

MU TABOR SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

DEAN'S BUSINESS COUNCIL

Notes from conference call on September 9, 2019 at 2:00 PM central time. DBC members: Nikki Garry, Gary Hendrickson, Trevor May, Kevin Stocks Tabor faculty/staff: Najiba Benabess, Shauna Mays, Becky Stubblefield **Agenda:**

- Millikin updates – Najiba Benabess
 - Tabor Faculty Retreat was held August 14-15.
 - Main focus areas for 19-20 academic year:
 - Recruitment
 - Finding a sustainable strategy/number; challenges in higher education; can't keep growing indefinitely; what is sustainable for Tabor – ideal enrollment number?
 - Internships
 - Expand beyond the local business community
 - Scholarship created by Erik Brechnitz to give students funding to pay for lodging if doing an internship away from home/school
 - Have asked faculty for their “dream companies” where we could send interns
 - Shauna Mays is now also Internship Coordinator
 - To expand our network, Tabor has joined the Illinois Chamber of Commerce
 - Study abroad
 - Faculty will be putting together 8-semester plans that include a semester with an international partner and suggested courses so students can see how study abroad can fit into their college career.
 - MBA – possible upcoming changes

- Change names from Executive & Fast-Track to Evening & Daytime
 - Executive program was so named because it was targeted at local executives.
 - Getting feedback from students that they expect to be in class with executives, but the demographic has shifted to middle management, entrepreneurs, even some recent graduates would prefer the evening format.
 - If name change happens, we will give a “typical” student profile so applicants will know what to expect in their cohort.
 - Gary commented that having a mix of age & experience can be a benefit in the classroom.
- October 10 – networking event to bring together MBA alumni, faculty, current students, and prospective students.
- Organizational Leadership has officially moved to Tabor.
 - Doing market research to determine what programs are needed in the area.

➤ Team updates

- Najiba would like to keep the three DBC teams – Alumni Engagement, Marketing, and Career Preparedness.
- Alumni Engagement – Kevin Stocks
 - Team has found an online platform designed to engage alumni communities; more details coming at October meeting
 - Tabor Graduate Assistant will be taking over Tabor Times and will work with DBC Alumni team to publish the next issue.
- Marketing – Gary Hendrickson
 - Need new member(s) on the team to bring fresh ideas.
 - No progress yet from MU Marketing department on videos that were filmed in April.
- Career Preparedness – Bob Swartz (not present – emailed report to Becky)
 - Name for checklist: Tabor Professional Achievement Certification (TPAC)
 - Tabor faculty is working on matching checklist tasks to what is already part of the curriculum.
 - DBC may be asked to film short videos introducing the TPAC.

➤ Fall On-Campus Meeting

- October 11-12, 2019
- Suggestions for topics, activities, structure?
 - Discuss new topics/initiatives for sub-teams, and perhaps re-arranging team members?
 - Trevor suggested dedicated time to articulate goals/objectives for DBC as a whole – deliverables, action steps, etc.
 - For new DBC members in particular, we want them to understand the Tabor experience – hear from students, learn about student-run ventures, go to classes, etc.
 - If DBC members visit classes, have students ask them questions instead of just listening to the class.
 - Problem with visiting classes – very limited options on Friday afternoons.
 - DBC members want to know what problems need to be solved.
 - Perhaps an informal mixer with students instead of formal presentations? The “wing night” that students held in the spring was very popular, could we do something like that?
 - Panel session with DBC members so students can ask questions?
 - **After the call, Najiba and Becky discussed the idea of an informal event with students, but have DBC members split into “categories” like accounting/banking, marketing, etc., based on experience, and students can rotate through them.
 - More detailed agenda will be sent soon.

No conference call in October. See you on campus!