# Coordinating Efforts in Academic Advising

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# A long past, plus two new initiatives

- Multiple past workgroups and studies have pushed for some fundamental changes to advising (among other innovations):

  (available at https://panthers-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/dclark_uwm_edu/Eu7dbMjHCD9KmH18j7GhQXIBm8DBOFZCz7wRmRz9nMTwaw?e=73A18v)

- UWM 2030

- Moonshot

# Moonshot

The Moonshot Initiative (our new partnership with EAB) makes advising a critical component of "coordinated care":

Action: Participating Institutions shall conduct a review of their advising infrastructure, including student-to-advisor ratios, advising reporting structures, job descriptions, selection criteria, performance management systems, training, and professional development. Based on results of these reviews, institutions shall seek to make infrastructure improvements needed to ensure the delivery of best practice proactive advising.

# Moonshot

Action: Participating Institutions shall implement a comprehensive advising assessment plan and establish a process for utilizing assessment results to make continuous advising improvements.

# 2030

Activity 1.1.A: Conduct a review of advising infrastructure, re-examine the role of academic advisors, caseload ratios, and advising assignments.

Activity 1.1B: Assess the resources and support needed for the current networks/councils/committees focused on enhancing advising across campus,

Activity 1.1C: Develop a comprehensive campus-wide student-centered advising strategic plan based on best practice advising approaches, advising theories, research, previous advising recommendations, the future of virtual advising, and assessment findings.

# Central coordination

From original 2030 report:

> Create "A coordinated and integrated systems approach with a single accountable leader imbued with the authority and knowledge to reorganize and lead a major system change"

*This work needs to be someone's job.*

From the new 2030 report:

> Activity 1.1.E: Create an Executive Director of Advising position

# What this means

- Short term collaboration:
  - Digging into past and present initiative recommendations, learning from what came before.
  - Developing an advising (not advisor) assessment plan: Shared values, vision, mission, and goals, along with student learning outcomes.
  - Assessing current advising infrastructure.
  - Creating prioritized list of projects and changes that will improve work conditions and student outcomes.

- Longer term: Evaluation of what processes, structures, and work best for advisors and students.

# What this doesn't mean

Sweeping, fast-paced, change-for-the-sake-of-change altering of advising structures and practices.

# How you can help

- Some needs:
  - Help with hands-on projects (e.g., standardizing declaration of major processes)
  - Sounding boards for ideas (e.g., "is this a good approach?")
  - An approval process

- Some options:
  - Work with existing committees (EAC, ASALC, ACN)
  - A new committee (I'm hesitant)
  - Ad-hoc volunteering

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# Thank you

- Questions?