Since our last status update, the Curricular Parameters Work Group has focused on load weights for the many different kinds of courses and learning experiences offered in the School of Music. Members of the Work Group met on several occasions with Dean West and Associate Dean Painter, to determine appropriate load weights for various courses: ensembles (large to small); lecture/discussion (with varying contact hours and work); seminar, skills—lecture/lab and classroom applied instruction; applied lessons/studio and studio/composition seminar; and project courses (junior/senior recitals and projects). Using what we believe is a “reasonable” expectation for work associated with a unit course, we developed load weights proportionate to the unit for these various experiences. (At the same time, we recognize that the SoM is currently considering a transition to a unit system and these values may change if courses and learning experiences are packaged differently in a new curriculum. Still, we believe that the basic principles will still apply and underpin whatever new load weights are developed.)

We continued to refine the Course Type, Target Enrollment, and Load Weight matrix, and we drafted a narrative to accompany (and describe the conceptual reasoning behind) the matrix.

In mid-April, we met with Provost Paul to discuss both documents; we are currently making final edits.