Advising and Retention: Advisors Make the Difference

Dr. Ellen W. Bonaguro, Director
Jessica Staten, Retention Coordinator
Academic Advising and Retention Center

Campus Advising Network (CAN)
September 10, 2008

For additional information about this presentation please email kevin.thomas@wku.edu or call him at 745-5065. CAN is open to all WKU advisors and is held throughout the semester on selected Wednesdays at 12:00 pm.
CONGRATULATIONS

Advisors Make the Difference
Improvement in WKUSES Advising Scores

Need to improve NSSE scores
Focus on Retention and Persistence

• High-quality academic advising has been attributed to improved student retention

• Accurate information about course requirements is essential for persistence

• Need to enhance student interaction with campus personnel especially the first term of enrollment “most potent retention force”
Moving Toward Persistence

Check Advisees’ Academic Standing

TopNet/ Advisor & Student Data Inquiry

- View General Student Information
- Unofficial Transcript
- Advisees Eligible to Register By Term (NEW)
Academic Standing

Students must maintain the following scholastic standards in both the overall grade point average and the total institution grade point average (courses taken at WKU) to be in Good Standing:

A. A 1.7 overall and total institution grade point average if the student has 17 or fewer semester hours attempted.

B. A 1.8 overall and total institution grade point average if the student has more than 17 but fewer than 34 hours attempted.

C. A 1.9 overall and total institution grade point average if the student has 34 or more but fewer than 51 semester hours attempted.

D. A 2.0 overall and total institution grade point average if the student has 51 or more semester hours attempted.
Goal: Move Students to Good Standing

Reduce all other standings

AD-academic dismissal *
AC-academic committee review *
AA-academic committee approve to return
AP-academic probation
AW-academic warning

*-requires a written appeal
Advise to Good Standing

- Often need more than one advising appointment
- Repeat F grades-18 hours or 6 courses
- Recommend completion of courses (X, IP)
- Consider a 12 hour schedule-Check to see if they register-and for correct courses
- Consider the student’s academic potential and future
- Academic Renewal-sit out 2 calendar years
MAKE CONNECTIONS FOR STUDENTS

ACADEMIC
- TALK TO PROFESSORS
- CONSULT WITH FINANCIAL AID
- CALL HOUSING
- CALL FOR A TUTORING APPOINTMENT
- CALL COUNSELING AND TESTING

PERSONAL
- LET THEM KNOW YOU CARE
- CONNECT WITH OTHER STUDENTS/FACULTY/STAFF

Find out about what AARC can do to connect students-BEP
Best Expectation Programs

- STEPS
- Freshman Probation
- Sophomore Probation
- Step Up
- Undergraduate Retention
- Voluntary
BEP Requirements Fall 2008

• 6 study hours per week in The Learning Center
• 2 group meetings
• 3 peer intrusive advising sessions
• 2 Academic Advantage Workshops
• Majors/Minors Fair (Fall participants)
• Academic Advising Week (Spring participants)
• Develop a plan of academic success
BEP Student Participation

TopNet

View General Student Information

Best Expectation Programs “Y” designates participation
MESSAGE TO FACULTY/STAFF

BEP targets students that are academically at risk but is open to any WKU undergraduate degree seeking student. Services include but are not limited to: intrusive advising, monitored study hours, Academic Advantage Series: Workshops for Success, and free tutoring. If you have a student that is in need of academic assistance during the semester, please refer them to AARC (DUC A330) for an appointment with the Retention Coordinator or call 270-745-5065 to schedule an appointment.

Any faculty/staff member who determines that a student’s absenteeism is inconsistent with the instructor’s stated policy should either counsel the student or request that AARC arrange a counseling session with the student. For the convenience of faculty, an Attendance Report Form may be submitted to AARC at any point in the semester. Students reported will be notified that their class attendance is unsatisfactory, informed of the number of absences reported, and encouraged to contact the instructor immediately.
# Attendance Report Form

Instructor: ____________________________

Department: __________________________

Phone: _______________________________

Date: ________________________________

The student(s) listed below have excessive absences in my class(es). I request that the Academic Advising and Retention Center contact each student and copy me on the emails.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME (as printed on class roll)</th>
<th>WKU ID #</th>
<th>COURSE ID – SECTION #</th>
<th>TOTAL ABSENCES</th>
<th>OFFICE USE ONLY</th>
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Please campus mail completed form to:
Jessica Staten, Retention Coordinator
Academic Advising & Retention Center (AARC)
DUC A330

(Instructor’s Signature)
MISSION

HELP STUDENTS BELONG
HELP STUDENTS SUCCEED

(IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS ON BACK)

(IN FOLDER-PLACE ON YOUR DOOR AS A REMINDER OF HOW IMPORTANT YOU ARE TO STUDENTS AND HOW MUCH YOUR WORK MEANS TO THE UNIVERSITY)
Thank You For All You Do!

Academic advising is the only structured activity on the campus in which all students have the opportunity for one-to-one interaction with a concerned representative of the institution.

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