

Update on Reorganization of Advising for Undergraduates

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January 24, 2018

Overview

- UA-Little Rock is moving to centralized advising in the Office of Undergraduate Academic Advising (UAA) for most first time in college students (FTICs) and some transfer students.
- ***The new model will begin with advising of students admitted for Summer and Fall 2018. Until then, all advising will occur according to the existing model.***

Details to Date (more work to be done)

- Each college will have a lead advisor in UAA with a backup; all advisors in UAA will be cross-trained to provide some level of service to any student.
- Exceptions to centralized advising for new students
 - Some programs in CEHP
 - Nursing
 - Social Work
 - Audiology and Speech Pathology
 - Elementary and Middle Childhood Education
 - ASL(These programs have some special complexities. New students in these programs will be advised by professional advisors in the CEHP college office. We will revisit these exceptions in the Spring of 2019.)
 - Bachelor of Arts of Applied Science (BAS—a specialized completion program to continue to be advised in the CSSC college office)
 - Donaghey Scholars
- Military students, Chancellors Leadership Core Scholarship recipients, and athletes will not be treated as exceptions, although UAA will be coordinating with other units that provide additional support services and programing for these populations.
- Apart from exceptions noted above, UAA will be the first point of entry for FTIC and new transfer students
 - FTICs: Will be advised by UAA for approximately their first 45 hours. For students taking 15 hours per term, this means UAA will be advising them during summer orientation for the first fall semester; during fall semester for the first spring semester; during spring for the second fall semester; and then do a soft, coordinated hand-off to a college or department.
 - Transfers: Details of the status of the student (e.g., number of hours, whether he or she is decided upon a major, etc.) will determine the timing of the pass off to a college or department. E.g., if a student has ≤ 45 , he or she will stay in UAA. At the other extreme, a student who has 70 hours, is a confirmed sociology major, and already has 9 hours of SOCI from another institution, will be passed to the department very quickly. Students between these extremes will be handled on a case by case basis. In the case of transfers from UA-PTC, we will be looking for ways to incorporate the services of our existing placement of a UA-Little Rock advisor who works on site at UA-PTC.

Timeline

- ***Again, the new model will begin with advising of students admitted for Summer and Fall 2018. Until then, all advising will occur according to the existing model.***
- The renovation to carve out five new offices in UAA suite on the 3rd floor of the Student Services Center is nearly complete; existing UAA advisors have moved back from their temporary location in Reynolds

- An ADHE Letter of Notification is in process to rename UAA “Trojan Academic Advising and Support Center”
- New advisors will be joining UAA Feb. 1. (We are drawing one advisor from each of four college offices and are using a vacant line for a 5th).
- Continuing work during Spring 18
 - Getting all UAA advisors trained for advising during orientation in summer, when the new model will begin; lead advisors will continue to work with respective colleges and programs over spring to get details nailed down
 - Revising processes (e.g., creating a pre-advising questionnaire, the on-boarding of military students), and implementing new ones (e.g., creating a system for keeping track of declared majors advised in UAA from those passed on to be advised in colleges or departments)
 - Expanding on the work of the University Advising Council (a group that includes representation from each college and other units from Academic Affairs and Student Affairs)
 - Trouble shoot policy and practices
 - Coordinate training
 - Build within Blackboard a depository of polices and other resources, easily accessible to advisors across the university
 - Establish an expanded group of advisors to meet regularly
 - Continuing the implementation Degree Works
 - Implementation of the Degree Audit portion of Degree works is far along
 - We have considerable work remaining to implement use of Student Educational Plans (customizable, sequenced semester-by-semester display of courses leading to graduation)