

First-Year Council Notes
Thursday, December 7, 2023 from 10:00-11:00am via Zoom

Membership of First-Year Council for 2023-2024 (listed alphabetically)

Rotating Members

Dr. Minor Baker, COE (member through 2024)
Dr. Stephen Berkwitz, CHPA (member through 2024)
Crystal Dicke, LIBR (member through 2025)
Dr. Toby Dogwiler, CNAS (member through 2024)
Scott Handley, Honors College (member through 2024)
Aubrey Hardy, Student Representative, Special Needs Ed major
Rob Moore, Student Affairs (member through 2024)
Dr. Linda Moser, COAL (member through 2025)
Dr. Sarah Murray, CHHS (member through 2025)
Carly Pierson, COB (member through 2025)
Dr. Christi Sudbrock, COA (member through 2025)

Ex-Officio Members

Dr. Kelly Wood, Associate Vice President, Student Success (standing member)
Dr. Tracey Glaessgen, Associate Director, Center for Academic Success and Transition/Director, First-Year Programs (standing member)

Council Charge: To advise the Executive Director and Associate Director, Center for Academic Success and Transition on initiatives involving the first-year experience (FYE) at Missouri State University. These initiatives include, but are not limited to: 1) developing overarching goals for the first-year seminar course, 2) ensuring the course is designed to increase academic skill building, public affairs awareness, and campus connections, 3) evaluating the effectiveness of the first-year seminar course and recommending changes based upon assessment data, and 4) serving as a liaison with other departments/colleges/student affairs as part of a larger effort to inform and address issues involving first-year students.

Agenda

- I. Convene meeting—
Members in attendance: Crystal Dicke, Scott Handley, Aubrey Hardy, Rob Moore, Linda Moser, Sarah Murray, Christi Sudbrock, Tracey Glaessgen
- II. Updates and Discussion
 - GEP 101 Grade Distribution for fall 2023
Tracey shared the grade distribution chart with FYC members. Similar to previous years, GEP 101 had approximately 60% A's and approximately a 12% DFW rate.
 - Dotted line to Dr. Ken Brown, Chief Academic Strategy Officer
Since GEP 101 is a required General Education course, there's now a dotted line to the Provost's office, which will allow for direct oversight and support.

- Other items?
Discussed additional layer of support in first-generation/college sections, including additional instructor workshop focused upon supporting FG students, provided Success Coaches who were partnered with a Peer Mentor, as well as some sections also having Peer Leaders.

III. Center for Academic Success and Transition

- Academic Care Team— faculty/staff referral and student self-referral
As you have students who might be struggling academically, please refer them to complete a self-referral to meet with our success coaches within CAST
<https://www.missouristate.edu/AcademicSuccess/student-academic-assistance.htm>
- Title III Grant—
Since the beginning of the Fall 2023 semester, our coaches have had over 450 coaching sessions and are currently reaching out to their students who are not yet registered for Spring 2024.
CAST and OSFA have collaborated to create a Financial Literacy Assistant position that is staffed by a graduate assistant and funded by the grant to offer additional financial literacy support to first-generation students. Our FLA has presented to the First-Generation college dedicated GEP sections and is now reaching out to FG students via phone to provide information.

IV. Next meeting—spring 2024