Campus Reorganization Implementation FAQs

1. **What is the difference between the Academic Organizational Design Implementation (AOD-I) Steering Committee and the AOD Task Force?**
    a. In response to the Chancellor's Budget Memo, and AOD Task Force was formed and charged during the 2022-2023 Academic Year to identify and gather information on a variety of academic organizational models for review and discussion according to the campus REM (Reorganization, Elimination, and Merger) policy.
        i. In the spring of 2023, the AOD Task Force and Academic Senate Executive Committee released their final reports. The submission of the final reports completed the work for the AOD Task Force
        ii. In May 2023, the Chancellor announced a new two-college structure. A College of Arts and Sciences comprised of the Raclin School of the Arts, a School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and a School of Natural Sciences as well as a College of Professional Studies comprised of the Judd Leighton School of Business and Economics, the School of Education, and the Vera Z. Dwyer School of Health Sciences. A Division of Interdisciplinary Studies was also proposed to be housed within the College of Arts and Sciences, but that was not part of the final decision. (For more information on the Division of Interdisciplinary Studies, see Question 4.)
    b. The AOD-I Steering Committee was formed and charged in Summer 2023 by Academic Affairs to identify, monitor, track, and communicate about the work necessary for Fall 2024 implementation of the new structure and plans
        i. **The AOD-I is not a decision-making body** as decisions that pertain to the principles, policies, and authority outlined in the campus model for shared governance. Its role is to ensure that the appropriate committees, individuals, and groups are aware of the necessary tasks for completion, and to track the completion of those tasks along a timeline appropriate for Fall 2024 implementation.
        ii. Essentially, the AOD-I Steering Committee will work as a project manager for the reorganization process.
2. **What is the difference between the work being done for the Academic Master Plan (AMP) and the work being done by the AOD-I Steering Committee?**
    a. The Academic Master Plan process has two goals: to conduct a comprehensive review of existing and potentially new programs offered by our campus and to ensure a robust and meaningful program review process. Although the work of the AMP committees may overlap and entwine with the work of the AOD-I, they are two distinct processes with different benchmarks and goals.

i. With work that began in Spring 2023 and will continue through Spring 2026, the AMP process will determine which programs are to be grown, revitalized, sustained, and sunset over the next several years; while the AOD-I work seeks to streamline and organize academic administration beginning in Fall 2024.

3. **What is the difference between the Transition Monitoring Team (TMT) and the AOD-I Steering Committee?**
    a. The Transition Monitoring Team (TMT) is a group of individuals selected from previous cohorts of the Chancellor's Leadership Development Program, who are separate from the AOD-I Steering Committee. As an independent body, they are charged with providing a feedback channel for the AOD-I Steering Committee and campus administration in order to "hear how things are going for people and the effects that the transition is having on people" as described in the TMT charge.
    b. The AOD-I gathers, disseminates, and tracks the tasks necessary for Fall 2024 launch of the reorganization. The TMT takes the pulse of the campus as the implementation process and tasks unfurl and shares that information with the relevant individuals and offices for response.
    c. Feedback from the TMT will be confidential, and, when necessary, will be used to adapt the AOD-I Steering Committee processes, communications, and campus engagement as needed.
    d. Essentially, the TMT will provide a forum for individuals to express concerns or recommendations for implementation confidentially.
4. **What happened to the Division of Interdisciplinary Studies that was in the original 2-college model vetted by the faculty?**
    a. The Chancellor has requested the campus have further conversation to identify an organizational structure that would better support interdisciplinarity both across and within the new colleges; this conversation is not part of the charge of the AOD-I Steering Committee. In accordance with the campus REM policy, discussions about the home for the Bachelor's Degree in General Studies, and the Master's Degree in Liberal Studies will continue in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences during the 2023-2024 Academic Year. The Executive Committee of Academic Senate will be involved in those conversations following the REM policy.