

UPAC Meeting Notes
May 9, 2007

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

-SBS has a new advisor. Her name is Amanda Ortiz, and she works part-time.

-CCIT is testing the new math codes. They should be ready soon.

SUSANNE JASPER FROM KAPLAN:

Susann Jasper, Associate Center Manager, addressed the group about some of their services for students. They offer test preparation for college and graduate school, with different options available such as private tutoring, online classes and classroom classes. They also offer loans and payment plans and tuition assistance. Some of the free services include seminars, practice tests, workshops (such as strategies for test-taking), and practice test events (twice per year). The dates for these events are listed on the website (www.kaptest.com).

They have been in existence for 70 years. They work closely with the testing companies so they are well-informed about any changes that come about.

Question: Are students with disabilities given accommodations for practice tests?

Answer: Yes

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE:

A. Scholarship Office. Cece Alday addressed the group. If students have questions about scholarships or financial aid, please direct them to the financial aid office. Every piece of aid and scholarship must be coordinated so the student isn't over awarded.

Question: If the GPA goes below the minimum in the spring, can they make it up in summer school?

Answer: Yes, scholarships can be reinstated in the fall. Students have three options if they lose scholarships: 1. summer school; 2. appeal; and 3. wait until GPA comes up to a 3.0.

Question: What about Study Abroad?

Answer: Scholarships are deferred for the study abroad semester.

B. Customer Service. Esther. Any aid the student did not use during the year is available during the summer. For students who are awarded aid for Summer I and Pre-Session, they can charge \$250 for books at the Bookstore. Temporary loans can be written for consortiums and study abroad only after students are awarded. Aid for Summer I will be disbursing on May 25th and Summer II will be disbursing on July 2nd.

C. Grants. Katharine Baggett. There are two new federal grants.

The first is called Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG). The requirements are U.S. Citizen, first or second year student, must have graduated after Jan. 1, 2005, receiving the Pell Grant, enrolled full time (consortium units allowed), must have completed a rigorous program of study in high school, and must maintain a 3.0 cumulative UA GAP for a year 1 ACG.

Question: How does an advisor tell if a student needs financial aid?

Answer: Ask if they are getting the Pell Grant. If they are in one of the approved majors, send them to Katharine.

The second type of grant is the National SMART Grant (National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent). Eligibility requirements: U.S. citizen, receiving Pell Grant, enrolled full time (consortium units allowed), must have a 3.0 ACG/SMART GPA or Cumulative UA GPA, must be enrolled in the eligible majors (19 at this time), must be a junior or senior.

Question: If a student who has been awarded this grant switches to a major that is not acceptable, does he or she have to pay the money back.

Answer: No

D Norma Navarro-Castellanos. New Start students have two forms to fill out. She needs to know which graduate students have assistantships ASAP.

JUDY KIYAMA, NEW START SUMMER PROGRAM:

New Start is a six week summer program for incoming students. They recruit the students primarily from minority-dominant high schools. However, the program is open to any UA students. 80% of their students are identified as minorities.

On June 6, 2007, 275 New Start students will be on campus.

There are three components to the experience:

-Academic: They are registered for between three and six units of credit this summer (math, English or anthropology). A four unit class they will take is English 101 Plus (being piloted).

-Education: They talk to students about success strategies (offered for two units of academic credit).

-Residential: Out of town students will live in a residence hall.

Peer advisors get three weeks of training. On May 25th, advisor will help train the peer advisors. Let Judy know if you want to assist.

There are opportunities to do inter-sessions with students if a department is interested.

Question: What math classes are offered to the students during the summer?

Answer: intermediate and college algebra, and possibly Pima College's Math 92 and pre-calculus.

MAGGIE VARGAS, REGISTRAR'S OFFICE, PROPOSITION 300:

Last fall, Arizona voters approved a referendum that requires university students to document their U.S. citizenship or other lawful presence status. All students receiving in-state tuition or financial aid that is funded or subsidized by the state are required to verify their status.

Currently enrolled students – The Registrar's Office is looking at current students to see if there is a valid FAFSA on the student, or if he or she is employed on campus. If they cannot be verified, the student needs to bring in a document (i.e., birth certificate, U.S. passport, U.S. naturalization certificate, U.S. Permanent Residence card, or a foreign passport with U.S. visa and current status).

Entering students – Once the student registers, the Registrar's Office will check to see if there is a source document for the transfer student.

If there is none an email will be sent to those with a UA email address.

Assistance requested: when working with entering transfer students remind them to create a UA email address for receipt of official correspondence regarding fall 2007 tuition information.

Deadline to be verified: If a student is classified as a state resident, he or she must be verified by July 16, 2007, to meet the tuition calculation deadline. Students who don't meet this deadline will see non-resident tuition on Student Link. They can still be verified even if they don't meet the July 16 deadline.

Question: Can the document be faxed to the Registrar's Office?

Answer: No, it must be submitted in person or arrangement might be made for someone who is not in Tucson to mail it.

Question: Will students get a message about the non-resident tuition charge?

Answer: Maggie believes the Bursar's Office will put a message on Student Link.

CELESTE PARDEE, OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR, CURRICULUM:

The Graduate College is offering a new program, the Accelerated Master's Program (AMP), to encourage top students to go to graduate school. This program has been approved by both the Graduate Council and the Faculty Senate, beginning in Fall 2007.

Students admitted to the AMP would start graduate courses in the same major or a related major during their senior year. They would need to take the GRE for admission to the Graduate College, as any other prospective grad student would. AMP students would earn both a bachelor's and a master's in five years.

Requirements:

- Students can apply after completing 75 credits but cannot start the graduate courses until they have completed 90 undergraduate credits.
- They must have a minimum GPA of 3.30 (individual programs can set higher standards, however).
- They must have completed at least twelve credit hours in their major at UA Main campus.
- They must have completed or be near completion of their Gen Ed requirements.

This program is not in the graduate catalog yet.

Celeste will send out more information to the UPAC listserv.

Question: How will other institutions look at this degree?

Answer: It would probably be viewed as a plus.

Approved: Proposal to reduce restrictions on undergraduate students in Non-degree Status, effective Fall 2007 for all students.

Approved: Proposal to revise the Second Language Requirement for International Students, effective for students graduating in August 2007. If students from countries where English is not the primary language are required to take the TOEFL for admission to the UA, and they earn the minimum score for admission, the assumption will be made that the student meets the General Education second language proficiency requirement.

Question: Where can one check for the TOEFL?

Answer: In Matrix