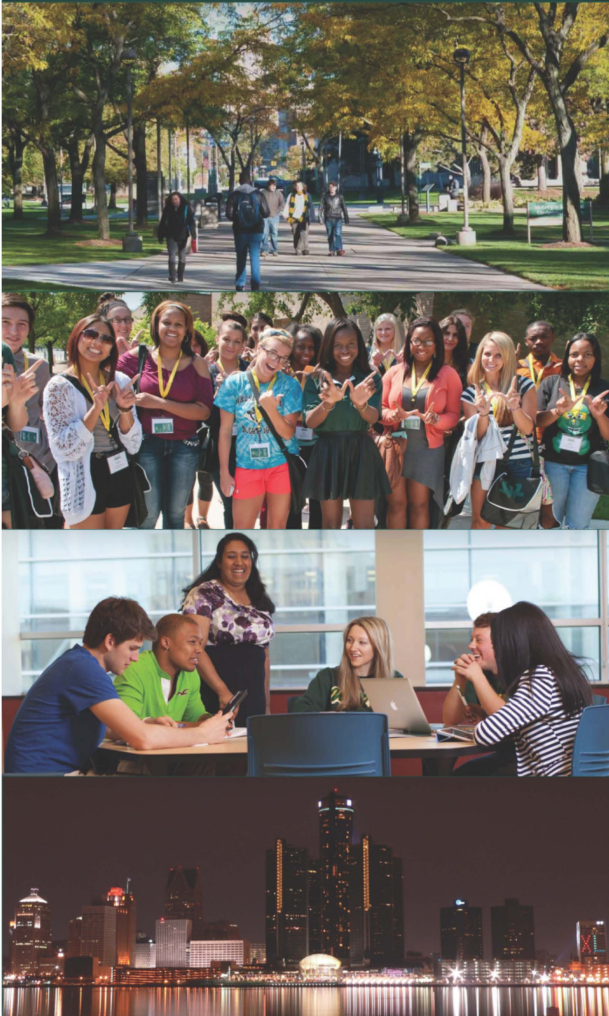# UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC ADVISING INITIATIVE

Cheryl Kollin
Director, University Advising Center
and
Monica Brockmeyer
Associate Provost for Student Success

SUCCESS
RESPONSIBILITY · SUPPORT

ADVISING INITIATIVE TO SUPPORT STUDENT SUCCESS
(advising exists to assist students)

- Hire 45 advisors. Advisors placed in school/college academic departments
- Align to national standards of 250 advisees to 1 advisor
- All undergraduate students have a primary advisor
  - in their department if they have a major
  - General Education advising moved to departments to provide one stop advising
- Supplemental advising which compliments primary advising Example: Pre-Medicine
- Supplemental advising for "at risk" students. Example: Exploratory students

SUCCESS
RESPONSIBILITY · SUPPORT

Philosophy of Advising

- Advising is proactive, developmental, comprehensive and relational
- Advising supports the transition into college beginning at Orientation
- Advising is a form of teaching
- Focus on relationships, not transactions.
- Advisors serve as navigators, foster a sense of belonging.

SUCCESS
RESPONSIBILITY · SUPPORT

WSU Advising Training Academy (ATA)

- The ATA addresses the need for initial and ongoing training, professional development, and recognition for all academic advisors at Wayne State University.

- Current programs:
  - Lunch and Learn
  - Student Success webinars
  - Training on University policies & technologies to support advising.
  - Workshops on current and relevant advising practices and theories.
  - Degree Works training
  - Transfer initiatives (MTA, MACRAO)
  - Academic Advising Summit (planned with Advising Council)
  - 2015-2016 – Master Advisor Certification Program

University Advising Center (UAC)

- The UAC, with the advising initiative, has experienced a culture shift and is positioned to provide proactive, developmental and intentional advising support. The UAC is responsible for the following areas:

  – Exploratory Student Program

  – Office of Military Veterans Academic Excellence

  – Pre-Med and Health Science Center

  – Probation, Pre-Exclusion and Reinstatement

  – Advisor Training Academy

  – New Student Orientation

SUCCESS
RESPONSIBILITY · SUPPORT

Exploratory Student Program

- Specialized advising to support students entering WSU still deciding on a major/program of study
    - With their advisor, students explore self, majors and careers
    - Use of general education courses to assist with interest/major exploration
    - Large scale events each semester
    - Opportunity to explore majors and careers through exploratory activities
    - Students must declare major by 45 credit hours

Office of Military Veterans Academic Excellence (OMVAE)

- Provide direct and liaison services for all education and administrative matters for student veterans
  - Dedicated advising
  - Certify plan of work
  - Special programs for at-risk student veterans
  - Option APEX 1000 section for student veterans

- Student Veteran Resource Center
  - Quiet Study Area
  - Computer Lab
  - Social Area
  - Programs for student veterans

SUCCESS
RESPONSIBILITY · SUPPORT

Pre-Med and Health Science Center

- Supplemental support for students pursuing competitive professional programs

- Prerequisite coursework advising within the context of an overall degree program

- Information Meetings and Workshops

- Professional development strategies

- Application support
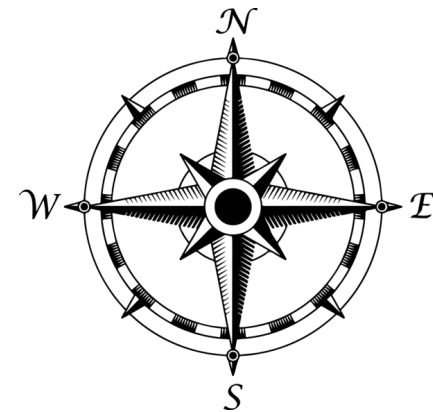
- Learning Community

Probation, Pre-Exclusion and Reinstatement

- Probation
  - Cumulative GPA below a 2.0
  - Can be on probation for three semesters (P1, P2, P3)
    - Intervention/success strategies for P1 and P2 students at the department level
    - P3 – Pre-Exclusion Intervention
- Pre-Exclusion
  - Intervention/success program is housed in the UAC
    - Formal contract
    - Required activities
    - Minimum of two meetings with advisor
    - Proof of final grades before registering for future semesters
- Reinstatement
  - Student has been excluded from University and may apply to return
  - Program is housed in the UAC
  - Review of reinstatement applications
  - Formal contract for reinstated students
    - Intrusive term-by-term advising
    - Required success activities
    - Mandatory advising meetings

New Student Orientation

- 2015: Orientation positioned as a Student Success activity.
- Not a one day event, but a summer of transition into college, including,
  - Orientation
  - O2: Orientation, Part 2
  - Parent Orientation
  - Pre-matriculation programs for special populations, e.g. bridge programs.
  - Convocation and Festifall
  - Welcome Week
- Increased focus on first year and setting high expectation for students
- Organize and deliver quality transitional experiences to incoming freshmen and transfer students
- Works closely with schools, colleges and departments across campus to develop and deliver a robust program

Advising Initiative to Support Student Success

TECHNOLOGY TO SUPPORT THE ADVISING INITIATIVE

WAMS (Wayne Advising Management System)
    electronic appointment system
CHOMPS (Change of Major or Program)
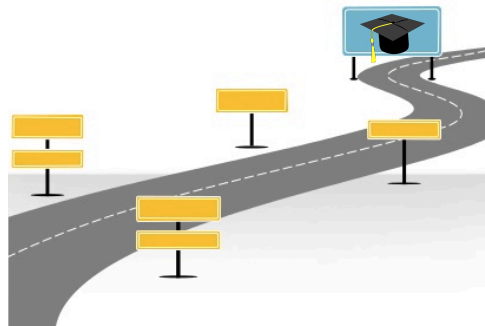   electronic declaration or change of major
    system in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

DEGREE WORKS------2015-2016
ADVISOR EARLY WARNING SYSTEM------2015-2016

DegreeWorks Degree Audit System

Degree Planning

What-if Analysis

Course Schedules driven by student demand

Degree Progress

Requirements	51%

Degree in BS in Business Administration		Credits Required:	122
		Credits Applied:	77

Unmet conditions for this set of requirements: | 122 credits are required. You currently have 77, you still need 45 more credits.

✅	You meet the minimum GPA requirement		
☐	General Education Requirements	Still Needed:	See **General Education** section
☐	Business Foundation and Core Requirements	Still Needed:	See **Business Foundation and Core Requirements** section
☐	Major Requirements	Still Needed:	See **Major in Accounting** section
✅	Elective Credit		

On-Track / Off-Track Indicator

Right Decision →
← Wrong Decision

Clear status information for students and advisors

SUCCESS
RESPONSIBILITY · SUPPORT

Current Approach to Proactive Advising

Early Academic Assessment (EAA)
  Faculty concern during weeks 4-7

Advisors & S/C/Ds pull lists of students
  with reason for concern and contact them.

Poor Satisfactory Academic Progress
  (Financial Aid)

Probation / Exclusion Process
  3-4 semesters of cumulative GPA < 2.0

Pull lists of students at fixed times and contact them…

- Response sometimes too slow.
- Concern may exist for a while before we contact.
- Problem may escalate.

- May not target students who would most benefit from help.
- Sometimes depends on students to contact advisor for help.

SUCCESS
RESPONSIBILITY · SUPPORT

Planned Approach to Proactive Advising

- Predictive Analytics using Big data
- Stopped using meal plan
- Hasn't read syllabus on Blackboard
- Unmet financial need
- Fail to take a key course
- Fail a course
- First Semester below 3.0
- TERM GPA < 2.0

Advisor ← WAMS →

Application	New Student Survey	Transcript	Faculty / Staff Concern	Blackboard	Other data

- Raise and respond to concern when it occurs.
- Connect student directly to their advisor.

- Use data to target students most at risk.
- Respond to problems before they escalate.

SUCCESS
RESPONSIBILITY · SUPPORT