

# Proposed Course Scheduling Model

*Making Waves*

# Background

In response to course scheduling concerns and space utilization issues a committee was asked to:

- Survey students and faculty (preferences/concerns)
- Review FAU's current scheduling model and policies
- Research SUS and peer institution scheduling models and practices
- Make recommendations to improve or modify scheduling and related processes, policies and procedures based upon survey and findings.

*Making Waves*

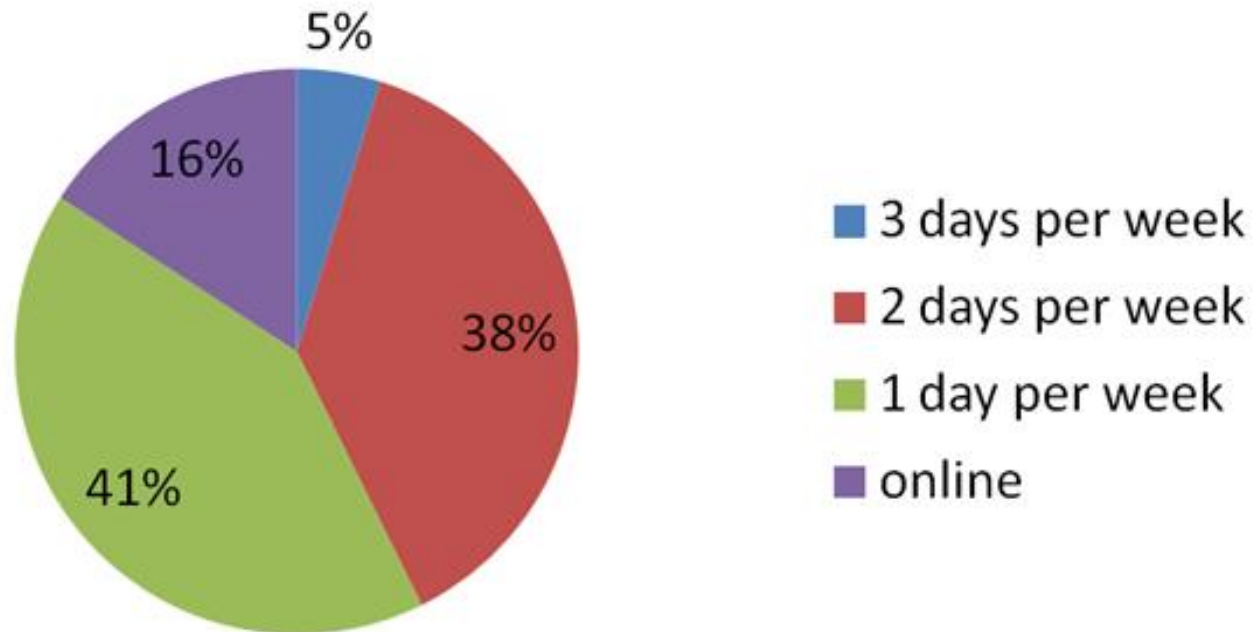
# Survey Results: Student Time Preferences

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening	Online	Weekends
Arts & Letters	30.7%	35.5%	19.4%	11.7%	2.7%
Business	20.4%	22.2%	27.4%	26.0%	4.0%
DSI	22.3%	19.8%	30.6%	21.7%	5.6%
Education	24.6%	21.4%	25.8%	19.0%	9.3%
Engineering	34.6%	31.6%	13.8%	17.1%	2.9%
Nursing	33.3%	22.8%	9.7%	26.3%	7.9%
Science	40.2%	36.8%	12.1%	8.8%	2.1%
Overall - All Responses	28.9%	28.1%	21.1%	17.4%	4.5%

*U / Taking Waves*

# Survey Results: Faculty and Department Preferences

## Class Meeting Preferences (Pedagogical Practices) Undergraduate Courses



# Best Practices: Schedules at Other Universities

(24 institutions reviewed including the four highlighted below)

<b>CUNY Queen College</b>	<p>4 terms /year: Fall, Winter Intersession, Spring, Summer//extensive meeting patterns/NO MWF 3 meetings = MTR, MWR, TWF</p>
<b>UNC Charlotte</b>	<p>Mandate 40% of M_R courses be non-prime hours (8am or after 3:30pm). 20% of classes must include some type of Friday</p>
<b>San Jose State University</b>	<p>Daytime: 3 cr. hr classes—most classes were scheduled two days a week with a fair number offered one day per week. Very few classes were scheduled MWF. Evening: 3 cr. hr classes—meet one night a week 4 cr. hr. Math classes—schedule to meet MTWR for 50 minutes each day or MTW for 1 hr 10 min.</p>
<b>University of Houston</b>	<p>Daytime: 3 cr. hr classes—Fairly even distribution of MW, TR and MWF sections. Some classes offered 1 day a week Evening: 3 cr. hr classes —most meet one night per week with some meeting 2.</p>

# Issues of Current Scheduling Procedures

- Programs compete for limited space at peak days/times
- Course scheduling fails to meet needs of multi-modal population (e.g., evening courses for working students, distance courses)  $\leftrightarrow$  limited course access
- Delayed degree completion and students to seek courses elsewhere ( $\rightarrow$ transient requests)
- BOT and BOG concern with under utilization of facilities evening and Fridays resulting in a possible limits on funding for renovation and new construction.
- Poor performance on BOG metrics

*Making Waves*

# Goals of Proposed Scheduling Model

- Provide more scheduling alternatives/patterns – *while being mindful of pedagogical soundness.*
- Maximize available course space
- Increase student access to courses
- Introduce moderate degree of change (simplify and phase-in transition)

*Making Waves*

# Proposed New Scheduling Model and Policies

*Making Waves*



# Current Model vs. Proposed Model

Current Scheduling Patterns <i>(in general scheduled classrooms)</i>		Proposed New Scheduling Model <i>(in general scheduled classrooms)</i>	
2 x per week <i>(3 cr. hr.)</i>	Tuesday / Thursday <i>(standard start-times)</i>	2 x per week <i>(3 cr. hr.)</i>	Tuesday / Thursday <b>Wednesday / Friday</b> <i>(standard start-times)</i>
2 x per week <i>(3 cr. hr.)</i>	Monday/Wed. <i>(4pm-later)</i>	2 x per week	Monday/Wed. <b><i>(3:30pm-later)</i></b>
3 x per week <i>(3 cr. hr.)</i>	Monday / Wednesday / Friday	3 x per week <i>(3 cr. hr.)</i>	Monday / Wednesday / Friday
1 x per week <i>(3 or 4 cr. hr.)</i>	Monday / Tuesday / Wednesday / Thursday or Friday <i>(1pm and after)</i>	1 x per week <i>(3 or 4 cr. hr.)</i>  and  Hybrid <i>(50% or more online)</i>	Monday <b><i>(standard start-time)</i></b> Tues. Wed. Thurs. Fri. <b><i>(During the 9am-3pm standard start-times, college will be asked to pair one day a week and hybrid courses (e.g. Pair a Tuesday course with a Thursday course of similar capacity).</i></b>

# Proposed Scheduling Policy

## Proposed College Percentage Thresholds:

- 30% of classes must have start times that are before 9am or after 3pm.
- 10% of classes must assign class times that include a Monday, Saturday or Sunday.
- Colleges control how the percentage thresholds are met

**Most colleges already meet or closely meet the new thresholds**

*Making Waves*

# Other Proposed Scheduling Recommendations

**Mini-mesters:** At discretion of departments and colleges

- 8-week sessions (2 per semester)
- 5 + 5 + 5 (3 per semester)

**Weekend classes and programs:** At discretion of colleges

*Making Waves*

# Proposed Phased Implementation

Spring 2016 – Proposed schedule model new days/times

*Proposed College Percentage Thresholds:*

Fall 2015 – 15% of courses with start-times before 9AM or after 4PM

Spring 2016 – 20% with start-times before 9AM or after 4PM

Fall 2016 – 30% of courses with start-times before 9AM or after 4PM

*Making Waves*