

University Academic Advising Executive Council (UAAEC)  
12/11/2020  
Meeting Minutes

**Members Attending:** Karina Aispuro, Robin Bond, Sarah Kenney, Debbie O'Donnell, Sara Stout, Terese King, Colette Casavant, Jeremy Lessmann, Thabiti Lewis, Waylon Safranski, Nancy Wehrung, Joy Scourey, Kasey Schertenleib, Darren Yocum, Samantha Gizerian, Matt Zimmerman, Kelly Alvarado-Young

## Agenda

### 1. Introductions & Welcome to new members

Sarah Kenney-College of Pharmacy in Spokane.  
Kelly Alvarado-Young- New student programs.  
Karina Aispuro- College of Nursing in Tri Cities.

### 2. Advisor Consultant Group (ACG) Report – Colette

- Large part of discussion was on zoom fatigue and motivation decline. How can we help the students?
- Advisors are noticing an increase in holds on student's accounts. Why and how can we resolve this.
- ALP asked for topics for the Forum in Spring.
- Study Abroad-delays in transcripts.
- Discussion with New Student Programs on Alive; Advisors shared feedback on Alive advising.

### 3. Spring Semester – 2021

#### a. New Student Enrollment – Nancy Wehrung (WSU-P Admissions)

- 107 students deferred enrollment from Fall to Spring; 34 of these students have enrolled into Spring courses already.
  - 46 freshmen
  - 50 transfers
  - 11 FSR
- 330 students deferred enrollment from Fall 2020 to Fall 2021
- New Students for Spring 2021 (not including deferred)
  - 177 transfers confirmed for Spring vs. 214 last year
  - 57 freshmen confirmed for Spring vs. 50 last year
  - Spring application for new students will remain open through January 14, 2021.
  - FSR application is closed.
- New Student Programs – Kelly (WSU-P)
  - Alive opened Dec 1 and 110 students have registered thus far for Spring Alive.
    - 20 freshman, 90 transfer, 6 international, 104 domestic and 3 guests.
    - Students will need to come back at the end of Alive to check in with the OC to make sure everything has been completed online.
- Tri Cities- 138 new students; 36 already registered. Students can register before the Holidays.
- Spokane- not accepting new students for Spring (Pharmacy).
- Global- down 25% from last Spring. 279 matriculated for Spring; Admissions is leaving the application open 1 week longer this year.
- Vancouver- down about 200 students for Spring 2021.

#### b. **Current Student Enrollment**

- Efforts have been made to email students to encourage them to take care of various holds;
- Terese sent a list to advisors of students who had no holds but had not registered yet for Spring
- Murrow college has campaigned students to register for classes;
- The Registrars Office has worked with CAS to look at students shopping carts to give a better picture of what courses may see a hit for Spring once holds have been taken care of
- Various reasons that students have not registered yet include financial/still owe a balance; students want to finish current term first; students remarked that they forgot it was time to register.
- Nancy stated that HS principals are sharing students are unsure of how colleges view their grades during COVID and there is hesitation in applying to college; HS guidance counselors have been inundated with students personal stories;
- Vancouver students are increasingly underrepresented students; Admission has really developed relationships with prospective students, helping them talk through resources; the lag is caused by students just not knowing what to do;

#### 4. **NRC Grading Policy**

- The NRC grade was a way to address student's Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP); If students had poor or declining grades due to the impact of COVID, the CARES Act allows students to attest that the result is COVID related and it won't impact their financial aid moving forward; Deadline to request a grade change is January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021
- Terese sent an email to any WSU student who had withdrawn from one or more courses during the Fall Semester informing them of the NRC grade and how to apply. Sent to students on all WSU campuses;
- Another Query will run Monday of students who completed a Term withdrawal (all courses) for the Fall Semester. These students will be sent a similar email informing them of the NRC grade.
- Questions from Advisors
  - Can Z grades be changed to NRC? Yes
  - Will students need to write reasons as to how it is COVID related? No detailed reasons are needed; students will be checking a box stating the requested grade change is COVID related; No review of each request will occur; If the student completes the form and checks the box relating the change to COVID, the grade change will happen; No questions asked.
  - Is there any flexibility with the deadline? No, but students could file a petition after deadline.

#### 5. **Spring Semester Plans**

##### A. **Advisor Concerns/Needs?**

- Sara Stout brought up Annual reviews; how can we help advisors with their annual evaluation and review process; how can we show off the work they have done during this difficult time; highlight innovations and how advisors have contributed to retention during this difficult time;
- Sarah Kenney talked about the need to find ways we can give back to our advisors who need the mental health break; how do we arm our advisors with the tools they need to do their best work; how to leverage technology and the resources we have;
- Mental Health first aid did a 1-2 hours training aimed at advisors and it was wonderful (Murrow) – free, interactive Zoom, 48 people attended; Ellen Taylor from CAPS is the contact;
- Kasey (VCEA) shared that their leadership/admin were encouraging advisors to take the “No class days” for students this spring and make them a no Zoom or meeting day for advisors; advisors need a break;

**B. What should UAAEC tackle? How can UAAEC help?**

- Advising Forum will be a half day rather than a full day so advisors can take care of themselves and request leave for the other half
- UAAEC can advocate to the leadership for “No Class Days” to be leave days for Advisors as well; they rely on Spring Break to catch up or provide down time;

**6. Transfer Center: Feedback on pre-transfer advising – Waylon**

- Tracking emails and conversations with potential transfers students.  
How can we formalize these processes?  
Bottom line is we cannot wait to have conversations with students and advisors.  
Slate has some capabilities and opportunity for this.  
Ideas for more seamless processes? Connect with Waylon.

**Announcement from New Student Programs:** NSP Newsletter-centralized hub for family communication. Family.wsu.edu. January 6<sup>th</sup> will be the first day the newsletter goes out. February 4<sup>th</sup> will be the next. Contact Kelly in NSP if you have something you want to include.

**UAAEC Meeting Schedule: Spring - 2021**

- February 12, 2021; 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.
- March 12, 2021; 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.
- April 16, 2021; 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.
- May 7, 2021; 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.