

**COUNCIL OF
DIRECTORS OF STUDENT ACADEMIC SERVICES**

MINUTES

October 19, 2022

Zoom - <https://zoom.us/j/99545430954>

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

In attendance: Lindsey Brownlow, Larry Burns, Aaron Christensen, Abbey Davis, Rebecca Eastham, Kellie Ebert, Kathryn Gage, Amy Gazaway, Doug Hallenbeck, Ebonie Hill, Nick Holmes, LeAnn Hutchins, Diane Jones, Kelly Kavalier, Cheryl Kleeman, James Knecht, Kristen Kulling, David Mariott, Amy Martindale, Marissa McIntyre, Marilyn Middlebrook, Kim Miller, Lance Millis, Linda Millis, Beverly Morris, Rita Peaster, Libby Reigh, Kyndal Roark, Sky Rogers, Kristi Seuhs, Richard Shepard, Candace Thrasher, Deb VanOverbeke, Betsy Weaver, Robin Wilson, and Chris Francisco, Chair.

1. Agility Lab – Doug Hallenbeck, Kellie Ebert, Abbey Davis, Rebecca Eastham

The idea behind Agility Lab is to assist in creating a more career-ready student. Kellie Ebert, director of Career Readiness and Success, presented the Agility Lab overview. Agility Lab is a digital and physical place that supports student development and learning through competency and technical skills. This concept embraces the idea that it is important to teach how to learn as well as what to learn in order to prepare students for the future job market. Our students will need to be flexible to adapt to an ever-changing work force. The “T” worker should have a depth of knowledge of one discipline, along with the broad foundation of a large skill set to help them be successful. This broad foundation can be greatly enhanced by the Agility Lab, creating agile learners.

Abbey Davis, Assistant Professor of Professional Practice, detailed specifics of the Agility Lab. This concept is a way to provide a physical and digital space to all students to be able to develop the skills necessary for the future of work. Curriculum may be able to support this effort, but this effort is more focused on microcredentials.

Microcredentials would include digital badges that can be attained quickly. The superpower of this agility lab concept is its ability to adapt to changes quickly, whereas curriculum can adapt but not necessarily immediately.

Key Objectives:

1. Prepare students for the future of work by enhancing academic experiences with application-based opportunities.
2. Promote and facilitate interdisciplinary student development.
3. Position OSU as an innovative leader in higher ed by anticipating the evolving demands of tomorrow’s workplace.

Pillars & Pathways:

- Activities in the agility lab will work to promote development in the following **pillars**:
- Interpersonal Skills
- Technology
- Critical Thinking
- Foresight
- **Pathways** represent different tracks that students can pursue in the agility lab to earn a micro-credential.
- Pathways target skills that could be helpful for any major at OSU to add to their resume.
- Pathways for consideration in Phase 1 rollout:
- Financial acumen
- Project management
- Career readiness
- Analytics
- Digital literacy and cyber citizenship

- Office 365

Phase 1 goal is to draw feedback. These courses would be noncredit, but curriculum could help promote this program. Although geared for students only at this time, this concept could help many people in the workforce, including alumni. A. Davis expressed her desire to see subject matter experts assisting in flushing out the details of the courses.

For additional information, please contact Kellie Ebert, Abbey Davis or Rebecca Eastham.

2. Career Services Events Update – Kellie Ebert

The Career Services is providing a pilot event - Career Readiness Summit, February 2, 2023. For student facing staff we can now partner and empower staff with how we approach career readiness for our students. Creating a consistent language across campus is critical. This summit will provide an introduction of basic career readiness concepts, followed by an interactive component, a way to incorporate what we already do as a campus. The event committee is working to create content from the many different perspectives across campus, from advisor in College of Education and Human Sciences to retention manager in Spears School of Business to career coach in Ferguson College of Ag.

3. National First Gen Day – LeAnne Hutchins

L. Hutchins is the co chair of the First Gen Forward Advisory Committee and National First Gen Day. Last year OSU was recognized by National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) as a First Gen Forward campus, helping first generation students experience success on campus and getting them involve. First gen students make up about 20 percent of our enrollment at OSU. First Year Success (FYS) has approximately 200 students participating in their First To Go program, and 24 student leaders are dedicated to the First To Go program. These students meet in small group every other week that gives them a community and assists them in finding any needed resources across campus.

November 8 is National First Gen Day. This is a time that we celebrate our first generation students, as well as our first generation faculty and staff. This program was created to emphasized higher education for those who might not be fortunate enough to assume education past high school.

- November 4 – Classroom building lawn – tie dying our first gen cowboy t-shirt
- November 8 – 11am-1pm Student Union Plaza - first gen to wear their tie dye shirt
 - OSU Police Department to grill hamburgers and hotdogs in celebration of National First Gen Day
 - DJ
 - Yard games
 - Kyle Wray will open with welcoming remarks
 - Little Theatre at 1pm where there will be a panel of first gen fac / staff / students that will discuss “my first story”. Three scholarships will be awarded - \$1890. Scholarship application are currently being accepted on the Institutional Diversity web page.

4. Digital Diplomas – Rita Peaster

We have recently contracted with Parchment who is our long-term transcript vendor to utilize their diploma services. They will handle the printing and distribution of our paper diplomas and we will now be able to provide students with a digital diploma, helping us provide better diploma services to our students. This fall, the timing of our paper diploma distribution will be the standard 6-8 weeks after graduation. The digital diplomas will be distributed just prior to the mailing of the paper form. We are hopeful that by Spring, 2023 Parchment will allow us to provide diplomas to our students faster, as we should be able to provide the list of graduates to Parchment immediately following the semester being placed in history. Our contract covers students graduating Fall 2022 and forward. Alumni can request a digital diploma by requesting a replacement diploma, which will include the digital version. There will be a fee associated with the replacement diploma. All diplomas will be distributed by Parchment. Any transcript holds will continue to be in effect until it is resolved. Once there is a resolution, the diploma will be released.

5. Graduation Applications and Degree Works – Rita Peaster

Degree works team was able to incorporate the graduation application as a requirement in the audit, including the degree block. This process was added to help the students and advisors track their requirements to earn a degree. This system was meant to be information only, but we have found this information to be of value when pulled into reports

with other student data. Students will be automatically notified if when they apply to graduate the following semester they are less than 98% complete according to Degree Works. This notification is meant to alert the student while there is still time to adjust the students' schedule to guarantee they graduate on time. We also look mid semester at students who are 98% complete but do not have a grad app on file (on track to graduate on time but have not applied). Registrar's Office will submit communication to those students to congratulate them on their progress and request that they submit the grad app. This process will also track students who are 100% complete but do not have a grad app on file.

Proposed solution – The Degree Works team has performed a significant testing to remove the grad app requirement from the degree block and into its own block. This new block:

- will still allow the grad app to display in the audit,
- will not affect degree progress percentage,
- will allow informational text,
- can link to another website for additional information, and
- can control when this block is displayed in the audit (perhaps once the student has earned 90 or more credit hours).

DSAS proposed changing the requirement for students to apply for graduation. Although submitting a graduation application is a current university policy, R. Peaster is willing to entertain discussions on removing the requirement. However, it would require further conversations. DSAS members expressed their interest in awarding the degree if it is earned, regardless of submitting the grad app. There have been several cases where the students completed their courses for a specific degree but failed to apply for graduation. Fast forward ten years down the road, they need their diploma but because they never applied for graduation, they never received the diploma, and their degree plan has expired. At that point policy exceptions are required to allow that degree to be conferred. R. Peaster suggested forming a small working group to discuss these changes. C. Francisco will follow up with her regarding this process.

6. COVID Update – Chris Francisco

College dashboard indicates that currently our campus has a very low COVID transmission rate. C. Francisco noted that fewer classes are operating within the COVID protocol. Jeff Stroup has kept Pandemic Team informed and offering recommendation on immunizations.

7. Other

- Strategy process is going to the Board of Regents on Friday, October 21, 2022. Communication should be distributed from the Office of Provost and Senior Vice President with information about next steps in the Strategy process.
- General Education reform – applications for the General Education Faculty Fellow were accepted through October 10, 2022. A decision should be made soon, as well as an announcement. Moving forward, campuswide representation will be involved in discussing the implementation of the for general education reform. The plan we as a campus adopt must be inclusive in nature, covering freshmen, as well as transfer students.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:24am

Minutes were recorded by K. Roark