

MBAA Town Hall – June 21, 2016

In attendance:

Lea Matulovic, Nadia Eghbali, Lauren Iantomasi, Usman Qureshi, Kelly White, Manan Bassi, Dean Waverman, Sue McCracken, Jennifer McCleary, Pamela Lauren, Cynthia Bishop

Agenda

1. Dean Waverman
2. Sue McCracken
3. Cynthia Bishop
4. Jennifer McCleary

Dean Waverman

- Building – 4th floor
- MBA redesign
 - Made it more interesting and better in the first term with the four foundation modules
 - Have a better idea of what you want to specialize in earlier
 - Why so quickly?
 - Why not!
 - Business is changing and what we teach must change as well
- Four new professors starting and Provost approved 5 to be hired next year
 - 3/4 are focused on data analytics

Sue McCracken

- MBA redesign
 - Interviews – four modules will prepare students for those
- P720
 - Two new instructors are taking over
 - Brent McKnight
 - A new instructor
 - Much more integration, will have a simulation (Friday/Saturday)
- Specialization Fair
 - Low turnout, despite receiving feedback indicating students wanted this
 - New potential specialization – data analytics
 - Student: “Not really interested in specializations since it doesn’t really matter outside of school”
 - Students, after the fact, tell Dr. McCracken about courses they took but they didn’t need, etc.
- Are mandatory advisory meetings a good direction in which to go?
 - Student: “Not just academic, but also career and general guidance meetings to discuss what the student wants and how to get there”
 - Lea: Have printouts that students can grab and go around what courses to take for whichever direction they would like to take

Cynthia Bishop

- Statistics
 - Working with students on work term, incoming students, and current school term students
 - Off cycle students - 24 were on off cycle – 18 are in work term
- Incoming students
 - Meetings – mandatory
 - Job search strategies
- Current students

- Phase 1 – 64% currently placed in work terms
- Sad – 22 jobs with rankings that were not filled
 - Four were ranked 1 and did not take it
- Strained employer relationships
- 13-14 companies, 60-70 jobs with no response
 - went with another school, or not moving forward with role
- Student: having mandatory one-on-one Phase 2 meetings would have been better than one big meeting (repeated a lot of information they already know)
- Student: Industry nights were really valuable
- Sue: When do students realize they need a job?
- Student: have something in OscarPlus that students could indicate what areas students are interested in
- Student: why can't we have all the rankings be shown?
 - All other schools do this, rankings don't affect how the job gets filled, might cause bullying should all the rankings be shown
- Student: why not have students rank employers before employers rank students
- Student: why not show the number of student applications
 - Very negative feedback from employers

Jennifer McCleary

- Parking – will begin soon
 - Lights will not be installed until late Fall
- Local transit
 - McCleary is on the board of a committee to discuss local transit
- Lisa Barty – new MBA Academic Manager
 - Starting July 4th
- DeGroot Experience Fund
 - Hoping to have an online tool for DEF funding requests
 - If there is a conference you would like to attend, don't hesitate to reach out the Fund for financial support
 - Must be outside the student clubs
 - Allocate \$100,000 a year for student activities for all commerce students (undergraduate and graduate)
 - Experiential learning component
 - MBA Games does not meet the terms of reference of the DEF
 - Student: how do you define student experience and what the school is about? How do you get students to stay on campus and get students to get engaged?
 - It's not about the what, it's the how and why