

Fellows Reflection

I would have to say that my biggest takeaway from the Provost Fellows program is how many moving parts there are to keep the university running. There are so many people from so many offices and departments that must work together, all with different ideas and approaches, but at the end of the day, a decision has to be made.

It was clear that the reasoning behind the decisions, however, was universal: what would best serve students. One of the biggest reasons I've hesitated to become more involved in administrative work is that I won't get to be around students as often. That's still something I consider, but I also appreciate how much I can do for students in other roles as well. There are also elements of student services where I can serve students while also engaging with them, which I think is great.

I'm still a reserved and shy person, that hasn't changed. However, seeing that others across campus have similar concerns and similar goals helps me feel more confident about speaking out a little more. I also know that I want to continue in the classroom for the foreseeable future, but administrative duties don't scare me as much as they used to. I'm still early enough in my career that opportunities like this allow me to learn more about the university and myself, and I would like to continue participating in similar endeavors.

I was assigned to work with both Johnny MacLean and Matt Nickerson. I met with Johnny several times before he left and I was able to sit in on some meetings. Unfortunately, I only meet with Matt once, so I would like to continue working with him through the fall semester to really feel like I got the most out of the program. I'm hopeful that in doing so, I can continue to challenge myself and provide for the university and the students in a meaningful way.