Overview of Curry Research: 
Past, Present, & Future

Dean Bob Pianta, 
Catherine Bradshaw, & Frackson Mumba

9.16.16 BOV Research Presentation
Strong Sense of Community

INNOVATORS
Strong ethos around Service, Leadership, and Engagement

Youth-Nex
Flagship SoE in VA

Interdisciplinary collaboration = Strength + Synergy

Studiers & Fixers
Committed to improving the human condition

A Laboratory for Education
Jeffersonian Values

A Systems-Oriented View
Most efficient and productive research faculty at UVA

Boutique
Human Ecology

Deep bench of nationally-renowned faculty

Focus on Assets

Intensive Mentoring
Energetic

Human Ecology

Personalized / Differentiated / Blended / Two-Way Learning

Positive Disruption

Highly Matrixed

Advocates for Equity, Diversity, and Social Justice

CASTL

Energetic

Building Better Teachers

Meaningful engagement between faculty and students

Education Beyond Walls

PRE-K through LIFE
Curry Sponsored Research Program

• Curry accounts for 7% of total UVA research funding. Highly commercializable.
• Highest UVA return on investment from space perspective ($974 per sf).
• Primary Sponsors: U.S. Dept. of Education, NSF, NIH, foundations (e.g., William T. Grant, Wallace, Spencer), state and local school systems.
Curry Sponsored Research Success Rate

Applications for New Research Funding

(Excludes non-competing continuations)

* success rate calculated without pending; † indicates % increase over prior year
Curry Grant Expenditures by Unit 2016

GRANTS & CONTRACTS
($16,551,462 TOTAL)

Centers

- CASTL: $6,695,067 (40.5%)
- Youth-NEX: $3,740,110 (22.6%)
- CENP: $1,464,638 (8.8%)

Departments

- CISE: $3,196,492 (19.3%)
- EDLF: $792,136 (4.8%)
- EDHS: $497,853 (3.0%)
- KIN: $165,166 (1.0%)

Bars represent units with respective expenditures and their percentage contributions to the total grants and contracts.
Top 15 Curry Faculty: Multi-Year Funding

Sum of Award Budget Amount 2014-2016
(includes non-competing continuations)

BRADSHAW*  $9,742,453
GRISSMER  $8,024,516
PIANTA  $5,549,185
INVERNIZZI  $4,784,119
TOLAN  $4,388,707
CASTLEMAN*  $3,090,824
YOUNGS*  $2,769,863
JENNINGS*  $2,528,830
LOCASALE-CROUCH  $2,172,112
DOWNER  $1,787,990
WYCKOFF  $1,640,770
WILLIFORD  $1,524,312
BASSOK  $1,433,778
KINZIE  $1,465,468
MUMBA*  $1,434,321

* Joined UVA within last 4 years
Faculty Profile: Ben Castleman

Area: Education Policy
Funder: U.S. Department of Education (IES)
Award Amount: $977,172
Title: Nudges to the Finish Line: Experimental Interventions to Prevent College Late Departure
Faculty Profile: Derrick Alridge

Area: Social Foundations of Education (History)
Funder: Spencer Foundation
Award Amount: $999,998
Title: Teachers in the Movement
Faculty Profile: Jennifer Chiu

Area: STEM / Engineering
Funder: NSF CAREER Award
Award Amount: $423,774
Title: CAREER: Scaffolding Engineering Design to Develop Integrated STEM Understanding with WISEngineering
Faculty Profile: Frackson Mumba

Area: STEM  
Funder: NSF  
Award Amount: $599,482  
Title: Developing Teaching Assistants' Pedagogical Knowledge of Inquiry Science Teaching & Instructional Leadership Skills, and Assessing the Impact on Student Learning

Area: STEM  
Funder: NSF  
Award Amount: $325,000  
Title: Developing Pre-service Science Teachers' Pedagogical Content Knowledge for Engineering Design Integrated Science Teaching, and Assessing the Impact on Student Learning
Strengths

• Adapted to changing research climate – transactional science and application
• Diverse, collaborative, & nimble
• Open to innovation and commercialization
• Entrepreneurial spirit & track record
• Good uptake of products by practitioners
• Applied and diverse funding portfolio
• High return on investment
Challenges & Opportunities

• Not all awards are created equal
• Partnering with schools and agencies is hard work & time consuming; we are good at engaging the field
• Operate our labs in other ‘host environments’
• Multiple transactions (e.g., paying data collectors, hiring staff in the field)
• Low overall IDC (up from 14.5 in FY14 to 16.5 in FY16)
Evidence of Impact

- 50% increase in the number of proposals submitted over FY13, while maintaining a 43-48% success rate on awards funded
- Significant increase in the average research funding per tenure-track faculty member (up approximately $100,000 per faculty in FY14 and FY15 over FY13)
- 40+% increase in number of faculty submitting proposals
- Address real world problems which have significant local, national, and global impact. Interest by foundations, social entrepreneurs, potential donors.
Goals & Next Steps:

*Incremental to Exponential Growth*

- Grow, deepen, & broaden
- Increase federal grant funding (e.g., NIH)
- Bolster research infrastructure
- Build diverse and transdisciplinary collaborations
- Stronger and more strategic partnerships across Grounds and with other institutions
- Increase commercialization
- Build centers of research around successful PIs
- Address relevant and emerging issues