



TOPIC: Center for Academic Innovation Update

COMMITTEE: Education Policy and Student Life

DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING: March 3, 2015

SUMMARY: Dr. MJ Bishop, Director of the USM's Center for Academic Innovation, will share an update on the Center's progress since her last report.

The University System of Maryland's Center for Academic Innovation (CAI) was established in June 2013 to enhance and promote the System's position as a national leader in higher education academic innovation. The Center's charge is to capitalize on recent findings from the learning sciences and the capabilities of emerging technologies to increase access, affordability, and outcomes of higher education. We are bringing together academic change leaders from across the System to identify ways we might improve the success of students, evaluate the feasibility of these approaches, share our findings, and scale-up and sustain the most promising models.

Working at the System level has been vital to the impact that the Center has had to date. Our position allows us to leverage the collective strengths of our diverse institutions, which are working together to support innovation across the USM. From this vantage point we have been able to:

1. Create a collaborative environment to support innovation both among the USM institutions and across the State of Maryland.
2. Start incubating initiatives aimed at catalyzing change.
3. Begin removing barriers that block progress.
4. Help lead the national conversation on academic transformation.

We look forward to continuing to explore the best business model for this first-ever system-level center and finding ways to assure the work we are doing to scale innovation across the USM is sustainable.

ALTERNATIVE(S): This is an information item only.

FISCAL IMPACT: This is an information item only; there is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION: This is an information item only.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Information Only

DATE: March 3, 2015

BOARD ACTION:

DATE:

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