

To the Campus Community,

I want to share an important update to our ongoing Academic Renewal work. After discussions with the deans, ECOS, and OCHE, we have decided to separate the previous version of the Request to Plan (RTP) into three separate RTPs. The first will be an RTP that plans for changes to the Franke College of Forestry and Conservation (FCFC) and the implementation of some of the recommendations from the Matson Report. The second will be an RTP for a phased plan to create a School of Emerging and Applied Technologies (SEAT). The third RTP addresses changes in the College of Humanities and Sciences (H&S).

The first two RTPs (FCFC and SEAT) will move forward on the original timeline below:

February and Early March

Deans will engage faculty and staff in discussions to consider how to effectively implement the organizational changes in the RTPs.

March 10

Deans will submit draft language to the Provost's Office for OCHE documentation and to Faculty Senate as an informational item.

March 16

Faculty Senate will discuss the structural changes as an informational item.

March 30

Faculty Senate will consider the structural changes in a special session.

April 5

UM will submit the required documentation to OCHE.

May 15-16

Board of Regents will consider the structural changes.

We will not move the H&S RTP forward at this time. We have heard many questions regarding the changes in H&S for which we need more developed responses, and we want to take the time to talk more with the deans and with the H&S chairs to flesh out this third RTP before submitting a revised version at a later date. Please note, we are not pausing the H&S discussion but rather taking the additional time to ensure we have all the right information and can put together the strongest possible proposal that will drive toward the objectives of Academic Renewal and address existing needs within H&S.

These changes, as with previous changes, are the result of a collaborative process and demonstrate how we make our future plans stronger by working together. Thank you for your investment in the Academic Renewal process and for your continued partnership.

Pardis Mahdavi, Provost and Executive Vice President