

UPAC Meeting Notes
September 8, 2010

General Announcements

Students in Pima Community College's STU 210, a class designed to help students in the transition from Pima to the UA, are required to meet with their UA academic advisor by October 8th. The advisor can remove the STU 210 student's mandatory advising service indicator and the student will register during priority registration.

Jeanais Brodie: The Transfer Student Center hosted an open house on September 8th. The Transfer Center is in the Student Union Memorial Center, Room 404.

Meet Your Major Fair – Mika Galilee-Belfer

The Center for Exploratory Students (CES) is the academic advising home for “undecided” or “exploratory” students as well as all Pre-Nursing and Interdisciplinary Studies majors in the Colleges of Letters, Arts & Science. CES provides academic advising services as well as help and resources for students exploring majors and for Pre-Health and Pre-Law students.

CES will host the annual Meet Your Major Fair on Wednesday, September 29th from 11 am to 2 pm in the Student Union Memorial Center ballroom. Representatives from majors across campus will be there to talk with students. The Meet Your Major Fair is not just for undecided students, but for all students who may be searching for a minor or a different major. A grant from the Parents and Family Association enabled CES to increase promotion for this year's event. Let us know if you want flyers.

CES will print questions for students to ask of department representatives at the Meet Your Major Fair. The questions will be shared with academic advisors so that they know what questions they may be asked. This year tables at the Fair will be arranged by themes.

If you have questions, please contact Mika Galilee-Belfer at mikagb@email.arizona.edu. If your department did not receive an invitation to participate in the Meet Your Major Fair, call Angie Register-Matthias at 621-7763.

APLUS Arizona Pathways to Life Success for University Students – Joyce Serido, co-principal investigator and project manager of the APLUS project

This longitudinal research study examines two important questions: 1) How do adolescent experiences at home, at work and at school shape the financial attitudes and behaviors of college students? 2) How do the financial attitudes and behaviors of college students contribute to life success and well-being in adulthood?

Plans are to follow a group of young adults into middle-age to understand how the financial behaviors practiced in college form the basis for their financial habits as adults.

Project Synopsis

In fall 2007, with data collected from a group of more than 2,000 first- year University of Arizona students, the researchers found that parents played the most important role in the formation of their college-aged children's financial attitudes and behaviors. High school work experiences and financial education courses also played an important role.

Shortly after the study began, the global financial credit crisis ushered in the worst economic downturn in the U. S. since the Great Depression. To understand the impact of the recession on young adults' financial behaviors, the research team re- surveyed 748 of the APLUS students. In the one-year since the first study:

- Well-being decreased in every area (e.g., psychological, academic, relationships, health)
- Financial confidence dropped nearly 20%
- Credit card debt increased 60%

While low-income students were hit hard by the financial crisis, middle-income students were affected more because lower income students had access to other financial resources.

Wave 2

The project is set to launch APLUS Wave 2. This effort will target the same students surveyed in the first wave. They will be asked about their current financial situation and what they see as their financial outlook.

The APLUS project needs help from academic advisors in reaching the students to be surveyed in Wave 2. A list of students who participated in the original survey and an email crafted by Joyce will be sent through the UPAC listserv.

APLUS is trying to reach students from the original survey who are no longer attending the University of Arizona.

The APLUS program is also working to recruit new students for a survey.

About 800 new Arizona Assurance took the survey.

The impact of the APLUS project findings extend beyond the University of Arizona. 54 articles have been published about the APLUS project.

Suggestion for ways to reach these students:

- a. Hire students to put together a YouTube video.
- b. APLUS instructional information could also be put into iTunes U.
- c. Cultural groups might offer interesting data because of the wide variation in financial resources.

Further suggestions for ways to reach these students can be directed to Joyce Serido:

jserido@email.arizona.edu

520-621-5820

Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid

Always refer students to the Office of Scholarship and Financial Aid with any questions about their aid.

Consortium – Esther Cuellar

As stated on the Consortium form, “If you will not be enrolled in at least 9 UA units, your non-federal grants will be canceled.” If the student’s aid has already been posted to their Bursars Account for the fall semester, their spring institutional grant will be canceled.

Students forced into a situation where they cannot get enough UA units should be sent to the Financial Aid office. Financial Aid may be able to help these students.

Since consortium policies may change, always send students to the Financial Aid office if they have questions or problems.

Student Academic Progress (SAP) Appeal – Debbi Golden-Davis

Mosaic: student center> financial aid tab> SAP: shows current status

SAP Policy: <https://financialaid.arizona.edu/awards/standards/default.aspx>

When students fail to meet the terms of their financial aid, they can appeal and may go to “probation one” status. If they again fail to meet the terms of their aid, they may go to “probation two” status. After that, they are suspended. They may still appeal, but standards will be high. Everyone who did not meet the Satisfactory Progress standards for 2009-10 (or their last year at UA) was initially suspended this summer, and have to appeal.

Students need to graduate before completing 150% of the number of units required for their degree to continue receiving aid. Advisors can help transfer students by letting the Financial Aid office know which transferred units will count toward the student’s major and which will not count. Re-calculations can also be made for students with two majors, or who have changed majors... University Grants are cut off after five years. Repeated complete withdrawals can prevent students from continuing to receive financial aid.

SAP may undergo further changes due to proposed changes in federal regulations.

Scholarships – Akhtar Parvez

To keep UA scholarships, students must complete 30 UA units in the academic year, starting with fall semester and extending through the following summer sessions. New Start units do not count toward required units for following year. Some scholarships require only 24 units. There is an appeal process for scholarship recipients. Contact Akhtar if you would like to serve on the scholarship appeal committee.

Pre-Law Week 2010 – Verlaine Walker

Monday, Oct 18: Workshop on resumes, cover letters, and applying to law

Tuesday, Oct 19: Law 101: class conducted the way most law classes are conducted, using Socratic Method

Wednesday, Oct 20: Pizza with a Professional featuring a law panel

Thursday, Oct 21: Law Expo begins at 10 am in SUMC Ballroom.

Verlaine will send more information through the UPAC listserv.

Advising Brown Bag: Identifying UAccess Problems and Ideas

(The Advising Community's Perspective)

Tuesday, September 21st

11:30AM to 1PM

SUMC 411

Purpose: This first event will be a venue for advisors to speak freely on: 1) problematic issues in UAccess that need that still need to be addressed, and 2) creative and realistic ideas for things that we might like to see in UAccess in the future.

End Goal: We would like to create a list of the most pervasive problems and the best ideas, which will then be presented to the Mosaic team.

* If you cannot attend this meeting but would like to contribute, please voice your concerns/ideas in a e-mail to cubeta@email.arizona.edu.