

UPAC Agenda
January 18, 2017
Marley 230
9:00-10:15 AM

UA Ombuds Program: Caitlan Hendrickson, Ombuds Program Director

- Resource for effective communication, collaboration and conflict resolution
- An Ombud is a designated neutral, they do not take sides (ear of the people)
- They assist in conflict resolution with all levels of students and employees
- Examples of scenarios in which an Ombud can assist: difficulties with roommates, concern about career progression, connecting with other resources, clarifying UA policies
- 4 tenants to the Ombuds work
 - Confidentiality: will not disclose your visit (with imminent risk exception), it is a safe space to share
 - Informal: Off the record, do not keep records
 - Impartial: Don't take sides or advocate, 3rd party neutrals
 - Independent: Function independently of the UA to hold up other standards (but they are housed within the Provost's Office)
- Work on a wide variety of issues, anything from one-on-one to an entire department
- Have a preventative and proactive approach: go to Ombuds before a problem escalates
- Services provided: Consultation (listen to concerns, act as sounding board), generating and evaluating options, gathering information, prevention of negative conflict through early intervention, referral to other units, one-on-one skill building and coaching, group education and training for effective communication, conflict resolution, organizational development and change
- Library of books about conflict resolution available to check out to students and employees
- *Please see attached PowerPoint Presentation for additional information*

UROC Program: Nura Dualeh, Director Undergraduate Research/Graduate Preparation Programs

- Undergraduate Research Opportunities Consortium (UROC) provides faculty-led research experiences while preparing students for graduate school
 - Very high impact and transformative, unusual structure compared to many other universities
 - Programs open to UA and non-UA students
- Consortium of 10 paid undergrad research programs (all over summer, some are year-long)
 - Some programs are institution-funded, including the McNair program (which recently had over 50 participants)
 - Some programs are funded by the National Science Foundation
- Advisors play large part in letting students know about the program- thank you!
- There are many programs open to all majors, students don't necessarily have to be in a STEM-related program—it's all about where the student is headed more so than where they currently are

- The UROC program has a research writing course associated with it over the summer; if colleges or departments are interested in offering a similar course can contact Andrew Guerta (instructor of ENGL 340) or Nurah for information on how to collaborate or embed information into current offerings
- UROC organizes the GRE test for all participants over the summer; they take a GRE prep course which culminates in the GRE at the end of the summer
- All students have the opportunity to write and publish an abstract
- Students are paid over the summer, they work 10 hours a week, and earn 6 units of academic credit (ENGL 340- Professional Writing, GRAD 492- Directed Research)
- Outcomes: confidence to know that they have a place in academia regardless of their background, relationships with faculty members, grad students and peers, career exploration and graduate school exploration
- Looking for more students in humanities and fine arts to apply, please encourage students!
- Deadline for upcoming program is February 1
- *Please see attached PowerPoint Presentation for additional information*

General Education Equivalency Policy: Dr. Tom Fleming, Astronomer and Senior Lecturer

- Issue has come up regarding equivalent courses (courses that are identical, but offered under separate departments)
- This was not a problem when all gen-ed courses had the same subject and number (i.e. NATS 101), but the change to PeopleSoft and re-numbering of gen-eds being designated by department has caused this to become an issue because students can take courses from the same gen-ed category
- These courses were listed as equivalent courses in 2011 when they were renumbered. Student does get a repeat code message when they enroll but this is often overlooked
- Gen-Ed Committee has decided to do the following:
 - Create “anti-requisites” to these equivalent courses. Will not allow students to enroll if they have credit for an equivalent course (in UAccess, instructor could still sign COS and give student permission to enter course)- effective for 2174 registration
 - Any students currently effected (courses taken through 2171) will be forgiven. The Registrar’s Office will run a report to find students being affected and will remove the repeat code so that both courses are earning credit and fulfilling the ADVIP requirement (advisors will not need to make the adjustments)
- Fall 2017 and forward, the repeat code will be enforced and student will truly only be able to earn credit for one class if they do repeat an equivalent
- *Please see attached PowerPoint Presentation and list of gen-ed equivalencies for additional information*

Financial Aid Repackaging and SAP Academic Plan: Rebekah Salcedo, Director of Scholarships and Financial Aid Office

- Spring is the second semester of repackaging: a student’s aid may change based on their enrollment

- Lessons from fall: five recalculating dates is too many, so they have streamlined for spring and have only 3 dates
- In fall, about 1200 students were impacted (400 students got more aid, 400 owed money, 400 didn't change)
- Slight change to Satisfactory Academic Progress appeal form: In the past 2 semesters of an academic plan was required, but most students were not following the second semester. Form was modified to include only one semester so Financial Aid could be more accurate in holding students to the academic plans listed
- Still looking for solution to students in second degrees who need to exceed timeframe so that they don't have to submit a SAP every single semester
- Advisors should still put a realistic GPA on the SAP form, but let student know that if a 2.0 cumulative isn't realistic by the end of current semester they will have to do a SAP again each semester until a 2.0 is reached
- If SAP is denied, students are required to pay for a semester on their own before being eligible to get FA again (many will go to community college to pay less money)
- Please provide feedback to Financial Aid if you have any regarding SAP or recalculation
- FA will start sending out FA award letters to incoming freshmen at end of January. Students will be eligible for larger amounts of aid, UA is really trying to invest more in students
- *Please see attached PDF for additional information*

UPAC co-chairs update on active UPAC membership

- This semester, we will be running a pilot program to recognize advisors who regularly participate in UPAC and ARC events. Benefits of meeting the criteria for being an "active" UPAC member will include
 - Letter from Gail Burd to your supervisor
 - Student Union gift card
 - Recognition at end-of-year ceremony
- How do advisors demonstrate "active" UPAC membership?
 - Attend 3 of 5 monthly UPAC meetings
 - Attend one ARC workshop/seminar/brown bag
 - Complete 1 academic Impressions online training (webcasts, courses, recordings)
- Attendance sheets will be available at all events, so be sure to sign in to get credit
- We are willing to work with advisors who have schedule conflicts with the monthly meetings to help them find alternate professional development opportunities; contact Nicole Gonzalez for more information
- *Please see attached PowerPoint Presentation for additional information*

Advising Updates: Roxie Catts, Director, Advising Resource Center

- Brown bag dates will be sent out via listserv
 - Tuesday, January 31st : Second Start and General Education Equivalencies, 12-1pm - Agave SUMC 4th floor

- Thursday, February 9th: Financial Aid Recalculation Follow Up, 12-1pm - Agave SUMC 4th floor
- Tuesday March 14th: TBA, 12-1pm - Agave SUMC 4th floor
- Tuesday, April 18th : TBA, 12-1pm - Agave SUMC 4th floor