



Grand Challenges

Smart Communities/Smart Spaces

March 1, 2023

Agenda

9:30am – 10:00am	Check in
10:00am – 10:15am	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Melur (Ram) Ramasubramanian, Vice President for Research• Megan Barnett, Vice Provost for Academic Initiatives• Jon Goodall, Steering Committee Chair
10:15am – 11:00am	Panel 1: How can we encourage research in smart communities and spaces that advances safe, resilient, and equitable environments? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sophie Trawalter – Moderator – Associate Professor, Public Policy• Brad Campbell – Assistant Professor, Computer Science• Barbara Brown Wilson – Associate Professor, Urban and Environmental Planning• Jess Reia – Assistant Professor, Data Science• Roshni Raveendhran – Assistant Professor, Darden
11:00am – 11:15am	Break
11:15am – 12:00pm	Panel 2: What are the opportunities and needs for UVA to be “great and good” at smart communities and spaces research? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Andrew Mondschein – Moderator – Associate Professor, Urban and Environmental Planning• Donna Chen – Assistant Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering• Michele Claibourn – Assistant Professor, Public Policy• Laura Barnes – Professor, Systems and Information Engineering• Fiona Greenland – Associate Professor, Sociology
12:00pm – 12:15pm	Concluding remarks and charge for lunch discussion
12:15pm – 12:30pm	Lunch buffet
12:30pm – 1:30pm	Table discussions over lunch



Steering Committee

Jon Goodall, Chair (Engineering)
Professor, Engineering Systems and Environment
Director, Link Lab

Devin Harris (Engineering)
Professor and Chair, Engineering Systems and Environment
Director, Center for Transportation Studies

Jess Reia (Data Science)
Assistant Professor, Data Science

Matt Trowbridge (Medicine)
Associate Professor, Emergency Medicine and Public Health Research

Fiona Greenland (Arts & Sciences)
Associate Professor, Sociology
Director, CURIA Lab

Andrew Mondschein (Architecture)
Associate Professor, Urban and Environmental Planning
Associate Dean for Research

Sophie Trawalter (Batten, Arts & Sciences)
Batten Family Bicentennial Teacher-Scholar Leadership Associate Professor of Public Policy and Associate Professor, Psychology

Rajkumar (Raj) Venkatesan (Darden)
Ronald Trzcinski Professor, Business Administration

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:

