

MILLIKIN UNIVERSITY TABOR SCHOOL OF BUSINESS TABOR ADVISORY BOARD

Monday, April 21, 2025

Microsoft Teams

Minutes

TAB Members Present: Nico Amoroso, Dena Arendt, Alex Koulos, Xiu Zheng Pratt

TAB Members Absent: Tony Douglass, Jamie Gray

Tabor Faculty/Staff Present: Becky Nims, RJ Podeschi

➤ Welcome

- Introduce new board member Alex Koulos '16 Accounting

➤ University and Tabor updates

- Fall enrollment
 - Prospects look good to have an incoming class of 500 students, with Tabor with possibly 100 of those!
- Personnel transitions
 - Incoming President-Elect, Dean Pribbenow, has been on campus once and plans to return once a month until his start date in July, is already involved in key decisions.
 - New VP Advancement, Rick Darnell, from U of I, seasoned advancement professional
 - Lori Kerans – VP Athletics & Community Engagement – well known in community and former Athletic Director

- Provost Mary Black serving out her last few months at Millikin as Acting President
- Nancy Curtin serving as Interim Provost for at least one year to replace Mary
- Dr. Jennifer Schroeder serving as Interim Dean of College of Arts & Sciences to replace Nancy
- Tabor transitions
 - Outgoing Finance professor Christopher Marquette, hired Jason Sexton, current adjunct, expertise in personal financial planning
 - Dr. John Palmer formerly of Quincy University & UMSL as Visiting Prof of Management for at least one year while Carrie Trimble is on Academic Leave for one year
 - Julianne Shields returned as Director of Center for Entrepreneurship; already doing great things to rebuild partnerships with community members and recruiting efforts
 - Launching faculty fellows program in AI next year
 - Piloting AI education workshops for community members/employees
- Input requested regarding necessary skills related to AI. This is a hot topic for everyone, and we want to figure out how best to begin to incorporate these skills into the curriculum.
 - How do we help students learn how to use AI to help them, not use it as a crutch to do the work FOR them?
 - Work smarter not harder
 - “AI won’t take my job, but someone that understands AI better than me will take my job.”
 - Don’t just apply AI for the sake of applying AI.

- Want to discourage overreliance on AI in our students so that they still have the skills needed for jobs after graduation.
 - Does our curriculum incorporate ethics as it relates to AI?
 - Yes, Jan Kirby teaches Leadership Ethics and is paying close attention to the AI conversation.
 - Partnering with Rize Education that helps schools augment staff by delivering in-demand online programs taught by faculty across the US.
 - Launching MBA specializations in AI, Business Analytics, Cybersecurity, Finance, and Healthcare Administration
 - Can also create specializations in undergraduate programs (<https://www.rize.education/programs/ai-literacy>)
 - Are companies providing AI education?
 - CAT is using Co-Pilot tool for those interested
 - Many of Nico's groups are using open-AI tools after piloting Co-Pilot at beverage wholesaler
 - Biggest challenge is privacy, proper access & rights
 - Another challenge is the time required to train open-AI tools
 - Certain AI tools are better for certain things; how to determine the best ones for your needs
 - Are there currently any assignments where students are using AI in an intentional, guarded way?
 - Some English faculty are baking it into writing assignments
 - “show your work”
- Homecoming – October 3-4, 2025 – Mark your calendars!

➤ Adjournment