

AAC Agenda 9/6/24

- I. Present: Rebecca L., Heidi V., Karen H., Matt B., Kate B., Janet T., Brody B., Kate W., Brittney V., Wendi W., Ryan G., Stacy R., Student Rep-Elizabeth
- II. **Approval of minutes** from 8/9/24 – Approval of minutes: Heidi 1st, Rebecca 2nd
- III. **Secretary/Treasurer Report** – updated budget sent out by Soemer.
- IV. **Old Business**
 - a. Best Practices Task Force – launching next Tuesday!
- V. **New Business**
 - a. **TROD Updates** – Corey Burgess: Gathering feedback from virtual models for transfer students to view before they come. Technology changes quickly in education and want to ensure information is accurate and update —this is an ongoing conversation. Models are “prep for orientation” and a completely separate module for students who cannot come in person to an orientation to provide them as much of the same feel as they can. 73 students *just* used the modules. 750 did something. There is a population of students who did not do any of the modules. Transfer students often have enhanced skills as they have likely been on a college campus before. Close to 75% said the modules helped!
 - i. Wendi: Is there a way to incorporate questions that would allow students to “skip” the modules if some of the more skilled/experienced students do not have to sit through all modules, almost as a reward. They are currently “forced” through the whole thing. Idea of a “pre-test” to exempt from module. Stacy with idea to pilot the idea, almost as a research project with a small population.
 - ii. Janet idea: “Optional” modules based on what students need (or even don’t need)
 - iii. Matt Blue: drawback of online is students not attending advising appointments, causing advisors to lose time in their schedule.
 - iv. What are the tools for students who (want to) withdraw their application? Could develop questions that allow students to inform us of their plans. Maybe start asking of 30 days of inactivity from the student as a way of intervention.
 - v. Wendi: Do advisors know if students complete their modules beforehand? Answer is no.
 - vi. Brittney: encourage advisors with tips and tricks to discuss the completion of modules with students.
 - vii. Appreciation for Corey’s continued efforts.
 - b. **Mental Health First Aid AAC sponsorship** – Janet: Wendi explained that student counseling do not want advisors to take on a role that is inappropriate. Could there be a

happy medium where advisors can bridge the gap – ex: what do we do when a student is in crisis in our office? Thinking about the “red folder” – how do we utilize it? How do we provide non-clinical advise about dealing with stress, anxiety, time management, etc –common issues students bring to us in advising sessions? May need to have a bigger discussion.

- i. Apparently no longer discouragement in the course “red folder.”
 - ii. Corey is working on it for university college.
 - iii. There is a grant that can cover this class.
 - iv. AAC supports this! Wendi and Janet will connect.
 - v. Concerns with advisors that may view this as “not their job” but that is the point – advisors are not mental health counselors, but we do need the tools and resources to support students.
- c. **Second Week Overrides** – Brittney: different departments handle them differently. Reform is needed for policy or practice – how are students supposed to keep things straight, how do we support their success? Many discrepancies. Rules need to be followed and not made up. Policy guides action—students may not drop a class if they knew they couldn’t get into classes. How we can “rewrite” the policy or better inform students of the discretion of departments. Where do students find the policy? Registrar website.
- i. **No one is breaking policy.** It is written to give departments autonomy in their discretion of permitting students into courses.
 - ii. **Policies like this have meaningful impact on student success, progression, and retention.** Policy has been stagnant, and this population of students have evolved. Policy may need some evolvment.
 - iii. Need better communication for students not enrolled in first week and then trying to get class second week.
 - iv. Data from one semester shows that students enrolled late did better than expected. More data needed here showing students are not going to fail.
 - v. What is the philosophy or reasoning for allowing students in second week?
 - vi. If we are not changing policy, how can we improve transparency? Outline steps on website to follow in second week. Another “how to” step by step.
 - vii. Conversation will be continued into next meeting.
- d. **Advising Institute Canvas Page Usability** - Wendi

VI. Campus Solutions/Registration – did not discuss.

VII. Committee Updates

- a. **Assessment** – Heidi and Mindy came to most recent meeting and formed a loose plan for evaluating advising of graduate students. Many questions arose. Graduate students need advised; we need feedback from graduate students about their experiences. Maybe using alum as a starting point to compare their undergrad to graduate experience.

- i. Brody: NESSSE data and modules planned to be utilized in the spring
- b. **Technology** – Meeting 9/5: talked about an upgrade with advising notes. Explore best practices, the discrepancy between student and advisor view, etc.
- c. **Teacher Education** – first meeting scheduled for September 19th
- d. **PDT** – Jordan Breast sent out many campus partnership invites. Several events focused on understanding our students.
- e. **Mentoring & Connections** – no updates, but event newsletters sent out! Invites email will be going out for a fall event.

VIII. **Student Representative Report** – Welcome Elizabeth! Elizabeth is a junior Political Science & Journalism major, involved in various positions on campus including Center for Civic Engagement.

- a. One of the main issues is a lot of frustration with students who do not have priority registration. Students have a difficult time getting their required courses completed. Would like to see a change or improvement in the systems, like narrow the population of priority registration.
- b. Everyone is annoyed with how packed it is on campus, specifically the dorms. The “record breaking class” is hard on students, students wishing they would stop saying it. Bone student center is always packed so it is hard to study, get around, etc.

IX. Other Business

X. Next meeting: 9/20/24

- a. Motion to adjourn: 1st Rebecca 2nd Wendi