



## COS, The College of Sciences Fall 2024 Dean Meeting

### *Reintroduction*

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### *Dean's Initiatives*

- How can we (SG) help advance COS?
  - Dean Tomova: Focusing on student success. Advising has changed, now report to SSWB. It is important that students know about COS success coaches. Want to encourage students who are struggling to reach out to coaches. Coaches are reaching out to students, which is different and provides pros. Really focused on student success, so if you have ideas on how to reach them especially when they are struggling, please let us know. We want to see students graduate on time and happy. We also want to send a message to students that they should be thinking about what they are doing after graduation, not just on tests. A lot of what you do in college should be guided by what you want to do.
  - Associate Dean Dorman: Advising 2.0 is what's happening. In October everyone will be assigned a coach. I'm interested from the SG perspective on how this is going?
  - Senator Varela: Is there any methodology for how students will be assigned coaches?
  - Associate Dean Dorman: All coaches will have training for all circumstances, but if super niche coaches will pass students off. All coaches will have the non-standard academic knowledge and will be assigned based on their major.
  - Senator Varela: Will coaches be trained about psychological issues?



- Associate Dean Dorman: They are not mental health professionals but are trained to identify and hand off students to professionals. First step in the intervention.
- Senator Al-Qudah: Do you think advising will help?
- Associate Dean Dorman: The intent is yes. The goal is now to train coaches, then how will coaches work with major advisors. It's supposed to be a partnership with coaches and major advisors.
- Senator Al-Qudah: A lot of students come to UCF with credits, so I'm glad y'all are doing that!
- Associate Dean Dorman: Coaches will understand that you are a FTIC but have credits and are a junior. Coaches will know how to have these conversations. I would love to hear SG's perspective.
- ELA Richmond: Worked on a survey before new model and will do another to compare and will share with you!

***Following Up:***

- **Accessibility Badge Initiative**
  - Associate Dean Dorman: Inclusive design badges handed off to me and another colleague. Kicked off last fall and implemented last spring. Faculty submit a course to see if they meet the criteria. Meant to have faculty attentive to and responsive to what would be beyond what SAS covers. For ex. a student knowing they will not be called on or ensuring that the correct pronouns are used. Faculty must identify at least half of the criteria that they will use and then it will be looked at by an expert. This spring we had maybe 25 courses that were approved with these badges. We have been trying to institutionalize these badges, so COS students taking courses outside of the college have access to these classes. Digital badge on WebCourses. We had classes approved across all of the disciplines. My colleague and I have a 2x a year application. Application about to open and another will open in spring. Also, a digital excellence badge. About to open a public facing website where you can find out what the forward-facing criteria is.
  - Dean Tomova: Fully implemented now. We have had positive feedback.
  - Senator Vasquez: Can the success of the badges impact the implementation across other colleges?
  - Dean Tomova: We hope so. Collecting data and will distribute within a year. Implemented in Trig where a lot of different students take it.
  - Senator Shen: In a course with the badge, has there been an issue with professors following, because I know one of the requirements is allowing students to resubmit work.
  - Dean Tomova: 21 requirements and professor has to choose 14, so if they don't want allow students to resubmit, they don't have to. Same with not requiring students to speak, can be used in chem but not a speech course.
  - Senator Varlea: What data are you collecting?
  - Dean Tomova: Both quantitative and qualitative.



- Senator Al-Qudah: How do you incentivize professors to implement?
- Dean Tomova: Badges give additional points on rating which help for raises. Can also talk about badges in HIP.
- Future Career Prep
  - Dean Tomova: UCF is working on a giant website. In COS it is primarily done by department, because we have film and physics, making it difficult to do something college wide. Departments should have more bandwidth to do that because of the new advising model. We are working on providing more internships for students. When I talk to donors we always talk about internships. We have brought new internships. Then departments will communicate it to students. Many departments have WebCourses or email lists that give opportunities.
- Classroom Space
  - Dean Tomova: Continue to see students opt for online even when there are in-person options. Most of the online classes are because students want online. Now, professors are required to have in-person office hours even if the classes are taught online. In regard to adjunct, departments handle that, because they may live in Miami and may be unable to come to UCF. The university is working on classroom scheduling. Turns out that we are very ineffective in scheduling classes, with classes going unused. Mixed modality can also book the class multiple times, even if they are only using them once a week. University working on a central scheduling plan. Working on off time classes that fall off the grid for special circumstances. We want to have classes on a regular grid and the university is working on doing that which benefits everyone.