

Deans Council

March 4, 2026

Degree Works - *Mickey Diez, Carrie Wright-Davis, Dora Luna*

- Data exchange between Banner and Degree Works is functioning well; pilot testing was successful.
- UMC is preparing documentation, and the system is expected to launch with a user guide in the coming weeks.
- Training for faculty, staff, and students will be offered via Zoom.
- Initial rollout will be for undergraduate programs; graduate programs will follow.
- The 2025-2026 catalog will be fully integrated into Degree Works; older catalogs will remain on CAP.
- Degree plans can be exported to PDF.
- Advisors will be able to submit petitions for course substitutions. Chairs will approve, and Deans (or designated appointees) will have override authority.
- Deans are asked to identify a designated person who can approve petitions on their behalf.
- All Deans will be able to view every petition across the university within Degree Works.
- It is recommended that the department owning a core course should have override authority.
- Transfer courses should be approved by the Dean or their appointee.
- To streamline probation hold processes, the group discussed eliminating the registration hold to allow early registration. A single, unified probation/hold policy is desired across colleges. Advisors will be notified of changes.

Transfer Advisory Group - Core Curriculum Update - *Marc Guidry*

- The committee met last week and is considering reducing core curriculum hours to 36 or 30.

- A 90-hour bachelor's degree option is also under review.
- The group is focusing on skill-based outcomes rather than specific courses.
- Marc Guidry emphasized the need to retain 6 hours of writing, with the likelihood of keeping 9 hours of communication in the core.
- Career outcome alignment is a priority.
- Once approved, the new core will have a two-year phase-in period.

Summer Budget

- This is the first year using the new summer budgeting process.
- Strategy may include opening a few course sections initially and adding more based on demand.
- Based on enrollment projections from the Deans, summer enrollment should exceed targets.
- By late April, a clearer estimate of summer headcount will be available.
- Enrollment will be monitored continuously, and adjustments will be made as needed.
- Students should be advised that more summer offerings will be available.
- UMC will be consulted regarding promotional communication.

Orientation

- CR and SH met with Kate Childress regarding orientation planning.
- Colleges need to provide the locations of their orientation meetings.

Wintermester

- Wintermester is scheduled for December 21, 2026 - January 6, 2027.
- It will be part of the Spring 2027 semester.
- All Wintermester classes will be online.
- Discussions with UMC are underway regarding communication plans.

Any Other Business

- A university convocation will be held on Sunday, August 23 at 4:00 p.m. in the Coliseum.
- Additional details will be provided.

Attendees: Hans Williams, Gary Wurtz, Christina Sinclair, Jason Reese, Dustin Knepp, Forrest Lane, Mickey Diez, Carrie Wright-Davis, Dora Luna, Stacy Hendricks, Tricia Cain, Michelle Harris, Chay Runnels, Marc Guidry, Sharon Brewer, Jordan Barkley