

Dear UM Community,

Thank you to those who have taken the time to provide feedback on the Academic Affairs Playbook and Academic Portfolio Review Process. We have compiled what we have learned from last week's Faculty Senate meeting, the ECOS-UFA listening session, and Qualtrics feedback. We are working to revise the Academic Affairs Playbook and finalize our approach to this first iteration of Academic Portfolio Review.

It is important to emphasize that this work presents a significant cultural change in how we plan for the future success of our students. We understand that adapting to this new way of thinking will take some adjustment, and we appreciate your willingness to engage in this process. It is important to keep the following in mind as we approach the release of the initial Academic Portfolio Review data.

The purpose of the Academic Portfolio Review is to begin an annual cycle of program health checks in order to ensure our long-term sustainability as a university.

This work requires collaboration between deans, academic program faculty, and the administration to make informed—and sometimes difficult—decisions about the scale of our current offerings to ensure that we are able to provide the highest quality educational opportunities for our students within the resources available to the University.

Ultimately, we, like many other institutions, are trying to better understand what it means to adapt as a comprehensive institution when the cornerstones of higher education are changing.

We will release these data via the Provost Office website by end of day on 21 February 2024. We recognize that this is later than what we proposed; however, we wanted to include census data from the 23–24 academic year. We highly recommend that campus leaders and interested faculty attend the EAB State of the Sector address hosted by the University Leadership Council on 20 February 2024 to better contextualize the data when it is released.

The message that will go out next week will include information on how to read and interpret data, the timeframe for qualitative review, and the timeframe for Faculty Senate actions. In order to make sure that our catalog is accurate in the Fall of 2024, proposed curriculum actions would need to be reviewed and recommended by Faculty Senate by the 2 May 2024 meeting. A detailed timeline will be developed in collaboration with ECOS in the coming weeks.

Thank you for your patience, trust, and engagement through this process.

-Office of the Provost