Research at the Batten School
Craig Volden and Sophie Trawalter
Goals

Long-term:

• Generate cutting-edge research on impactful issues in leadership and public policy.

• Inform and change discussions and practices inside and outside academy.
Goals

Recent and continuing strategies:

• Hire and retain research-oriented faculty sharing these long-term goals.
• Promote collaboration for outsized impact.
• Develop metrics (publications, citations, collaborations, grants, media coverage, real-world impact) and benchmarking.
Outsized Impact

By the numbers:

• $4 million of $15 million annual budget spent on research.

• 2007-16: 107 journal articles (regularly very top journals), a dozen books (top presses).

• 205 non-Batten coauthors at more than 100 universities in over a dozen countries.
Power of Collaboration

• Center for Health Policy
• EdPolicy Works
• Social Entrepreneurship Initiative
• Leadership Simulation and Gaming
• Global Policy Center
Media Attention

The New York Times

The Problem With Slow Motion

Gray Matter
By EUGENE M. CARUSO, ZACHARY C. BURNS and BENJAMIN A. CONVERSE  AUG. 5, 2016
### The Lawmakers

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Challenges

• Need *critical mass* of scholars.
• Attracting top researchers, but *running out of space*.
• Generating *real-world impact*.
Leadership at Batten

• A focus on leadership *skills*: Negotiation, bargaining, persuasion, group dynamics, and conflict resolution

• A focus on *social psychology*: Understanding how the social context affects attitudes, emotions, and behaviors
Leadership research at Batten

• Can feeling drained increase creativity? If so, how can leaders use this to promote innovation?

• Why do people put off their goals until the beginning of “next week,” “next month,” or “next year?”

• How do public spaces promote or reduce a sense of belonging in one’s community?
On the costs of framing diversity as “good for the organization”

“Our company represents diversity on a global scale, and maintaining a diverse workforce is an integral part of our long-term business plan. You see, we believe that the most productive team is one that is able to maximize business success by ensuring that the unique contributions of all members are included in the process of finding the best solutions.”

from Trawalter, Driskell, & Davidson, 2015