Council of Chairs

May 21, 2020

1. General Opinions
2. Lang/Lit
3. Not receptive to hybrid
4. Did not identify courses that could not be offered online
5. All prefer to be in person with exception of a few who could not return to campus
6. No strong opinion on ending and beginning early or regarding fall break.
7. Natural Sciences
8. Physics would need to stay on 16 week blocks
9. Some bio labs would need to stay on 16 week blocks
10. Science gen ed courses could have difficulty moving to 8 blocks
11. One course moved to spring semester
12. Still considering how to handle another course
13. Most faculty said they could teach online if necessary
14. No particularly strong feelings regarding hybrid
15. Approve of the idea to finish before Thanksgiving
16. No one indicated that they could not teach in person
17. Social Sciences
18. Most of the courses can be taught in 8 week blocks
19. A few courses need to maintain 16 week schedule (senior seminar, statistics)
20. All faculty would prefer to teach online
21. Fine to early start, no fall break, ending by thanksgiving
22. Education
23. Fine with finishing before Thanksgiving – ok with elimination of fall break and early start
24. Basically all courses are tied to K-12 schools and because of that we cannot get the required hours in for licensure. If the state were to allow us to gain hours in a virtual format then we would all be fine with going online in the fall. Our students must have minimum number of hours and we cannot get those done in 8 week blocks.
25. Everyone said they were fine to return to campus
26. Activity courses (badminton, swimming, etc.) – eliminate all this fall with exception of walking/jogging class
27. VPAR
28. A lot of courses could move to 8 week, but performance based classes would need to be longer
29. Practical courses would be difficult because they are so interactive
30. Those that can’t be offered online also probably can’t be offered in person with the current social distancing guidelines
31. Some concern for keeping students on their degree schedule
32. Hoping for consistent accommodations across campus
33. A little concern regarding hybrid courses, course specific regarding conceptuality of course
34. Seemed open to ending by Thanksgiving
35. Felt eliminating fall break under these circumstances made sense, but hope for more discussion in future.
36. Interest in j-terms
37. Bus/Econ
38. All are willing to transition to all online if needed
39. Majority would prefer 16 weeks
40. About 20% of courses were identified as willing to move to a block scheduling
41. No issues with starting early, eliminating fall break or ending by Thanksgiving
42. 2 part-time high risk faculty are already teaching online
43. A full-time faculty member requested to teach online
44. 2 interested in j-term
45. Math/CS
46. Had to keep some courses on 16 week scheduling
47. Other courses were moved to 8 week blocks
48. No issues starting and ending early, eliminating fall break was not particularly favored, but hoped for at least a long weekend
49. Will ask if faculty can or cannot return to campus
50. No indication on j-term
51. His/Phil
52. Faculty is flexible
53. Most classes are able to move to 8 week blocks, with exception of 3 (research and philosophy)
54. Preference for face to face, but prepared to integrate technology and distance for classes
55. Will adapt to whatever direction the college chooses
56. All faculty can return for face to face
57. Comm
58. All have reasons to be cautious in classroom
59. Some already teach hybrid courses
60. Considering one faculty member all online with the 2 others doing hybrid
61. Flexible with 8 weeks, only seminar at 16 weeks, but possibly could move to 8 weeks
62. Nursing
63. Clinical and labs will be issues
64. Considering 12 hour clinical shifts instead of 8 hours to decrease numbers of clinicals
65. Not sure what will be realistic in terms of what students are allowed to do (clinicals). Will have to follow very strict guidelines with them
66. Most classes have to go 16 weeks due to content
67. Willing to go online or hybrid if needed
68. Two faculty need to be cautious regarding face to face, but are willing to take precautions for themselves. They feel they will be able to do whatever is needed.
69. One course could be offered in a minimester
70. Considering doing all classes in fall with clinicals in the spring with a few lectures
71. Library
72. Will follow instructions and direction
73. Consider postpone starting classes if we need more time in August
74. Will send email to all
75. Big Picture from Narda
76. Mini mesters seem to make people nervous, so it would be for a small number of those interested
77. Of the 561 courses, you all volunteered to do 89 courses online (about 15%). 114 in Block A. Approx. 96 courses in Block B. Around 241 courses in 16 week. The rest could go in either.
78. We will have to do 16 week on MWF vs TTH
79. Could consider MWFS – some students will baulk at Saturdays, but it could help keep them on campus. Probably best to do only if needed.
80. Social distancing in classrooms will be extremely difficult, will probably have to be done by department
81. 34 Classes have over 15 enrolled. At least 30 of those would have to be manipulated in some way
82. Scheduling will have to be done by days, not classroom
83. We had at least 110-115 more failing grades than normal this spring
84. Had 45-50 students lose 4-5 courses who will need to repeat
85. We might consider offering courses we normally wouldn’t to help students
86. Narda will pull this information and share it
87. We tend to gravitate towards a 16 week schedule, but we technically only need 15 weeks.
88. In a 16 week semester, a student can sign up for 12-18 hours. Over 18 hours has to be approved by Amelia.
89. Our advisors will have to watch what our students are doing.
90. Narda can set it up to notify us if students sign up to take over x amount of hours.
91. We will have to establish policy on overload limits for students.
92. Let Narda know if you have strong feelings regarding MWF/TTh timing.
93. John asked if we could consider alternative spaces for classrooms (churches, Wesley Center, Alumni Hall, etc.) that would help accommodate our larger classes in particular
94. Summary from Trisha
95. We almost have to do 8 week/16 week because of classrooms
96. What if we said we’re just going to do 16 weeks, will that work? Narda doesn’t know how due to classroom spacing, but can look at.
97. Streaming classes will have to be done at the class level.
98. We may have to give faculty that option if we stay at 16 weeks – we would have to let faculty manage how they maintain distancing, etc.
99. Consensus on 8 week/16 week mix or only 16 week courses
100. 8 week/16 week mix: 8 votes
101. All classes are 16 weeks: 3 votes
102. No more than 20% of our classes will be fully online for the entire semester
103. If a faculty member will not be in the classroom, it will be considered online
104. All classes should consider and plan for remote instruction (to be included on their syllabus and in all their planning). We will cancel any classes that cannot do that in the fall.
105. We are going to recommend that the semester ends by Thanksgiving, including exams.
106. We also recommend we remove the full week of fall break, but include a long weekend (reading day) around midterms or right between 8 blocks.
107. Health & Safety Committee will have to set parameters for students coming and going.
108. What kind of recommendations do we want to give regarding our experiential learning spaces?
109. Must adhere to distancing guidelines
110. We will all have to look at our spaces to see if they fit in the guidelines
111. Trisha will discuss first year/freshmen seminar experience with their specific team, but doesn’t feel particularly strong feelings about bringing them back early.
112. Tomorrow’s meeting at 10 will help us prepare for how we will make this model work. Our student representatives can help us gauge the student temperature.
113. This afternoon’s steering meeting will help us get a read on how everyone is thinking.
114. Please look at the summer courses Narda sent this morning. Several do not have any enrollment yet. Make a decision this week whether those courses will be offered or not.