

University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee
2030 Realignment Workgroup
Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2020, 7:00-8:30 a.m.
Teams Meeting

The meeting was called to order 7:00 a.m.

Present: Kristian O’Connor, Dietmar Wolfram, Gillian Rodger, Wilkistar Otieno, Paul Roebber, Greg Ahrenhoerster, Tim Behrens, Cassandra Broeren, Marie Sandy, Daniel Dyer, Jonathan Hanes, Kevin Hartman, Michael Kirsanov, Drew Knab, Val Klump, Jared Parker, Michael Wilson, Mo Zell

Absent: Ron Perez

1. Agenda approved as distributed
2. Introductions
3. Review Charge – The committee reviewed the major recommendations of the 2030 Think Tank report. The co-leads also shared further directives they received from the Provost and Chancellor regarding the desired scope. In particular, the committee was encouraged to identify programmatic and school/college synergies to that would enhance student learning and research productivity in a more cost efficient structure
4. Process Planning Discussion – The committee had an open-ended discussion regarding the committee members’ thoughts about how to approach the task of restructuring programs, schools, and colleges.
 - The committee discussed how while there is a campus desire to identify budgetary savings, the cost savings from elimination of a dean’s office should not be the sole factor in identifying opportunities for restructuring. The committee agreed that the long-term success of potential restructuring will depend on how it benefits the student experience and facilitates UWM’s research profile.
 - There was also consensus that restructuring may provide opportunities for critical reinvestment with some of the potential savings in administrative costs.
 - While this committee may identify various options for synergies for academic programs, schools, and colleges, the final plan will require input and buy-in from the affected units. Therefore, the committee foresees a need to engage heavily with the campus as its work proceeds.
 - The committee discussed the scope of its task and how bold it should be in re-thinking UWM. There was strong support for thinking as broadly as possible about UWM’s academic structure and that no school or college should be excluded from these discussions. In addition, the committee agreed that there may be opportunities to recombine individual units into new structures and this should not be just a school/college-level discussion.
 - Regardless of the final recommended academic structure, there was strong consensus that there needs to be easier interactions between colleges, which are currently

inhibited by budgetary self-interests. There should be a reconsideration of the overall budgetary processes to facilitate greater collaboration.

- Several of the schools and colleges have unique identities and accreditation requirements that need to be considered and respected in this process. In addition, the named schools must consider how restructuring might impact donor wishes.
- Overall, the committee was excited to be bold in creating the UWM of the future.

5. Future Scheduling: Next meeting scheduled for October 13, 2020 7:30-9:00. The committee will meet each Tuesday 7:30-9:00 through the fall semester

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m.