



Grand Challenges Digital Technology, Youth and Development

March 1, 2023

Agenda

- 2:30pm – 3:00pm Check in
- 3:00pm – 3:10pm Welcome
- Melur (Ram) Ramasubramanian, Vice President for Research
 - Megan Barnett, Vice Provost for Academic Initiatives
- 3:10pm – 3:20pm Introduction
- Bethany Teachman, Steering Committee Chair
- 3:20pm – 3:35pm Domain 1: Education
Overview
- Scott Gest, Steering Committee Member
- Introductions
- Jamie Zoellner – Professor, Public Health Sciences
 - Jacob Resch - Associate Professor of Kinesiology
 - Nancy Deutsch - Associate Dean of Faculty Development School of Education & Human Development & Director, Youth-Nex
- 3:35pm – 3:50pm Domain 2: Health
Overview
- Lee Ritterband, Steering Committee Member
- Introductions
- Becca Krukowski - Professor of Public Health Sciences and Co-lead of the Community-Based Health Equity research program
 - Marc Breton – Associate Professor, Psychiatry and Neurobehavioral Sciences
 - Jessie Gibson – Assistant Professor, Nursing
- 3:50pm – 4:15pm Breakout Groups
- 4:15pm – 4:25pm Stretch Break
- 4:25pm – 4:40pm Domain 3: Culture and Civic Life
Overview
- Ashleigh Greene Wade, Steering Committee Member
- Introductions
- Lanice Avery - Assistant Professor of Psychology and Women, Gender, & Sexuality
 - Chris Barrett – Director of the Biocomplexity Institute and Initiative
 - Marc Ruggiano - Inaugural Director of the UVA Darden-Data Science Collaboratory
- 4:40pm – 4:45pm Cross-cutting Issues
- Steven L. Johnson, Steering Committee Member
- 4:45pm – 5:05pm Breakout Groups
- 5:05pm – 5:30pm Summary and voting on priorities
- 5:30pm – 6:30pm Reception and continuing discussions



Steering Committee

Bethany Teachman, Chair (Arts & Sciences)
Professor, Psychology

Ben Castleman (Batten)
Meyers Associate Professor in the Economics of
Education
Associate Professor of Public Policy

John Holbein (Batten)
Associate Professor, Public Policy, Politics and
Education

Lee Ritterband (Medicine)
Jean and Ronald Butcher Eminent Scholars Professor
Director, Center for Behavioral Health & Technology

Laura Barnes (Engineering)
Professor, Systems & Information Engineering
Associate Director, Link Lab

Scott Gest (Education)
Professor of Education
Chair, Department of Human Services

Steven L. Johnson (McIntire)
Associate Professor, Commerce

Ashleigh Greene Wade (Arts & Sciences)
Assistant Professor of Digital Studies, Media Studies
and African American Studies

About Grand Challenges Research Investments

The University's Great and Good [2030 Plan](#) identifies five priority focus areas for research. This year, we are focusing on building UVA's research capacity in Digital Technology and Society and Precision Medicine/Health. We have charged faculty steering committees to help determine how best to focus our efforts. They are consulting with deans and faculty across Grounds to identify areas of research where UVA could build on its strengths and address urgent societal problems. We appreciate your participation.

Next steps: Later this semester the steering committees will submit white papers recommending areas of focus. They will describe the urgent question to be addressed, give examples of the type of research that would be conducted, detail UVA's strengths in the area and the gaps that would need to be filled, and explain how UVA might be preeminent in this area. With input from the deans and outside experts, the Provost, VPR, and President will determine which areas to invest in. Please note: Grand Challenges is not a proposal process where a specific project or group of faculty is funded. Instead, it builds research capacity through large strategic investments—in cluster hires and significant research infrastructure (equipment, people, and seed funding) to move the needle. These transformative investments are designed to expand and complement our current research portfolio and to benefit many schools and disciplines across Grounds.

For more information, please visit:

<https://research.virginia.edu/Grand-challenges>

We welcome your ideas and comments:

