

Academic Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: October 22, 2025

1. **Comp Time / Flex Time**

Damon Derrick/John Wyatt

DD & JW gave a presentation on comp/flex time explaining differences for exempt and non-exempt staff. Staff salaries will be addressed at the November town hall with mid-year raises. TWO admin days will be awarded to staff who meet criteria, information will be forthcoming from HR.

2. **Auto Registration**

Megan Weatherly

1400 students auto-registered for Fall 2025; programming worked well. Issues due to missing TSI scores and transfer credit delays. Transcript articulation should move from Admissions to Registrar's Office pending resources.

3. **TRIO Grant**

Marc Guidry/Megan Weatherly

Grant awarded to scale up GenJacks program. Will expand staff from 1 to 4 dedicated first-gen support positions. Service capacity will expand from 130 to 300-400 students. First-gen graduation rate is 8% higher when supported.

4. **Degree Works & SmartPlan**

Mickey Diez

Degree Works rollout in late November for faculty/staff training and pilot. SmartPlan implementation delayed to Spring.

5. **Centralized Class Scheduling**

Mickey Diez

Pilot with LAA completed; improvements will be made before broader rollout.

6. **Banner SS9 Transition**

Mickey Diez

Transition to Banner 9 planned by end of semester.

7. **Commencement**

Mickey Diez

Commencement duties transitioning to President's Office (April Smith), with Registrar handling academic tasks.

8. **Library Update**

Edward Kownslar

Entrepreneurship display available. OER monitoring ongoing. Discussions underway regarding freshman advising space in library. Lobby renovation beginning after finals; SSC renovation in spring.

9. **AARC & Makerspace**

Megan Weatherly

AARC usage up 22%. Makerspace up 40%.

Advising campaigns active; still 3000+ advising holds.

10. Smith-Hudson Scholars Program

Raquel Skidmore

Two scholars presented to Chancellor; additional coordinator position added.

11. Faculty & Teaching Initiatives

Cindy Kilpatrick

ROTA Award recipient: James Adams, Mickey Elliott College of Fine Arts (\$25K award).

ACUE participation ongoing with pinning ceremony planned.

12. Study Abroad

Heather Catton

Accepting applications for spring/summer programs. Visa and international mobility issues ongoing; exemptions for F1 students continuing.

13. PACE & Community Outreach

Brent McLemore

Business fundamentals courses launching; available for certificate or leveling.

Partnership with Women's Job Corps supporting workforce re-entry.

14. Provost Update

Jordan Barkley

Town halls to discuss budget and salary improvements.

College reorganization in progress.

New dean search for Allied Health College beginning in spring.

Two additional Associate Provost positions to be added.

Attendees: Marc Guidry, Jordan Barkley, Sharon Brewer, Tricia Cain, Megan Weatherly, Raquel Skidmore, Heather Catton, Chris Wilson, Mike Tkacik, Edward Kownslar, Cindy Kilpatrick, Brent McLemore, Mickey Diez, Damon Derrick, John Wyatt