

# MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY



#### **SUMMARY**

Murray State University needed a comprehensive solution to modernize their curriculum management process. The institution chose Kuali Curriculum & Catalog Management and has since received full institutional buy-in, improved data tracking, streamlined processes, and saved hundreds of hours for high-value employees. In addition, Murray State benefited from the cloud-based platform when admin and faculty were required to work from home.



## **PROBLEM**

Murray State University relied on a manual and paper-based curriculum process that was no longer a sustainable option for long-term use. Administrators searched for a new solution that could store and process data more efficiently and maximize faculty adoption.





Murray State University selected Kuali Curriculum & Catalog Management as its new solution.

"We had done demos with other companies before, but we were always searching for the right fit. (Our registrar) was really impressed with how intuitive Kuali looked, how streamlined, how easy to navigate...it felt familiar even though it was not a system we had worked with before.

"Looking at other products and comparing Kuali...Kuali really stood out as being easy to navigate, customizable, and we could keep our processes...with some other solutions we would have had to change our processes to fit the technology and we wanted the technology to fit our processes. Kuali allowed for that. After demoing all options, the committee decision was unanimous to go with Kuali."

**ASHLEY ROGERS** 

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR, CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT, MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

In fact, Rogers felt this was the first software implementation where they saw an immediate impact that was obviously superior to the previous process.



### **RESULTS**

With Kuali Curriculum & Catalog Management, Murray State has seen significant time savings and continued to meet curriculum deadlines, even while working remotely during the Covid-19 pandemic. Traditionally, committees met in person to discuss curriculum changes. With forced remote work due to social distancing, these committees had initially planned to meet via video conference; however, with Kuali, they don't need to meet at all.

Instead, committee members used Kuali Curriculum Management's reporting, agenda, and commenting tools to complete their work and stay on track asynchronously with the same levels of success. "I never felt the lack of face-to-face meetings prevented us from moving forward with anything," said Rogers.





Rogers noted that, on average, the institution probably saved some people 20 hours by cutting out those meetings. This includes upper-level administrators like deans, chairs, and provosts, who could then spend more time on other initiatives.

Combining the time saved between departments just in meetings can add up to **over 200 hours**, or **over \$7,000** per curriculum cycle based on an average institution administrator salary in the United States. When you add in time saved on managing the process, increased data integrity, and attention diverted to missions like student experience and learning outcomes, the return on investment is clear.

Along with saving time for individuals, communication and transparency on curriculum projects increased despite the decline in face-to-face touchpoints. Administrators can run quick reports to check a proposal's progress at a moment's notice without sorting through dozens of emails. Committee members, who had been known to accidentally spend time working on an out-dated proposal, know they're seeing the most current version. Per Rogers, "(Without the option of in-person meetings), I don't know what we would have done without Kuali; I know things would have slipped through the cracks."

Additionally, Kuali Curriculum & Catalog Management met Murray State's high expectations for user experience. The solution is so easy to use that faculty members were able to enter the system and make changes even before going through training and without requiring any handholding from admin staff. It enabled them to continue important curriculum work without missing a beat.

# "[Kuali] felt familiar even though it was not a system we had worked with before." -Ashley Rogers

Rogers is already looking forward to using Kuali Curriculum & Catalog Management to improve the general education core at Murray State and develop more robust reporting around assessments. Even though adopting Kuali Curriculum & Catalog Management didn't require process changes, it opened up the opportunity for administrators and faculty to take a more active role and develop their own ideas for how to improve processes and curriculum in the future—from wherever and they work



