

# MANAGING COMPETING PRIORTIES

WISCONSIN ENTERPRISE MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY  
CLASS OF 2016



## TEAM 3

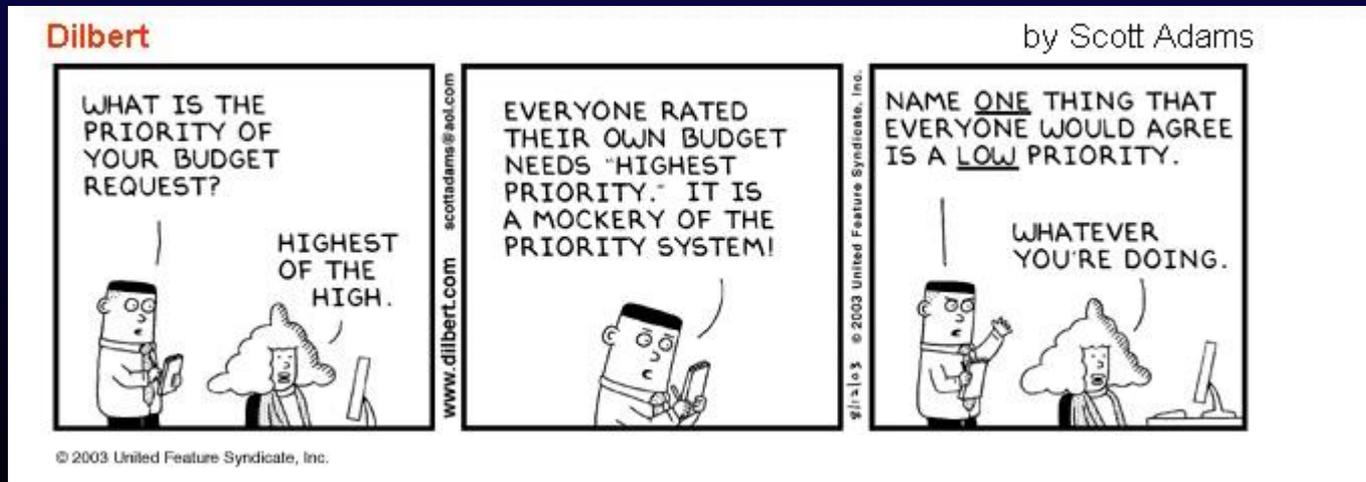
Sue Granger - DOA  
Katie Herrem - DOC  
Mark Hoenecke - ECB  
Anastasia Thomas - DOR  
Matt Umhoefer - DOT

# OVERVIEW

- **Introduction (Mark Hoenecke)**
- **Scope and Context (Katie Herrem)**
- **Tools and Resources (Matt Umhoefer)**
- **Two Case Studies**
  - **DOA (Sue Granger)**
  - **DOR (Anastasia Thomas)**
- **Summary (Mark Hoenecke)**

# INTRODUCTION

- Why Prioritize?
  - Limited resources (inter-related)
    - Time
    - Money
    - Human Resources
  - Multiple tasks
  - External influences



# INTRODUCTION

- Linear prioritization
  - Works for computers (speed)
  - Doesn't work so well for people
- Newer tools for categorizing priorities
  - “Eisenhower Matrix”



<https://researchadministrationnation.com>

	URGENT	NOT URGENT
IMPORTANT	DO IT NOW	PLAN IT
NOT IMPORTANT	DELEGATE	DROP IT

<http://growthcheatsheet.com>

# INTRODUCTION

- Additional methods and programs for priority categorization
- Case Studies from two different types of state agencies



# SCOPE AND CONTEXT

A manager who effectively prioritizes understands:

- SCOPE: what activities must be prioritized; and
- CONTEXT: the environment in which he/she is prioritizing.

*What priorities am I managing, and what influences how I manage them?*

# SCOPE AND CONTEXT

**What is the SCOPE of my prioritization exercise?**

**Key questions:**

- **What are the activities I am prioritizing?**
- **What tasks are currently competing for time/resources?**
- **What is the deadline for each task?**
- **What is the importance of each task?**
- **Who is requiring each task?**
- **What control do I have over the timeline for each task?**
- **What must I do myself and what can I delegate?**

# SCOPE AND CONTEXT

What is the **CONTEXT** of my prioritization exercise?

Key questions:

- What resources are currently available?
  - *Time/Human Resources*
  - *Money*
- What external factors must I consider?
  - *Laws and Policies*
  - *Stakeholders*
  - *Authority figures*
  - *Differing expectations*

# TOOLS AND RESOURCES

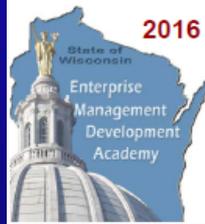
- **Countless number of software programs**
  - **Includes software designed specifically to aid in prioritization, as well as customized versions of Microsoft Excel**
- **Useful characteristics include**
  - **Project and multi-project incorporation**
  - **Ease of comparing importance and resources required**
  - **User-friendly visualization and reporting mechanisms**
  - **Portability across platforms**
- **Check with your department on licensing**

# TOOLS AND RESOURCES

- **Analysis of Competing Priorities (ACP)**
  - Risk management methodology that can be used to either avoid the greatest negative repercussions \*or\* attain the greatest positive benefit
  - Assumes all options are feasible
  - Easy way to “weigh” options without resorting to software

# ACP Examples

+ means something will occur;  
- means something will not occur



	Complete a regularly recurring report a day early	Miss work to go donate blood without letting anyone know	Spend all day on State St
Manager gets upset	-	+	+
Senior Leader gets upset	-	-	+
Fired from my organization	-	-	+
Bad news on front page of WSJ	-	-	+
TOTAL +	0	1	4

	Complete a regularly recurring report a day early	Develop a significant positive opportunity for the organization	Organize a team effort to volunteer in the community
Pat on the back	+	+	+
Employee of the month	-	+	-
Promotion	-	++	-
Good news on front page of WSJ	-	-	+
TOTAL +	1	4	2

# ACP Information Technology Example - Positive Benefit

	Purchase upgraded email servers	Purchase advanced analytical software licenses for one year to complete a project	Hire three additional IT personnel
Contributes to strategic outcomes	-	+	-
Improves staff-workload balance	-	-	+
Does not incur new long-term costs	+	+	-
Causes no/minimal disruption to the workforce	-	+	+
<b>TOTAL +</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>

**+ means something will occur; - means something will not occur**

# **CASE STUDY – Administration Division of Enterprise Technology**

- **Provide Enterprise IT for 35 agencies**
- **Mission**
  - **To be the IT service provider of choice**
  - **To exceed customer expectations and allow State agencies to focus on their core business.**

**Scope ranges from strategic direction to the day-to-day operations**

# CASE STUDY – Administration Division of Enterprise Technology

- Enterprise IT changes potentially impact all
  - Review
  - Schedule
  - Communicate
- IT Service Management
  - Set of practices focused on aligning IT services with the needs of business and managing change



# **CASE STUDY – Administration Division of Enterprise Technology**

- **Cherwell**
  - **Change management**
  - **Schedule and classify changes by type – based on level of risk**
- **Change coordination considerations**
  - **Conflicts**
  - **Agency business cycles**
  - **Change freezes**
  - **Potential risk to business continuity**

# CASE STUDY – Administration Division of Enterprise Technology

- **Operations Communication – “OpCom”**
  - **Daily meetings – weekly changes**
  - **Monthly meetings for changes scheduled further out in the future**
  - **Stakeholders participate**
  - **Exceptions process**
- **DET OpCom Reports**  
<https://det-auth-prod.wi.gov/operations/Pages/Reports.aspx>
- **ITIL**  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ITIL>

# CASE STUDY – Revenue Income Sales and Excise Tax Division

- **Mission**
  - Promote voluntary tax compliance, identify and address noncompliance, provide excellent service, and promote fairness and equity in tax administration
- **Unclaimed Property**
  - Exceed customer expectations throughout the claim process and by proactively reuniting funds with owners
  - Manage securities portfolio
  - Work with businesses reporting property to ensure compliance

# CASE STUDY - REVENUE

- **UCP Environment**
  - **UCP is self funded**
  - **Follow WI State Statute 177**
  - **Short staffed**
  - **Busy season**
  - **3 major IT projects in process**
    - **Each requires 20 hours/week from staff**

# CASE STUDY - REVENUE

- **Issues**
  - **Limited staffing**
  - **Tight timelines**
    - **3 IT Projects with same deadline**
    - **90 day statute to process claims**
    - **Call answer rate  $\geq 98\%$**
- **Resolutions**
  - **Projects broken into phases**
  - **LTE hired**
  - **Staffing resources lent from other areas**

# CASE STUDY - REVENUE

- Results
  - Working with stakeholders
  - Utilizing all offered resources
  - Unit is still operating efficiently

## Dilbert

by Scott Adams



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# SUMMARY

- We manage our priorities



or

- Our priorities manage us



- Please see the brochure for more on this topic
- **THANK YOU!**