

Transfer Advising Committee Meeting

Wednesday, Dec. 6th 3-4:30

Members Present

Jim Bellis (COA), Jessica Bendure (COE), Nora Cox (COAL), John Hall (Outreach), Bethany Laws (COB), Hillary Mayes (CHHS), Mandi Muse (CHPA), Ross Hawkins (SDPA)

Members Absent

Brian High (CNAS), Jaime Ross (Outreach)

Visitors

None

Member Updates and Concerns

1. New advisor release policy
 - a. Some students did not know they needed a release until they were blocked from registering on their assigned date
 - b. Has increased advising volume
 - c. More contact with advisors is good and will help students graduate in a timely manner and learn of possible issues earlier (before graduation or last semester)
2. Can be a challenge to reach out to newly admitted transfer students during busy advising months (primarily November and April)
3. Continue to see more transfer students with AA degrees
4. John Hall from Adult Student Services visits OTC-Springfield campus on Monday evenings to assist students planning to transfer; occasionally visits the Table Rock campus
5. No English placement exam makes it challenging to advise transfer students without English credit or ACT/SAT placement scores
6. Advising prospective transfer students
 - a. Some transfer advisors feel overwhelmed trying to balance current advisees, transfer students and prospective students, especially if a prospective student wants to meet early in a semester and then again when registration opens (two hours vs. one hour in a semester)
 - i. Can group advising be utilized for prospective students?
 - ii. Is it acceptable to ask a prospective student to wait a few months until we can release the student and help him/her register for courses?
 - b. Would be nice to have a CRM that would allow us to “track” prospective students

7. Need to continue to find ways to communicate the importance of a transfer student applying early and registering for courses in a timely manner
8. Concerns about admitting transfer students through the first week of the semester and the week before
 - a. Retention data on transfer students admitted/registered on or after Aug. 14th
 - b. GPA data on these students
 - c. Withdrawal rates

Transfer Advising Days (proposal by Don Simpson and Transfer Council)

1. Pros
 - a. Could encourage admitted students to register earlier
 - b. Access to campus resources (tours, financial aid, computer services, etc.)
 - c. Complete everything in one day
 - d. May encourage families to visit
 - e. Opportunity to show off campus
2. Cons
 - a. Coordinating the event among multiples colleges and advisors
 - i. Would it be better for colleges to host transfer advising days or should it be university wide?
 - ii. Who would schedule the appointments and how would this be communicated to advisors?
 - iii. Is there a limited number of spots available? For example, Mandi Muse is the only advisor for Criminology and she would only be able to visit with so many students in a day.
 - b. Not possible to have every transfer advisor available on the same day and time
 - c. Could disadvantage current students if advisors have to block off a day
 - d. May unintentionally exclude out-of-state transfers and online learners
 - e. No show rate
 - f. Transfer students may skip class at current school to attend

Ideas for spring 2018 advisor forum

1. Reverse transfer
2. Reevaluation system and tools to help advisors know when to encourage a student to submit a reevaluation
3. Advising panel with advisors from other campuses (OTC, MSU-WP, Crowder)
4. **SB 997 MDHE Core Curriculum Transfer Act and how that will impact transfer students (Part 2)**
 - a. Hillary Mayes will reach out to Dr. Joshua Smith about doing an advisor forum in March or early May

Important Dates

1. Spring 2018 committee meetings (all meetings in University Hall 113 from 2:00-3:30)
 - a. Wednesday, Feb. 14th
 - b. Wednesday, March 7th
 - c. Wednesday, April 4th
 - d. Wednesday, May 2nd
2. Annual MSU/OTC advisor meeting
 - a. Wednesday, Feb. 28th from 9-10:30 a.m. at OTC (room location TBD)