



October 15, 2019 | 3:30pm | O'Keefe Hall (Casey 128)

Present: Daniel Barr, Kristi Bitz, Kayla Boepple, Carmen Cain, Sarah Clark, Chris Collins, Susann Cuperus, Alanna Dennison, Amy Duchscherer, Austin Dukart, Jocelyn Dunnigan, David Echelbarger, Lauren Emmel, Alice Erling, Sara Gebhardt, Dennis Gowen, Margie Hair, Leroy Huizenga, Mary Beth Johnson, Nicole Jonas, Rod Jonas, Julie Klein, Valerie Kolbinger, Carmelita Lamb, Joanne Lassier, Molly Leer, William Littlefield, Chad Litton, Heather Lundeen, Brian Lydeen, James Maskey, Becky Meidinger, Karen Michalka, Loni Miller, Heidi Nieuwsma, Margaret Nordlie, Jill Nustad, Carol Olson, James Peliska, Thomas Porter, Glenda Reemts, Joshua Richards, David Ronderos, Rhoda Sautner, Manisha Sawhney, Jared Schumacher, Jeremy Skrzypek, Dennis Viernes, Susan Weigum, Lark Welch, Travis Wolf, Robyn Zeltinger

Meeting called to order by President David Echelbarger at 3:32pm

1. Welcome & Reflection

- a. Welcome and reflection conducted by David. Encouragement to get rest during Fall Break.

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. Moved and seconded to approve the minutes from the September 14, 2019 UMTFO meeting.

3. Academic Scheduling Reform

- a. Dr. Rod Jonas, Dean of Liffrig Family School of Education and Behavioral Sciences, offered information concerning the academic scheduling reform (moving to 7-8-week terms within the semesters). Idea came from another institution that has been using the term schedules for 70 years. Some of the benefits for students includes the ability to take less classes at a time and contact with students/faculty every day. Dr. Jonas described that in K-12 school education, there is research that block scheduling is beneficial for students from lower SES. Focus is to spend the time to think about everything related to the change prior to making the decision to move to this scheduling and allowing for time to develop. Some big issues that have been identified are financial aid, registration/scheduling, labs, and clinical experiences. Within Financial Aid, Karrie Huber's office would need additional staff to support. Financial Aid and the Registrar's office will be reporting to President's Council in October. Two sub-committees have been formed to research the lab and clinical experiences within term scheduling and will be reporting to President's Council in February.
- b. Question related to Online classes for adult learners part-time: online 15-week courses would stay the same. Questions related to clinicals in terms of 15-week experiences. Question related to research of retention of information in shorter period of times. Discussion about prior teaching position that had issues when students took multiple term schedules. Discussion related to the skill development of students related to the philosophical approach to teaching. Dr. Jonas stated that strategies for teaching the information differently. Question related to students that are lower SES or students that struggle with learning skills. Potential positives are to drive enrollment, increase retention, and making the student experience better. Discussion related to the balance of what it could affect if we move towards the model. The goals of the committee and sub-committee is to gather the information and report what it could look like if we do move

to this schedule. Question related to piloting the program, but issues arise within the scheduling unless everyone was running the same process. Graduate Counseling has been using the format this fall with positive responses from the students and faculty. Discussion related to the workload of the faculty. Question related to the advising of students within the cohort model. Spalding University in Louisville, Kentucky uses the block scheduling. Would be for Graduate and Undergraduate programs. Recommendation to use the librarians to find research. Request to answer the question of Why we would move to this format. Concern that the decision has already been made and that our time within the sub-committees. Trust in the process. This is a new process for researching and learning more prior to rolling out the process for our University.

4. Committee Reports
 - a. Motioned and passed to Table for the next meeting.
5. Old Business
 - a. Motioned and passed to Table for the next meeting.
6. New Business
 - a. Motioned and passed to Table for the next meeting.
7. Announcements and kudos
 - a. Motioned and passed to Table for the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:33pm

Minutes prepared and respectfully submitted by Becky Meidinger, UMTFO Secretary