



Intercampus Faculty Cabinet
Annual Retreat Meeting Minutes
August 5 -6, 2024

Welcome, Introductions and Setting Expectations

Pamela Stuerke, IFC Chair

John Middleton, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Chief of Staff, UM

Chair Stuerke kicked off the meeting, beginning with introductions for the benefit of newly selected IFC members. The group discussed expectations, including an overview of the steps she and her team are taking to review the regulation and develop a path forward in advance of the regulation's April 2026 effective date. IFC members raised a variety of questions and shared their experiences working to make their course materials more accessible and shared some of the corresponding workload and resource

challenges associated with doing this work. IFC plans to invite Cheek back to provide updates later in the year.

Human Resources Updates

Marsha Fischer, Vice President for Human Resources, UM

Erin Leuschke, Director, Learning and Organization Development, UM

Fischer and Leuschke discussed various items with the IFC. This included, but was not limited to, work to prepare for and monitor federal Title IX and Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) regulations and associated legal challenges. Fischer provided updates on processes related to telework arrangements and the staff leave plan; Leuschke discussed annual compliance training and other HR programs. IFC members asked numerous questions, shared faculty experiences, and provided suggested improvements to the leave plan's primary caregiver component.

Brainstorming for AY 2024 -2025

Pamela Stuerke, IFC Chair

IFC members discussed areas for further discussion and focus for the 2024-25 academic year. Topics discussed included artificial intelligence (AI) policies and practices, ongoing concern about the conflict in the Middle East, ongoing discussions surrounding changes to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives, and potential improvements to promotion and tenure policies. The group also discussed the possibility of having a joint meeting with the Intercampus Student Council (ISC).

Government Relations Update

Dustin Schnieders, Assistant Vice President for Government Relations, UM

Schnieders provided an overview of legislative initiatives that could impact higher education. Schnieders also provided insight on the economic outlook for the state and highlighted work to potentially create a statewide performance funding model for higher education. The IFC plans to invite Schnieders back to provide updates during the spring semester.

Academic Affairs Policy Updates

John Middleton, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Chief of Staff, UM

Steven Chaffin, Academic Affairs Program Director, UM

Chaffin provided updates on work to streamline the process for requesting approval of new degree programs. IFC members asked questions and shared concern about overreliance on market assessment tools. Middleton provided an overview of a new standard operating procedure for vetting changes to the Collected Rules and Regulations (CRRs), which is designed to increase consistency and ensure all relevant groups are consulted.

