



ITMC Conference - Fall 2013

University of Wisconsin Flexible Option Update

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Agenda

1. UW Flexible Option Overview
2. Campus Partners
3. Timeline
4. Information Technology Aspects
5. More Information

What is the Flex Option?

“21st century face of the Wisconsin Idea”

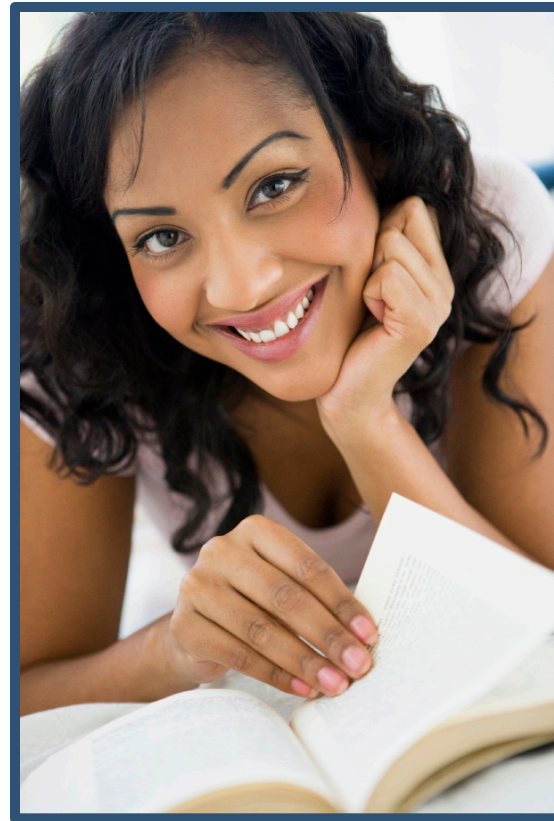
If you know it, and

you can do it,

AND

you can prove it,

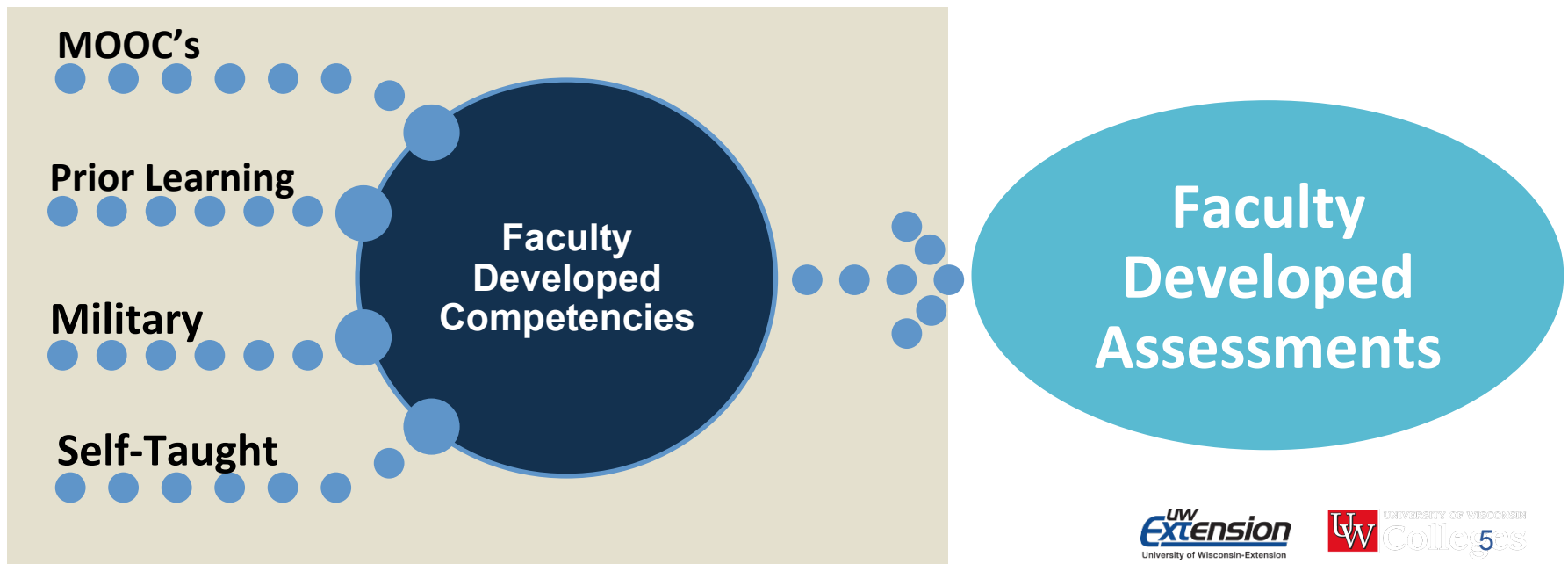
then you can earn UW credits
through the UW Flexible
Option.



Student Centered Approach

- **Proactive student support**
 - Wrap-around support through a proactive advising model increases retention and degree completion
- **Increased access to quality education**
 - Self-paced format leads to affordability and potential quicker time-to-degree
- **Employer value**
 - Demonstrated mastery of valued outcomes increases student market value

Decoupling instruction from assessment





Flexible vs. Traditional

Traditional	UW Flexible Option	Student Implications
Semester-based	3-month subscription, start any month, 12 subscriptions in a year	Students can begin their education when it best fits their busy schedules.
Group-paced courses	Self-paced program	Students can move through competencies at a pace that fits their learning and lifestyle.
Credit earned by completion of course	Credit earned through mastery of competencies	Students complete competency sets, which result in earned credits leading toward a degree
Students progress by completing a courses with a passing grade	Students progress by attaining mastery of subject matter	Students may progress quickly depending on prior knowledge or experience with subject matter, prior coursework, and the speed at which competency sets are mastered
Faculty member instructs students as a group	Faculty support is tailored to individual student needs	Self-paced instruction allows for highly personalized faculty mentoring
Academic advisor focuses largely on degree requirements, academic progress, and student support services	Academic Success Coaches provide students with a highly personalized, responsive, ongoing mentoring, life coaching, and academic support	Students receive wrap-around support in all aspects of their program experience
Current administrative systems are limited by traditional structures	Administrative and operational systems must be flexible and responsive	Current policies, regulations, and systems present challenges that must be overcome to ensure an optimal student-centric approach.



UW Flexible Option Programs

The first cohort of certificate and degree programs will be available late in the fall of 2013. Second cohort offerings will be finalized by the fall of 2014.

Fall 2013

B.S. Nursing (RN to BSN)	UW-Milwaukee
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B.S. Biomedical Sciences for Diagnostic Imaging	UW-Milwaukee
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B.S. Information Science & Technology	UW-Milwaukee
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Certificate in Business and Technical Communication	UW-Milwaukee
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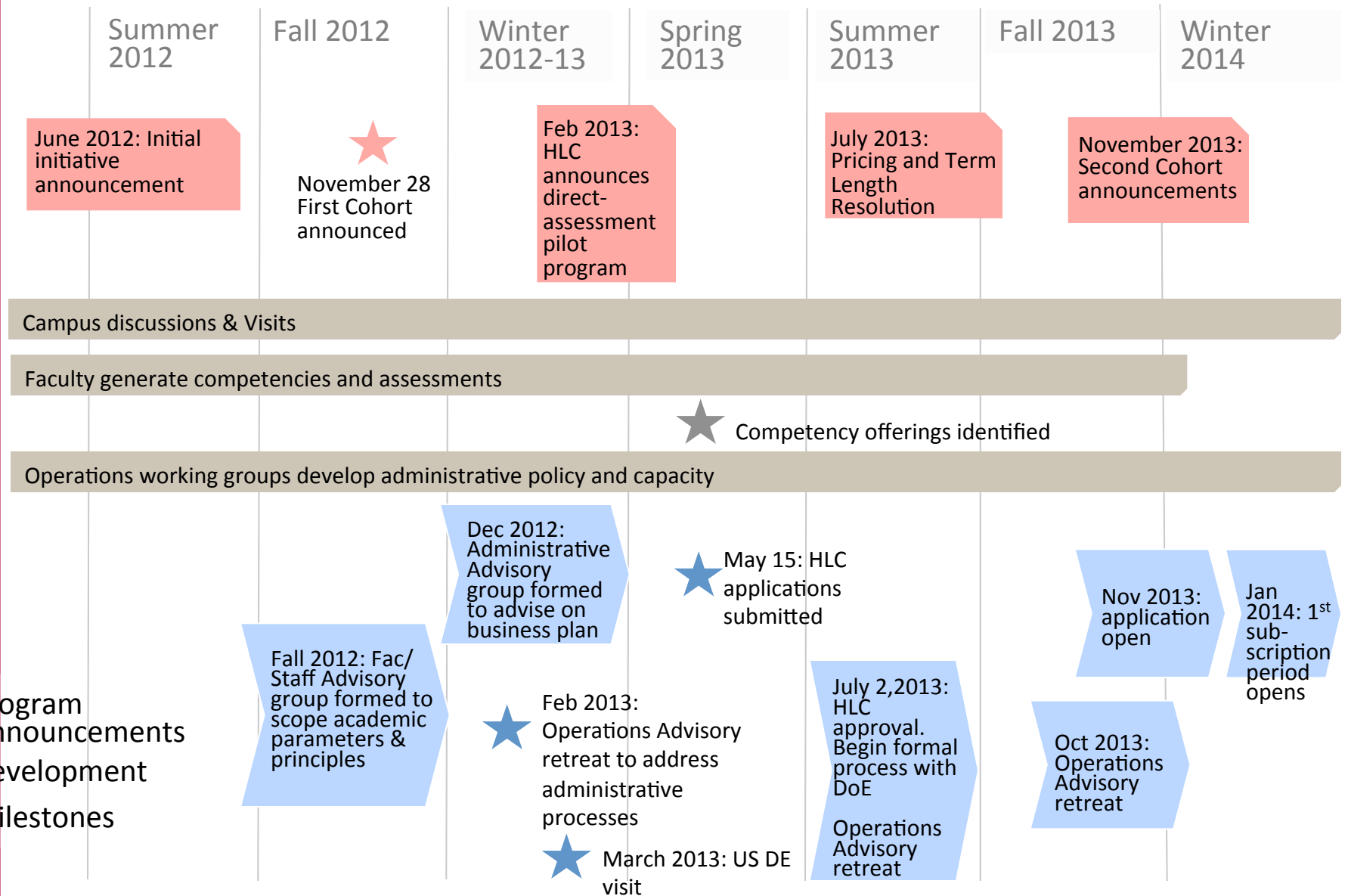
Freshman- and sophomore-level general education, liberal arts competencies	UW Colleges
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Fall 2014

M.S. Nursing (RN to MN) (tentative)	UW-Milwaukee
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Timeline and Major Milestones





IT Aspects

Technology is at the center of the UW Flexible Option Program, from measuring mastery to registering for competency sets and more.

- Student Information System (SIS): interim/permanent
- Customer Relationship Management (CRM)
- Document Management
- Learning Platform
- Learning Analytics
- Assessment Management
- Student Identity Verification (Proctoring)
- Integration
- Reporting
- Identity and Access Management
- Web: sites, self-service portal, mobile



Current IT Activities

Dual focus - getting ready for launch and preparing for the future

- **SIS Request For Proposal (RFP)**
 - Multi-institution evaluation committee (UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee, UW Colleges and UW-Extension)
 - Finalist demonstrations: November 4-5 and 12-13, 2013
- **CRM Request For Proposal (RFP)**
 - Evaluation committee (UW Colleges, UW-Extension) selecting finalist now
 - Finalist demonstrations: December 9-10, 2013
- **Interim Solutions**
 - Distributed SIS and LMS; Custom Interfaces
 - Centralized Marketing, Recruiting, Admissions and Success Coaching
- **Document Management (ImageNow)**
 - Utilizing UW-Madison Imaging Service
 - Implementing now



More Information

UW Flexible Option website: flex.wisconsin.edu

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Questions?