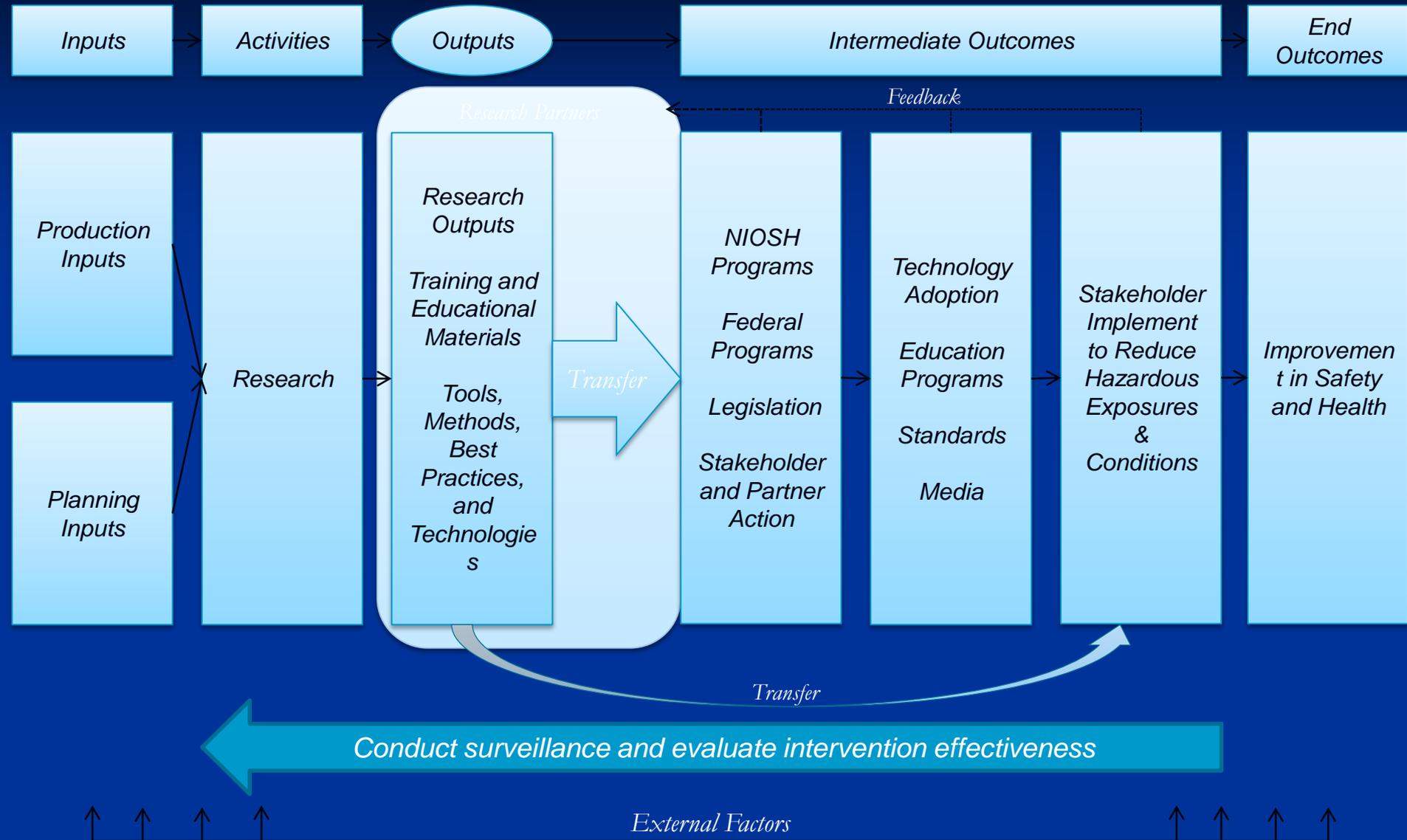
**Goal:**

Reduce injury and illness by increasing use of NIOSH outputs.

**r2p drives impact**

# National Academies NIOSH Logic Model

*Mission: To provide national and world leadership to prevent work-related illness and injuries*



*Adapted from: Committee on the Review of NIOSH Research Programs. "Evaluating Occupational Health and Safety Research Programs." The National Academy of Sciences 2009.*

REVIEWS OF  
RESEARCH PROGRAMS OF  
THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE  
FOR OCCUPATIONAL  
SAFETY AND HEALTH



# Evaluating Occupational Health and Safety Research Programs

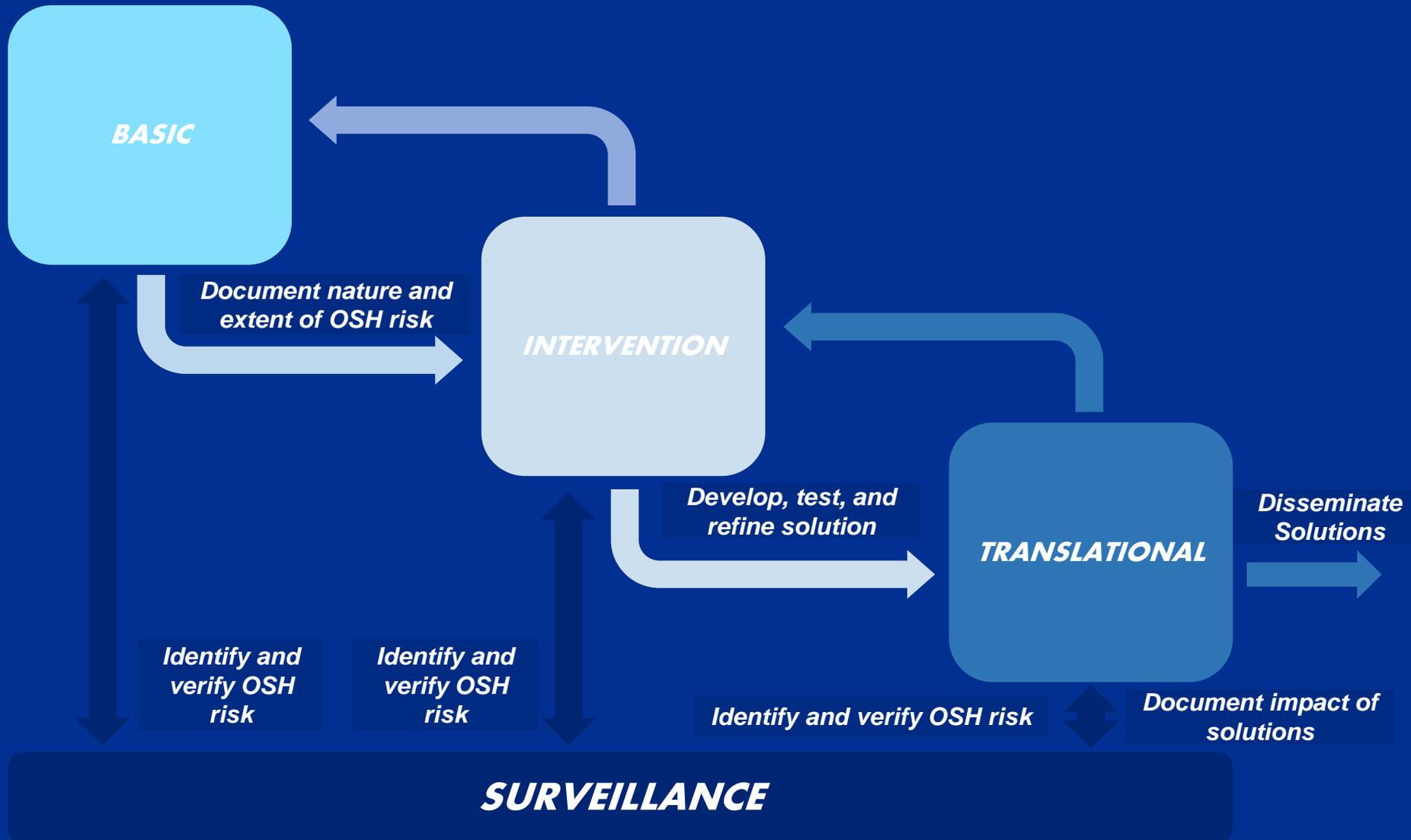
FRAMEWORK AND NEXT STEPS

INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE AND  
NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL  
OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

# Continue to bolster research translation efforts

- “Much remains to be learned about how to improve the likelihood that research translation efforts will positively impact worksites.”
- “Continued contribution by NIOSH to research on improving the effectiveness of translation efforts will ensure consideration of the dynamics that characterize occupational safety and health.”

# NIOSH Research Continuum



# What is Translation Research

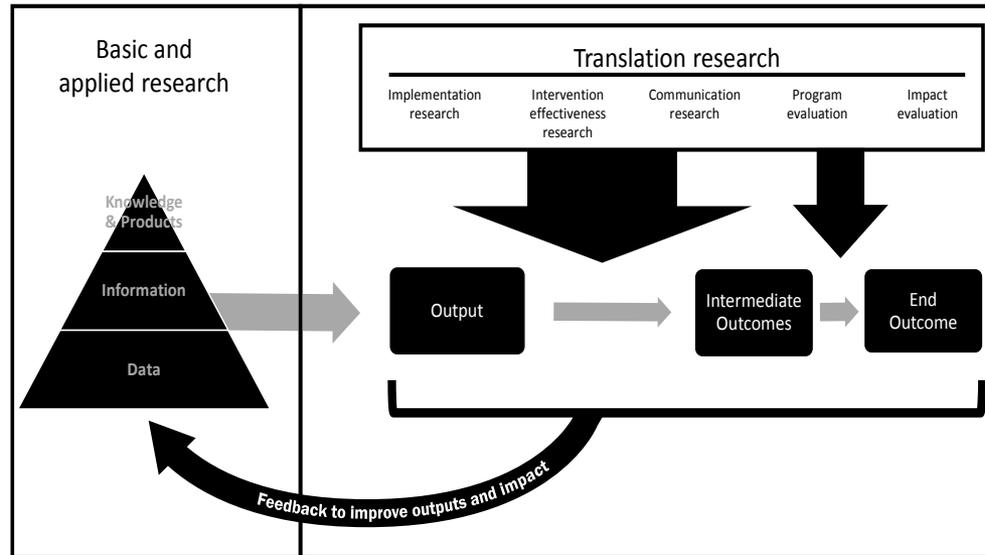
- Study of the processes, drivers and barriers that affect the relationship between research outputs and downstream outcomes.

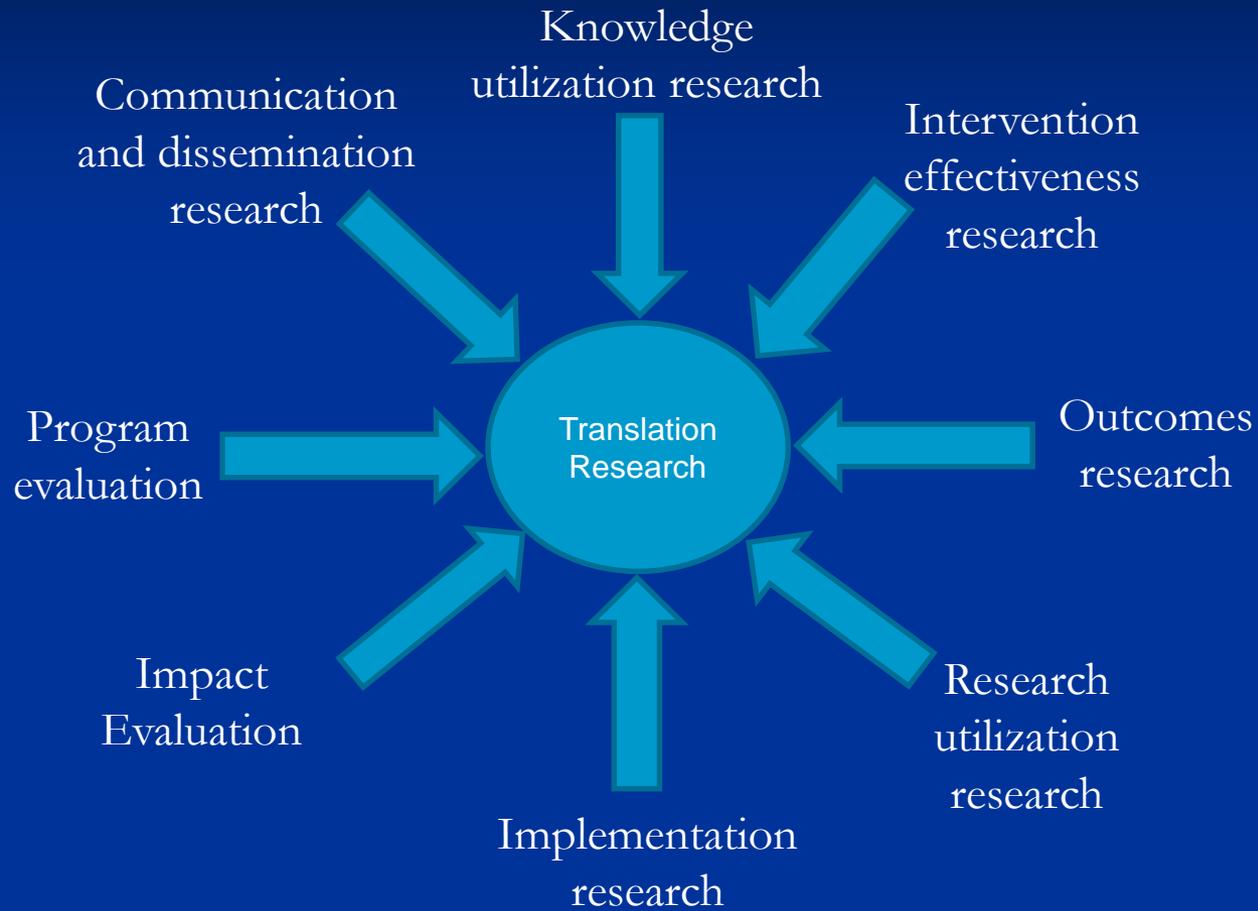
# Translation Research is not:

- r2p
- Translation

Rather it is the study of those activities

# Overview of translation research for occupational safety and health





# Current emphasis on translation research

- NIH model (2003)
  - “bench-to-beside”
  - 4 phases: T1—T4
  - Characterized by moving findings to a larger scale
- Trying to determine how best to make those transitions

# NIOSH emphasis on translation research

- Builds on NIH model but instead of emphasizing the movement of research findings:

The NIOSH emphasis is on the study of:

- How to do it (translation)
- How to do it well
- What hinders it
- The impact of it

# Phase 1 Translation Research

- Study the movement of a basic laboratory discovery, case report, field or pilot study or findings about risk factors into a candidate application with more potential to make an impact

# Phase 2 Translation Research

- Assess potential value of a new finding for a target health or intermediate outcome
  - Focus on internal validity by conducting efficacy research.

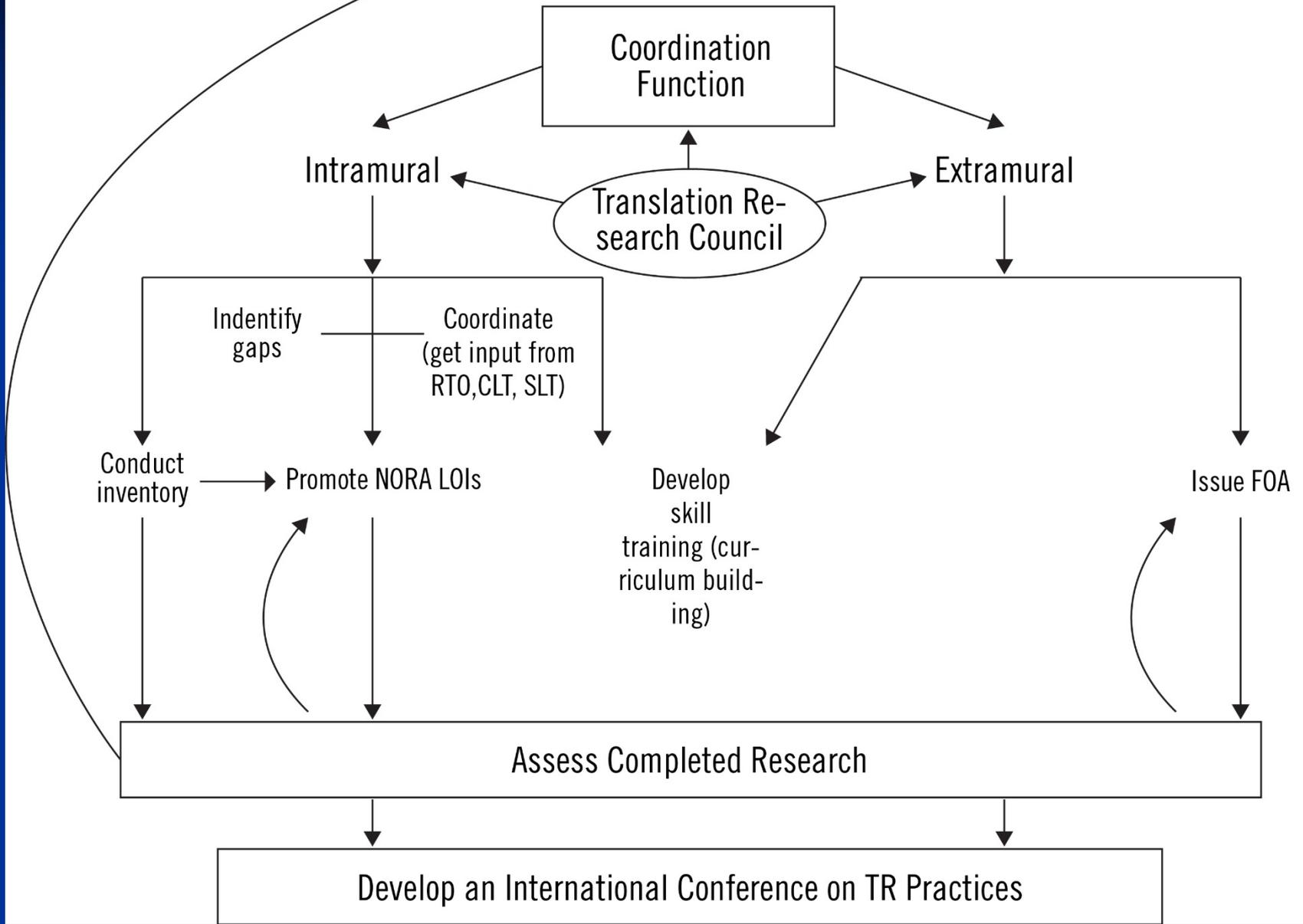
# Phase 3 Translation Research

- Study the movement of evidence based technology and recommendations into well accepted OSH practice

# Phase 4 Translation Research

- Instigate large-scale use of NIOSH and other OSH organizations outputs and their impact

# Translation Research (TR) Roadmap



# Nomenclature issues

- Translation research vs translational research
- Selected translation research because it connotes the study of translation

# Other recommendations

- Change name of “Research Translation Office” to something like “Research-to-Practice Office”
- Begin to follow the roadmap

# Next Steps in Implementation the Translation Research Program Include:

- Continued activity through June 2016 by the Translation Roadmap work group. This includes conduct of an inventory of current NIOSH translation research.
- Establishment of a coordination center in EID (July 2016).
- Development of a Translation Research website and posting of the translation research roadmap (July 2016).

# Implementation Continued

- The Coordination Center will then solicit membership on the Translation Research Council. The Council will develop a plan to:
  - Nurture Translation Research in NIOSH by promoting the development of LOI starting in the 2017 NORA competition:

# Implementation Continued

- Develop Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for the extramural community.
- Foster intramural-extramural collaboration.
- Foster in-house capacity-building through training dedicated to translation research components such as the transtheoretical model, the health belief model and other approaches to evaluation and impact research.

# Implementation Continued

- The Translation Research program will be a core and specialty program within NIOSH. As such its function will be to promote Translation Research and coordinate activities related to it across NIOSH. Actual Translation Research will be conducted by investigators in DLOs and be managed therein.

