UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
BOARD OF VISITORS

Meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee for Innovation in Curriculum and Curriculum Support

December 7, 2017
AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR INNOVATION IN CURRICULUM
AND CURRICULUM SUPPORT

Thursday, December 7, 2017
9:00 – 9:30 a.m.
Board Room, The Rotunda

Committee Members:
Jeffrey S. Walker, Chair
James B. Murray Jr.
Thomas A. DePasquale
James V. Reyes
Barbur B. Lateef, M.D.
Frank M. Conner III, Ex-officio

AGENDA

I. OPENING REMARKS BY COMMITTEE CHAIR (Mr. Walker) 1

II. DISCUSSION ITEMS
A. Transitioning a Large Lecture Classroom in the College of Arts & Sciences
to an Active Learning Environment (Mr. Archie L. Holmes Jr. to introduce
Ms. Kelsey E. Johnson; Ms. Johnson to report) 2
B. Topics and Associated Questions to be Addressed by the Committee (Mr.
Walker and Mr. Holmes) 3

III. Discussion of Next Steps (Mr. Walker) 4
BOARD MEETING: December 7, 2017

COMMITTEE: Ad Hoc Committee for Innovation in Curriculum and Curriculum Support

AGENDA ITEM: I. Opening Remarks by Committee Chair

ACTION REQUIRED: None

BACKGROUND: Mr. Jeffrey Walker, the Committee Chair, will make opening remarks.
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BOARD MEETING: December 7, 2017

COMMITTEE: Ad Hoc Committee for Innovation in Curriculum and Curriculum Support

AGENDA ITEM: II. A. Transitioning a Large Lecture Classroom in the College of Arts & Sciences to an Active Learning Environment

ACTION REQUIRED: None

BACKGROUND: Ms. Kelsey E. Johnson is the Associate Professor of Astronomy and the Director of the Echols Scholars Program. She is the previous chair of the international ALMA Science Advisory Committee, has served on the James Webb Space Telescope Advisory Committee, and in 2016 was appointed by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy to the Astronomy and Astrophysics Advisory Committee. She is currently in the College Fellows program, in which she will teach a course this spring in the Aesthetics Engagement, entitled “Beauty and Math in the Cosmos.” She began serving as the Director of the Echols Scholars Program in April 2017.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Johnson will talk about the innovative ways she engages students in the learning and understanding of astronomy. With over 10,000 students and 750 faculty, the College of Arts & Sciences is UVA’s largest school. The College has the most large lecture classes and has the Learning, Design and Technology (LDT) team to support faculty to promote active learning with high student engagement. The LDT team has several opportunities for faculty including Learning Technology Incubator (LTi) grants, active learning spaces, maker spaces, and instructional designers who can work one-on-one with faculty. Ms. Johnson has taught astronomy at UVA since 2004 and has worked extensively with the LDT team. She strives to engage students to spark their curiosity and build lifelong learners. To this end, she utilizes a variety of techniques in her 90-person classroom including throwable microphones, breakout groups, and a classroom especially designed to facilitate active learning. Ms. Johnson will talk to her experience teaching, and the transformation she sees over a semester in students from skeptic, passive receivers of content to active, engaged participants in the classroom.
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**AGENDA ITEM:** II.B. Topics and Associated Questions to be Addressed by the Committee

**ACTION REQUIRED:** None

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Jeffrey Walker, the Committee Chair, and Archie Holmes, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, will lead a discussion on the topic of Innovation in Curriculum and Curriculum Support.
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AGENDA ITEM: III. Discussion on Next Steps

ACTION REQUIRED: None

DISCUSSION: Mr. Jeffrey Walker, the Committee Chair, will discuss next steps for the Ad Hoc Committee for Innovation in Curriculum and Curriculum Support.