

University Academic Affairs  
April 13, 2017, 3pm  
111 Hurley Convergence Center

**Committee:** Keith (chair), Karen (secretary), Woody, Beverly, Davis

**Ex officio:** John Morello, Wes Hillyard, Tim O'Donnell

**Student representative:** Hayley French (Student Representative to the Executive Cabinet),

1. New Business

- a. The committee discussed officers for next year.

Davis Oldham – Chair

Karen Anewalt – Secretary

Additional members will be joining us, one from COB and one at large.

Our student rep next year is: Lindsey Kowaki.

- b. 75min classes on Monday/Wednesday

Anand forwarded the following issue to us from the UFC:

“At its last meeting, the UFC discussed a request from a faculty member regarding the possibility of offering 75 minute classes on Monday/Wednesday. The discussion broadened to include consideration of various time schedules and how the anticipated enterprise scheduling system might be used to support different class time schedules. We would appreciate it if the UAAC could consider teaching time schedules and the use of an anticipated enterprise scheduling system, with the goal to produce some guidelines or recommendations for the UFC at a later meeting. We do not anticipate that this will be a quick decision, and will likely carry over into the next academic year. I will be sending a request to all committees to provide an anticipated agenda for next year- please include this discussion on that agenda.”

John shared a brief issue history of non-traditional timeslots at UMW:

- In 1998 a motion from Academic Affairs proposed a “stretch track” from 8:30-9:20. This concept didn’t gain much support so we tried a 75 min track instead. The 75 min track was available as a MF, MW, or WF offering. There was also a long 3hour track on Weds afternoons. The motion eventually failed.
- In Dec 2003 in the memo to chairs proposing schedules, the instructions said to use established tracks for all classes and also announced the option of a MW 8:30-9:45am track for MF or MW courses. Few faculty used the track (maybe 5 courses per semester over the next few years).

- In Spring 2006 in the memo to chairs proposing schedules, the instructions said that all classes must use the track system but that courses at non-standard times could be approved on a case-by-case basis.
- Keith says at UFC this issue came up at UFC; The Provost said something about needing a sound pedagogical reason for 75 min; people said there's already a sound reason for 75min tracks we have those TR.
- The committee discussed the issue briefly. It seems as though widespread use of a 75min timeslot on MW (or WF, or MW) would create more scheduling conflicts for students, particularly if used for courses where there is only one section.
- The idea of non-standard time slots in the most popular tracks (perhaps 10am-3pm) seemed particularly problematic. Offering courses in non-standard time slot early in the morning or in the evening didn't seem like it could cause as many conflicts.
- Hayley spoke about the need to keep options as standard as possible to make it easiest for students to create schedules. She also said students need to know what to expect; things like 8 week courses and hybrid courses should be communicated on the course schedule.
- The committee will continue this discussion in the fall.
- The meeting adjourned at 3:40.