

Provost

Our Structures, and How They Shape Our Work

In the spirit of the UAA Faculty Senate's theme of *Transparency*, we're focusing this month on sharing information about how our work is organized, and attempting to bring clarity to questions of "who does what" within the Office of the Provost.

The Provost is one of four Vice Chancellor positions at UAA. Collectively with the Chancellor, we form the [UAA Executive Council](#). We meet weekly to set the broad agenda and strategies for how the University achieves its mission and strategic goals. The [UAA Chancellor's Cabinet](#) is a larger group that includes the Executive Council along with several other key university managers.

As Provost, I have organized our offices into 3 primary divisions or units – [Academic Affairs and Institutional Effectiveness](#), [Student Success](#), and [Faculty Success](#). Each of these areas is led by a Vice Provost or Senior Vice Provost; you can read more about their areas and what they do in their sections, below. Here is a link to our [Organizational Chart](#).

Much of my work as Provost is carried out through my leadership of 3 regular Councils: the [Provost's Council, the Dean's Council, and the Community Campus Directors' Council of UAA](#). Collectively, these 3 councils ensure alignment, enhance communication across units, work collaboratively to solve problems, develop policies or

When folks outside of the University ask me what a Provost does, I reply that I meet (a lot) and sign things. There are certainly days that it feels like that is my role! But broadly, my job is to serve as the Chief Academic Officer, leading and directing the efforts of all Colleges, all Campuses, and all academic support units. I also spend

[Course Placement](#), and [Textbook Affordability Initiatives](#). All of these activities help us to put students first and to provide them with resources to aid them on their journeys.

We have embedded Navigate into the Learning Commons to help better track the academic success of students using our tutoring and (our newly returned) academic coaching services. Academic Advising and the Learning Commons and our Director of Student Success Initiatives Strategy & Assessment are collaborating on Title III Grant Activities, such as peer-to-peer mentoring, in order to lower DFW rates, particularly in gateway courses.

The Interim Vice Provost for Student Success Ray Ball also co-chairs the SEM Plan Recruitment & Retention Committee alongside Interim Associate Vice Chancellor Craig Mead. This coming semester, this committee is focused on several major initiatives. One is to redesign our in-state recruitment plan. We are also working to improve our scholarship incentives and to pilot two microgrants for UAA students: one focused on help for financial holds and the other focused on academic supports and student success.

The Interim Vice Provost for Student Success also serves as the Interim Dean of the [University Honors College](#). We admitted approximately 60 students on 2/12/2020.

