

# Pathway Advising

Presentation to Academic Staff Senate

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# Reorganization

**Pathway Advising** (formerly the Office of Central Advising) merges and replaces:

- OCA metamajor advising
- Academic Opportunity Center

And includes:

- Student Support Services (SSS)
- Non-Degree Advising, including Early College Credit Program (ECCP)



# One Year Retention

## One Year Retention (F17 New Freshmen)

UWM	72.8%
Undecided (L&S)	65.0%
AOC	61.6%
First Generation	70.7%
SSS	81%
First Term GPA $\geq$ 3.00	85.2%
First Term GPA $\leq$ 2.00	37.9%

# Four to Six Year Graduation

F12/F14 New Freshmen	4 Yr	6 Yr
UWM:	20.4%	44.1%
Undecided (L&S):	13.7%	39.4%
AOC:	4.1%	36.5%
First Generation:	15.6%	38.3%
First Term GPA $\geq$ 3.00	22.7%(+)	55.7%(+)
First Term GPA $<$ 2.00	.8%	6%



# Changing Lanes

Beginning UWM without a major or changing academic programs (school/college) has slowed timeliness to degree.

<b>Spr18 Graduates (First Bachelor's degree)</b>	<b>Total Grads</b>	<b>4 Yr</b>	<b>6 Yr</b>	<b>6.5+ Yr</b>
UWM	2267	60.3%	12.5%	27.1%
Changed Acad Programs	854	41.3%	20.5%	38.2%
Began in AOC	102	8.8%	42.2%	49.0%
Began as Undecided (L&S/AOC)	349	42.4%	34.7%	22.9%

**ROAD  
CLOSED**

# Barricades to Success

- Undecided and “Under-prepared” students more likely to leave UWM without a degree
- Misalignment between a student’s intentions and academic skills at point of entry
- Need for individualized, coordinated support and attention
- Students enrolling in classes that don’t later count towards their chosen plan
- Sunk Cost Fallacy: continuing to pursue a major because of spent time and resources

# PATHWAY ADVISING



# Our Students

- New Freshman students who have not chosen a major or those accepted by UWM who cannot be accepted into a major.
- Students are asked to Choose a Pathway through PAWS, at NSO, and in initial advising appointments early in first semester.







# Why Pathways?

- Exploration and decision-making
- Intrusive, developmental advising
- Referrals to coaching, tutoring, and other student supports
- Accessible “Plans B”
- Choice architecture
- Mappable routes from entry to degree

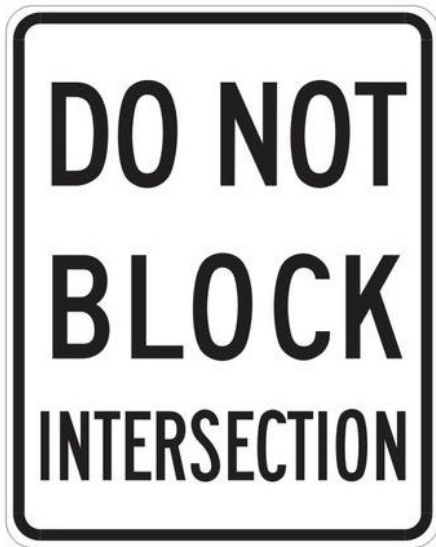
# Focus on the First Year



- Coursework to include English and math requirements, GER, Introduction to the Profession courses and/or First Year Seminars
- Establish a Coordinated Care Network
- Develop academic habits and skills
- Transfer to a permanent home with a School/College
- Mappable routes into majors

# Challenges

- Restrictive academic programs that presume a student begins that program as a 1<sup>st</sup> semester freshman
  - 1/3<sup>rd</sup> change their majors
- Directed GERs or electives
- “Decision Paralysis”
- Engaging the disengaged
- Tough conversations



# Suggested Routes

- Pathway\_ Advising (No “s”), but...
- “Metamajor pathways” is the terminology we’re utilizing for the actual academic approach with Pathway Advising students.
- Differentiate from Pathway Admissions programs common among International students
- No acronym!  
UWM has too many of these and they alienate students



# Questions?





# Questions?

# Welcome Letter

## New Freshmen Admitted to UWM as Undecided

**Congratulations!** Because you indicated that you are undecided about your major, we are pleased to welcome you to Pathway Advising at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in the Fall 2020 semester. Our metamajor pathways program is designed to help guide undecided students down the right path. You can jump right into exploring our classes and curriculum while staying on track for a timely graduation.

### Choose a Pathway

Undecided students at UWM may choose a [Pathway](#) to center their coursework around a general theme. These pathways allow you to progress in college while exploring our majors without the risk of enrolling in courses that won't count towards your ultimate chosen major or degree. (If you are not undecided and would like to select a specific major to pursue at UWM, you can request a change [here](#).)

## Welcome Letter

### New Freshmen Admitted to UWM, Not Admitted to a Major

**Congratulations!** We are pleased to welcome you to Pathway Advising for the Fall 2020 semester. Pathway Advising is an office that provides additional support and guidance to students whose application materials were not strong enough to warrant admission into a specific major.

Pathway Advising will be your UWM home for your first one or two semesters while you're working towards a move into one of UWM's 80+ academic majors. Pathway Advising helps to assure you'll get support through our academic advisors, course suggestions, and referrals to other student support providers on campus. Our Pathway approach means you can make immediate progress towards the requirements of your chosen major as we help you develop the academic habits and skills that will lead you to a permanent academic home in one of UWM's Schools and Colleges.



## (Proposed) Pathway Advising Organizational Chart

### Academic Affairs

### Pathway Advising

*Director*  
Brian Hinshaw

*Assistant Director*  
John Dorosz

*Business Manager*  
Sharon Warren

*Administrative Assistant*  
Rose Sauers

#### Student Support Services

*Project Director*  
Karen Parrish Baker, PhD

*Senior Advisor*  
Demond Stewart

*Advisor*  
Sarah Peek

### Academic Advisors

*Advisor*  
Dan Geddes

*Senior Advisor*  
Travis Jones

*Senior Advisor*  
Channy Rasavong

*Advisor*  
Amanda Soika

*Advisor*  
Sarah Terry

*Senior Advisor*  
Sonya Martin

*Advisor*  
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