

Business/Accounting Department Meeting Minutes

ATTENDANCE: Alisa Callahan, Dolores Batiato, Alicia Law, Tim Lucas, Peter Ocsody, Adam Davis
Absent: Miguel Rivera (late), Andrew Locantora, Dorothy Thompson

MEETING MINUTES: Friday, March 13, 2026

1. Academic Integrity: As a follow up to the academic integrity and reporting process from the general department meeting, this discussion focused on addressing issues with student discipline and reporting, with Alisa and Bill discussing the effectiveness of current punishment measures and the need for stronger consequences. They also touched on the development of a college-wide honor code for students but acknowledged that would be unlikely to change student behavior. There appears to be a clear correlation between the rise if reporting of academic integrity violations (and the preponderance of “found responsible” decisions) with the rise in the student use of AI tools.
2. Tim provided an update on his involvement in an AI fellowship, highlighting his efforts to create a curated database on how FSW is adapting to AI. He shared specific examples from his business analytics and supply chain management courses, emphasizing the need to teach skills that complement AI, such as analytical thinking and negotiation. Tim also discussed his work on redesigning courses to be AI-proof, including the use of H5P activities and local case studies. He expressed gratitude for the support he has received from colleagues like Alisa and Adam in this process.
3. We had a productive discussion of ensuring that all of our syllabi comply with State Board Rule 6A-14.092 by the deadlines set forth by FSW. We all had training (February 27), and there is a Canvas course for details and examples.
4. Tim Lucas led a discussion for how AI is impacting our assessments and how can we manage these tools. Alisa and Timothy discussed strategies for creating engaging assignments that ensure students meet course learning outcomes. Alisa shared her experience with a math course where she implemented a mix of proctored and unproctored exams, noting that perfect scores on unproctored exams led her to make ALL exams proctored. She also suggested incorporating in-class activities and pop quizzes to encourage student attendance and emphasized the importance of having a clear attendance policy for in-person classes to ensure students are actively participating.

Peter explained the professional readiness scoring system in his classes, which assesses attendance, participation, and engagement through individual and group activities. Alisa shared her approach to encouraging participation in online classes by holding optional live sessions with strict rules for extra credit, including being on camera and actively participating. Peter described using Zoom quizzes and a bot to track and score participation in his synchronous online courses. Both discussed the positive impact of structured engagement on student participation and class dynamics.

Adam discussed a teaching method where students participate in C-suite style debates in class, with those who don't contribute receiving a zero grade. Alisa and Peter agreed this approach effectively assesses students' understanding and encourages engagement.

5. Peter Ocsody volunteered to work with Keith Quackenbush and Alicia law to redesign SBM 2000 to a robust small business management course with a focus on managing from the manager's perspective rather than the owner's entrepreneurial viewpoint with a "business plan" focused curriculum. They will collaborate as a group to redesign the SBM 2000 for Fall 2026, including reviewing and updating learning outcomes and syllabus as needed.
6. Curriculum Actions: The new 3000 and 4000 Entrepreneurship courses for the BAS electives will be put forth at the March Curriculum meeting.
7. Faculty agreed to use a Google Sheet to track textbook editions and planned changes. The group agreed to work on the spreadsheet individually, and we will review progress at the next department meeting on April 10th. At that time, we will collaboratively review any remaining courses to see identify additional textbook changes are necessary before Kim Egolff's deadline of April 15.
8. Staffing Updates: The management faculty position is in the final stages of the hiring process. The final candidate comes to campus for the final round of interviews immediately after Spring Break. We had two finalists interview this week with teaching demonstrations. We will then have to begin the faculty search next fall to replace Dorothy in accounting who is leaving for a position in TX.
9. AI & Technology Topics: Peter discussed the need for faculty to familiarize themselves with emerging AI tools like Google AI Studio, Replit, Canva Layers, BoodleBox, and Lava Ball, as well as the challenges in accessing Notebook LM Pro for educational purposes.

Tim shared his experience with using Notebook LM for creating podcasts in a marketing analytics course, noting restrictions due to copyright concerns. Both emphasized the importance of responsible AI content creation and discussed potential solutions to prevent hallucinations.

Next month we will continue our discussion and potentially go through use cases for AI tools like Google AI Studio, Replit, Lava Ball at the next meeting, with Adam, Tim, and Peter potentially presenting examples. We need to have a deliberate focus this year on continuous improvement of courses for authentic assessments and proctored exams due to the proliferation of students' use of AI.