

Connected:

An Academic Advising Communiqué



From the NACADA Conference in Denver ...

Volume 4, Number 3

October 2011



Our national advising award recipients:
Noble Jackson, Outstanding Faculty Advisor
Raini Wijeweera, Outstanding New Advisor (right)

R Scott Johnson, Chair
Liberal Arts Advisors Commission

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UAccess Student Update

by Sarah Wieland, *Principal Enterprise Business Analyst, Mosaic Project*

An academic advising working group has been formed that meets monthly to discuss UAccess Student issues and suggests, designs, and tests modifications to UAccess to improve the student and advising experience. This group also assists in the testing of academic advising functionality every 3-4 months when 'bundle' upgrades from Oracle are received.

Since this group formed earlier this year, members have worked on improving UAccess Analytics reports in the Advisor Dashboard, tested two bundle upgrades, and recommended additional features to Advisor Notes and Student Exceptions, many of which have already been implemented. Their current projects include upgrading to bundle 23, further improving of Advisor Notes and Student Exceptions, and helping the advisement report reflect the new developmental MATH courses in an understandable way. In the coming year, this group will also be integral to discussions surrounding electronic probation contracts and advising appointment scheduling systems.

Members include: Alan Beaudrie, Robin Rarick, Christy Ball, Roxie Catts, Kristin Eaton, Sandy Holm, Melanie Brady, Laura Ullrich, Norma Ayon, Kerith Lisa, Natalie Shue, John McNeill, Russel Potter, Kelly Jackson, Monique Whiting, and Chris Dentel as well as representation from the Degree Tracker team. If you have any questions about this group or would like to contribute suggestions for topics of discussion, please email Sarah Wieland at swieland@email.arizona.edu.

A Good Practice:

Protecting Students and Advisors from Unwanted Surprises

by Roxie Catts, Advising Resource Center

While there is no longer a university-wide deadline for students to file for the degree check, many colleges ask their students to complete the degree audit during the semester prior to the planned graduation date either before, or right after, registration for the final semester. Some colleges require students to file two semesters prior to graduation.

Filing the degree candidacy paperwork before the final semester begins helps to avoid any last minute surprises that can result a delay in graduation. In other words, there is still one more final semester to correct any missing requirements. An added benefit of this practice is that it automatically ensures the student's name will be published in the commencement bulletin.

The Mentor Gets a New Look

The Mentor: An Academic Advising Journal is a peer-reviewed scholarly publication about academic advising in higher education. The journal is free and published only online at Penn State. According to the website, “The goal of the journal is to provide a mechanism for the rapid dissemination of new ideas about advising and for ongoing discourse about advising issues. Toward this goal, articles in the journal are published continuously. Each article is archived and is accessible online indefinitely.”

We are pleased to report that even though the look and design is new some of standard features continue to be a part of the publication. The ‘Advising Forum’, for example, will continue to seek input and ideas from advisors on topics and issues common to academic advising in higher education. This has been an invaluable feature over the years.

Recently, Alan Beaudrie, sent a link to a most interesting article in The Mentor called [Academic Advising at the University of Utopia](#) by Marc Lowenstein, The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. You can find the article here: <http://dus.psu.edu/mentor/2011/09/university-of-utopia/> Enjoy!



Advisor Notes

by Nancy Stiller

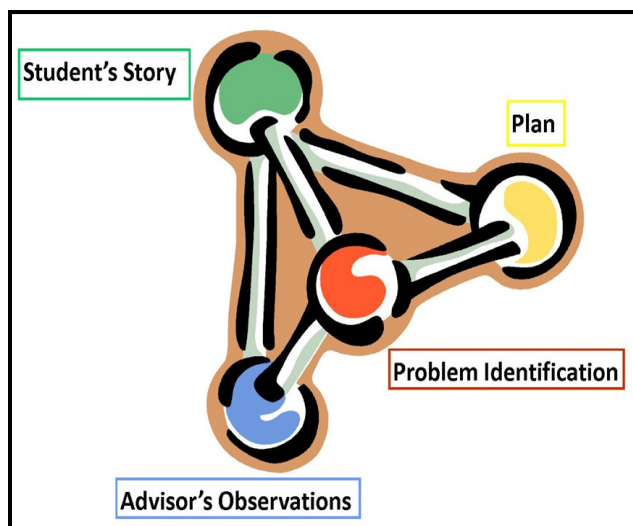
The slides from the Fall semester ARC seminars are posted on the ARC website:

http://advising.arizona.edu/advisors_ARC_seminars

The September 28 session, “Strategies for Effectively and Efficiently Using the Advisor Note System” generated lots of questions from the advising community.

As a result, we would like to offer any interested advising unit a follow up, customized session (at one of your advising staff meetings or other time convenient for you) to talk about questions or concerns that might be specific to your department. Just give us a call at 626-8667 or send an email to us at advising@email.arizona.edu

Remember that students have the right to see their student records including advising notes. So ... write your advising notes with the idea in mind that a student reading them would not be surprised by the content.



From Career Services

by Susan Miller, Senior Coordinator, Marketing-Special Events

This year's Career Services-sponsored UA Graduate School Day will host over 80 tables including representatives from: Boston College, Carnegie Mellon, Columbia University, Creighton, N.Y.U., Pepperdine, Princeton, St. George's University, American University of the Caribbean, UC Berkeley, UCLA and USC.

UA Graduate School Day

Wednesday, November 2nd

1pm to 4pm

Student Union Memorial Center

3rd floor ballroom

Please encourage students to attend this event where their graduate school options can be explored. Further details and links to the websites of participating schools and departments can be found at: <http://www.career.arizona.edu/students/?gradschoolfair>

Are your students interested in New Media and/or Entertainment Careers?



Students can find out how acrobatic performances, interactive computer games and gold medal Olympians relate to New Media and Entertainment at Career Services' first Career Panel & Networking Event this Fall Semester. Panelists include representatives from Cirque du Soleil, Sony PlayStation, the Tucson Padres, Tucson Newspapers and Redline Deziqn.

Whether students are just considering a career in New Media and Entertainment, or are absolutely convinced this career path is their destiny, they should check out this Panel and Networking opportunity, **Wednesday, October 19th, 5:30 pm to 7 pm in the Catalina and Tucson Meeting Rooms at the Student Union Memorial Center.** They will hear panelists offer career insights on this innovative and emerging field as they share information on their own career paths, trends in the field and critical skills students should hone.

Mark Your Calendars ...

Advisor Brown Bag

Thursday, October 20, 2011
11:30 am—1:00 pm (it's OK to drop in)
SUMC 411

UPAC Meeting

Wednesday, November 9, 2011
8:15 am—9:30 am
SUMC 411



Veteran's Day!!!

Friday, November 11, 2011
All Day - university offices are closed

Advisor Brown Bag

Wednesday, November 16, 2011
11:30 am—1:00 pm (it's OK to drop in)

Senior Year Experience: A UA Alumni Association Program

College is hard work—but preparing for graduation shouldn't be!

A concise website including “all things graduation” is:

<http://alumni.arizona.edu/students/seniors>

The site includes the Graduation Checklist, commencement information, and more!
Share this information with your graduating seniors today.

