Charge: Exploring Lecture Capture as a Strategy for Continuity

In the Fall 2017 semester, Hurricane Irma led to a nearly three-week disruption of our academic mission. We were lucky: the path of Irma caused minimal structural damage and we were able to adjust the academic calendar to account for the lost time. A direct impact could have caused a campus closure for a month or more, which would be too extensive to recover through scheduling changes.

We may be able to minimize the impact of an extensive campus closure through the use of lecture capture technology. Lecture capture involves use of audio and video recording devices in a traditional classroom setting to make a high quality recording that is comparable to the experience of being in a live classroom. This technology could enable students to access pre-recorded course content and complete assignments while they are in a safe location, waiting for campus to resume operation. However, recording lectures before an emergency requires advanced preparations, resources, and careful consideration of issues such as intellectual property and privacy.

I would like the Academic Computing Advisory Committee to explore the use of lecture capture as a strategy for the continuity of our academic mission and produce an actionable report by April 1, 2019. I would like the report to include:

- A recommended scope of the lecture capture initiative
- Policy and procedural changes
- Recommended technologies
- Resources needed
- A timeline for implementation
- Any additional concerns with recommendations

Please consult as necessary in order to ensure the report captures as best as possible the University community's perspective. If after reviewing the issues involved the committee determines that lecture capture is not the best solution, please prepare an alternative recommendation that addresses the above issues.