

AY23-9-B&I

Faculty Senate Issue Log Form

Date-Submitted: October 19 2023

Title-of-Issue: Scheduling for classes

Description: The university just completed the move of the Registrar's Office, under which scheduling is housed, back to Academic Affairs where it belongs. Now, however, scheduling for DL classes has been moved to ODU Global which is not under Academic Affairs. The movement of scheduling for DL classes out of Academic Affairs is troubling.

Rationale: Having had no notice that this was happening, explanation of why it happened, nor who was involved in the decision, this move is troubling for a number of reasons that revolve around the nature of the relationship of online to campus classes.

First, as a new chair and as an individual who has done the scheduling for online and campus classes for a large department, I can tell you it is tricky balancing the needs of both. In terms of student needs - both are important. Both need attention. But they are not separate. Ensuring the campus and online classes are staffed and "make" demand a vision that encompasses and cares for both types of students. The Provost should be that person for the university. The nuts and bolts and rules and regulations should fall under his guidance. I am regularly getting requests from ODU Global and need guidance from someone who has the health of both types of students in mind.

Second, when requests come from ODUGlobal I am told to just cap web 2 to ensure that only online students take the online offerings. Right now this does not solve the problem since students can move from web 2 to web 5 or the reverse by simply filling out a form (I can provide a document from ODU Global stating just this if need be).

Finally, the university has made it hard for anyone to know enrollment figures for online and on campus so scheduling is tricky, to say the least. Enrollment data we get uses an "intention" measure rather than a "behavioral" measure (please note that this "intention" measure is only for internal use. The "behavioral" measure is the one external reviewers of our programs use). There is a purpose for "intention" measures but there is also a need for the "behavioral" measure. We are not given access to what students are actually doing and that makes scheduling necessarily hard.

We need guidance from Academic Affairs that has a vision for both types of students.
ODUGlobal is part of the university, not a separate profit-making entity.

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