

TOPIC: William E. Kirwan Center for Academic Innovation Update

COMMITTEE: Education Policy and Student Life

DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING: Tuesday, May 16, 2017

SUMMARY: The USM's William E. Kirwan Center for Academic Innovation 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 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. Incubate initiatives aimed at catalyzing change.
3. Remove barriers that block progress.
4. Lead the national conversation on academic transformation.

Dr. MJ Bishop, Director of the Kirwan Center, will share an update on the Center's progress since her last report.

ALTERNATIVE(S): This is an information item.

FISCAL IMPACT: This is an information item.

CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION: This is an information item.

COMMITTEE ACTION: Information Only

DATE: May 16, 2017

BOARD ACTION:

DATE:

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