

Undergraduate Advising Council
Thursday, March 19, 2015
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm, 240 Rinker Hall

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 3:30 pm.

Draft of minutes from the January meeting were approved.

Committee Reports:

Communications Committee: Ken Foote announced the publication of the new academic advisor blog. He invited advisors to visit the site and provide any feedback as well as items for future discussion. He also called for advisors interested in communications to join the committee.

Professional Development Committee: Dana Myers gave an overview of success of the 2015 Advisor Conference. The committee has also started organizing the Conference feedback forms. This will help the UAC guide the 2016 conference.

Advising Certificate Committee: Andrew and Deb are working on entering the information for certification credit from the 2015 Advisor Conference. There was some confusion at the conference regarding how people report their participation/points. It was suggested that a new form be created to better communicate the outcomes and points of the advisor certification system.

Advisor Award Display – The display is scheduled to be ready to debut later this spring semester. Joel Parker and Andrew Wehle plan on meeting with Brittany Adams in March to review the installed display system in Smathers Library.

Chair-Elect of the UAC – Dana Myers was elected as Chair-Elect of the UAC.

UFIC –Study Abroad Advisor Forms – Caroline Cully of the International Center presented to the UAC about the important role academic advisors provide in filling out the new forms for students participating in study abroad programs. She asked advisors to help provide information and guide the students to the proper academic units in order to obtain course equivalent approvals. Caroline explained that this is an important step for students to complete and can be a source of frustration on behalf of the students who may feel they are being bounced around the university. She wanted us to be aware of these issues and asked for our continued support of study abroad students as well as the policies of the UFIC.

New Summer Financial Aid Disbursement Information – Tina Lamb from the Office of Student Financial Affairs presented to the UAC about new financial aid disbursement policies that are going into effect Summer 2015 semester. Students registered for Sum A/C and B will receive all of their aid at the beginning of Sum A/C for all courses registered at that time. Advisors should properly inform students to be careful about how they register and be as accurate as possible. In particular, they could be liable to pay back money for dropped Summer B courses that money was disbursed in Summer A/C.

Grade Integrity Policy – Andrew Wehle discussed the draft of a new Grade Integrity Policy that is being proposed by the university. It is an initiative to set minimum course standards to reflect the university's expectations regarding the integrity of course grades. In regards to undergraduate courses, the policy calls for the following: *a minimum of 50% of the course grade must be determined from assignments that are either completed in a proctored environment or are subject to cheating/anti-plagiarism analysis by an accepted tool such as Turnitin.* It should be noted that this is still a work in progress at the CAD level and no official policy has been established. This is an informative agenda item for the UAC.