SCHEDULING SOFTWARE
TOWN HALL MEETING
Office of the Registrar
October 18, 2019
AGENDA

I. Introductions
II. Current Scheduling Challenges
III. Requirements for New Scheduling Software
IV. Project Timeline
V. Questions
VI. Feedback from Scheduling Community
CURRENT SCHEDULING CHALLENGES

PROBLEMS WITH AD ASTRA
CURRENT SCHEDULING CHALLENGES

PROBLEMS WITH AD ASTRA

- Performance Issues and data base size constraints
- Not built for an institution the size of UConn
  - Performance bottlenecks during busy periods
- Loss of key functionality
- Breakdown of customer support from company
CURRENT SCHEDULING CHALLENGES

DATA COLLECTION

- Proof process labor intensive and slow
- No data entry guidelines for departments
- Lack of transparency
- Custom reporting not possible
CURRENT SCHEDULING CHALLENGES

CLASSROOM UTILIZATION

• Can’t provide feedback to departments about efficiency of classroom utilization
• Can’t meaningfully account for faculty and student preferences
CURRENT SCHEDULING CHALLENGES

FINAL EXAMS

• Existing process largely manual
• Lack tools to minimize student conflicts/bunched finals
• Astra constraints
  • Frequently crashes
  • Unforgiving of small user errors
CURRENT SCHEDULING CHALLENGES

EVENTS

• Can’t support events with many meetings
• Event scheduling process inefficient
CURRENT SCHEDULING CHALLENGES

TECHNICAL

• Insufficient data structure
• Lack of data management tools
• Limitation of user maintenance and security
• Inefficient and outdated integration methods
REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHEDULING SOFTWARE

DATA COLLECTION

• Electronic entry form available to departments
• Real-time feedback about standard meeting pattern and spread
• Provide tools to assist departments in building schedule
REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHEDULING SOFTWARE

CLASSROOM SCHEDULING

• More stable environment
• Ability to handle larger volume
• More robust optimization tools
• Maintenance of historical data
• More sophisticated reporting capabilities
REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHEDULING SOFTWARE

FINAL EXAMS

• Minimize student/faculty conflicts
• Sophisticated optimization tool
REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHEDULING SOFTWARE

EVENT SCHEDULING

• Electronic request form with workflow
• More robust security model that allows more granular access
• Better coordination with academic schedule
REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHEDULING SOFTWARE

TECHNICAL

• Ability to leverage active directory to maintain users
• More robust security model
• Provides database management tools
• Leverages current integration methods
REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHEDULING SOFTWARE

POSSIBILITIES

• Course forecasting tools
• Custom data dashboards
INITIAL PROJECT TIMELINE

Feb. 1, 2020: Open RFP
May 1, 2020: Vendor of Interest Selected
Aug. 1, 2020: Contract Signed
Feb. 1, 2021: Implementation and Training
RESOURCES

REGISTRAR.UCONN.EDU

• Link to recording of meeting
• Feedback form
• Copy of presentation
WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

NEEDS AND WANTS

• Reporting and Data
• Security/Technical
• Academic Schedule Data Input
• Events
• Final Exams
• Other/misc.