EARN Notes for November 12th

Opening Remarks, Benton Shirey

SSC On-Site Visit- Dr. Gene Palka

- Ultimate goal of SSC is to improve advising, which has been determined to have an unquestionable impact on retention and graduation rates.
- Individual one hour sessions for each college worked well and will be repeated.
- Any faculty or staff member across campus who wants access to SSC may have it, in the interest of building a critical mass of users.
- Accurate and comprehensive data, a range of analytical tools, and efficient packaging of information can enhance advising effectiveness and benefit students.
- SSC draws directly from Banner and supplements DegreeWorks, providing many features not available in the latter. The inconvenience of having more than one platform is mitigated by the usefulness of the program. There is currently no single platform solution on the market.
- SSC usage data will continue to be collected and assessed to determine if there is a correlation with SSC usage and retention rates.

Disappearing RAC #s – Benton Shirey

- Benton asked the members if they had experienced issues with RAC numbers not being present on their RAC list in EKU Direct once registration began.
- This was in an effort to make sure that students are not receiving a RAC from another person other than their advisor, then registering for courses that do not meet the requirements for their degree.
- Most advisors in the colleges reported that they did not have issues with missing RAC’s for their advisees.
- Will report back to the Registrar that this is a non-issue with professional advisors in the colleges.

January Orientation & Planning- Loni Yost

- "What to do if" handout that covers the changes to orientation times or dates in case of inclement weather the day of the event.
- "2015 Orientation Dates" handout...
- If Aug 17th remains first day of classes, late registration day may change from Friday, August 14th to Thursday, August 13th. Loni will send an update if there is a change to the dates.
- Currently we have 35 orientation students signed up for January 15th. Typically the January orientation has between 130 to 150 students attending.

Online Orientation Modules & BGS Advisors – Dr. Rose Perrine

- Blackboard modules for transfer students as a replacement for orientation is live. Has everything a new student at EKU would need. This module will be available to everyone now, including all students, staff, and faculty, much like FERPA. These modules can serve as a “How-To” guide for helping students navigate EKU, with such topics as: Introduction (Information Students need Early), Registering for Classes and First Steps (Information Students need After Admission),
Getting Started in Classes (*Information students need After Enrolling in Classes*), Succeeding in College (*Resources for Success*), Additional Information (*Additional Campus Resources*). Dr. Perrine will share the EARN Membership list with IT, who will activate everyone in the Blackboard system to view the modules. Dr. Perrine will also work with Loni in FYP to distribute this information to students before they attend an orientation event.

- **Professional Track** was developed as an adult completer degree based on feedback from our service region employers. The website for the B.A. General Studies: Professional Track is here: [http://finish.eku.edu/](http://finish.eku.edu/)
- Admission requirements to the program are the same as EKU at large. Students should not declare without seeing the specific advisors for this program. (Handout)
- Designed for online delivery, but classes can also be taken on campus or at regional campuses. The students that choose the online delivery method are charged at the online e-campus rate.

**Working with Students with Disabilities**- Teresa Belluscio

- A majority of our students are Millennials- A generation born between 1982 and 2003
- College students with disabilities are on the rise. Autism, ADHD, are rapidly increasing (or being diagnosed)
- Anxiety, Depression, and mood disorders are the most common mental health issues among our students.
- Learning disabilities include: reading, math, and written expression.
  - ADHD: Few of the symptoms are visible, most are hidden symptoms.
- Issues related to Executive functioning are on the rise, which include: the ability to manage tasks, when to execute, when to plan/how to plan.
- In addition to the college-related stressors and problems, Student’s With Disabilities (SWD) also have:
  - Attitudinal barriers
  - Medical model vs Social model
  - tragedy/charity model
  - personal management, executive functioning
  - instructors who use an inflexible teaching style

- **Attributes for success of SWD**
  - persistence
  - grit
  - self-advocacy
  - strong work ethic
  - good family support
  - not afraid of failure
- will try new study techniques
- will use help/assistance from the OSID
Students who have not previously used accommodations, or if the student suspects that they have a learning disability, can be referred to Psychology Clinic or Speech, Language, and Hearing Clinic on campus for evaluation.

- Our common goals are ACCESS to all programs and coursework and SUCCESS for our students.

- When advising students with disabilities, keep in mind:
  - May not inform you of the hidden disability but you may pick up on this
  - If they do self-identify, encourage them to visit OSID-walk them to the office
  - For referral to assessments for learning issues, contact OSID
  - Describe the classes (rigor, reading, writing assignments, etc.) you are recommending so that they understand the expectation
  - Students with executive function issues need clarification and need for you to discuss in more detail how their semester schedule
  - physical distance and length of time between classes
  - Balance of types of classes in their schedule, hard combinations disproportionately affect SWD
  - Number of credit hours--very subjective from student to student.
  - OSID
  - Call 622-2933 or walk down to Whitlock 361 and ask to speak to someone.
  - Student will need to present

Advisor Questions/Feedback/Announcements

- If you are advising a Veteran that has received a D, F, or FN, please have the student contact the OMVA staff (622-2345), in order that they understand the Veteran’s Administration Policy on repeated courses.

- RG holds were placed on students with transfer credit last week (no final transcripts), so if a student has this hold, they must submit a final transcript to the registrar’s office to get the hold released.

- Pre-Professional Programs Advisor update: Jim Luba has been hired to be the new Pre-Prof advisor, and he starts Jan 12th

- Transfers from EKU to KCTCS,
  - SOTO can connect these students with resources and the Colonel Connection Program for KCTCS students wishing to transfer back to EKU to finish their degree program.
  - SOTO can provide a filter for students who are leaving the university; this is a good place for intervention/retention efforts
  - Students may meet with Lisa Cox or Scott Summers in SOTO if they are attempting to transfer to another university