

**UPAC Meeting Notes  
November 14, 2007**

**2008 UPAC CO-CHAIRS:**

Teddy Lopez's term as a co-chair of UPAC is ending. Sarah Wieland from the College of Nursing is the new co-chair. She joins Judy Roman and Rebecca Mitchell.

**UAAC Update & AAPR Overview – Ann Parker**

- There are new advising holds through Advisor Link.

Question: Can any advisor put a hold on a student's account?

Answer: No, they need permission. The holds are used for students who really need to see an advisor.

- **Academic Advising Program Reviews**

AAPR-The AATF sub-committee has been meeting. All departments go through an academic review every seven years so now advising will be doing it too. There has to be a system of accountability.

**Next Steps:**

AAPR

Self-assessment by all colleges and the Advising Resource Center

Campus-wide student assessment (with groups of students)

External review (NACADA and others)

More on AAPR Process

UAAC is finalizing the self-assessment templates

Self-assessment will be completed before the spring priority registration

Colleges are strongly encouraged to form teams which include students, faculty and advisors

College Self-Assessment Template

Will be qualitative in nature

Two models: central and mixed

Mixed model will include a department template

Utilize existing data to support statements in report

An opportunity to show what has been accomplished and what needs to be done to go to the next level

General Timeline

Before spring priority registration the self-assessments should be completed.

Student surveys and focus groups will occur early to mid-spring.  
There will be an external review in late spring.  
The final report will be submitted to the office of the Provost by the end of the academic year.

Questions:

-What are the chances of money coming out of this?

Answer: More money is possible if we show where the gaps are and how crucial advising is to retention.

-Did the Provost's office agree to the external review?

Answer: Yes

-Has there been any move from the task force to change classification from classified staff to appointed personnel?

Answer: We were looking at a ladder program but it is still left up to individual colleges. Perhaps that is something that could come out of this review.

**SALT Center Programs and Services – Scott Berren**

The SALT Center works with students who have learning or attention challenges (i.e. ADD, ADHD, Dyslexia, auditory processing issues). There is a staff of strategic learning specialists who work with students on a once-weekly basis (note taking, time management, etc.).

There are 105 tutors on staff. They can provide as much tutoring as a student needs per week. Assistive technology is another large part of what they do. There are 45 computers in the lab. One of the assistive technologies is a computer that can scan an article and then read it back to the student.

SALT has about 550 students. They do not take special classes. It is an academic support program. There is an in-depth application process. The majority of the students are new, incoming freshmen and most are from out of state. It is fee-based: lower-division costs \$4,400 per year. Upper-division costs \$1,900 per year and they pay for tutoring.

What they do: They provide academic support to help students achieve what they are capable of achieving.

What they do not do: They do not provide academic advising or accommodations like extended test-taking time (but they will tell students how to possibly get this through the DRC).

Question: Do students have to provide proof?

Answer: No, but it is helpful.

Question: Are the tutors tested to prove their qualifications?

Answer: Grades are checked and they have training for tutors.

Question: Have you considered having different fees for in-state and out-of-state students?

Answer: That would be challenging because the State does not contribute financially to SALT.

Question: What will happen to the students who are on the waiting list right now?

Answer: All students who are the waiting list will get in for the spring semester.

### **Honors College – Laura Berry & Helena Rodrigues**

There are over 4,000 Honors students at the UA. The Honors College provides academic opportunities for students. Their goal is to make Honors central to a students' academic life and provide different types of experiences. Students are admitted through the Office of Admissions as freshmen, but they can self-nominate after their first semester if they have a GPA of 3.5 or better.

#### **Three changes:**

-Orientation: A day zero program to have a comprehensive interaction and discussions with students was tried. They have decided instead that next summer there will be an Honors College meeting during Day 1 lunch period.

-Advisor Link: In Advisor Link there is now an Honors button to show how many Honors units students need and also how many they have taken.

-They have worked with Graduation Services and UAAC to be able to sign degree checks.

#### **Additional Information:**

The Honors College website will have a section of FAQs for advisors.

A shared position with University College working with undecided Honors students has become full time. The first review date is Friday. The title is Honors Advising Specialist.

Question: Advisors are still getting students who are not sure if they are graduating with honors.

Answer: Send to Honors or call or send an e-mail to Honors.

Question: There is sometimes resistance from students to become an Honors student. They feel it might be too hard.

Answer: It is not about “harder,” it is about a deeper, more challenging experience.

Question: Is there any process to connect students with faculty to do research?

Answer: There is a research database which can only be accessed by Honors students.

### **Joyce Serido, Norton School of Family & Consumer Sciences**

They performed a study a year ago of UA undergrads on the association between financial behaviors and well-being. 670 students participated.

Some findings:

The number of students leaving college with huge debt load is high.

They are cash savvy but can't handle credit.

The problem is getting worse.

What things contribute to a young person's financial attitude?

Parents play a big role.

Students who work are different from non-working students (generally more responsible until they start working more than 20 hours per week).

They plan to launch a new study in early Spring 2008 and need to recruit about 2,000 freshmen for this study. She will send an e-mail to advisors so they can send it out onto their listservs. She asked advisors to encourage their advisees to participate in the study and/or go to the website to obtain additional information about the study ([www.aplus.arizona.edu](http://www.aplus.arizona.edu)).

Melissa Vito will send out the initial e-mail.

They will also recruit at different residence halls as well as going to various classes.

Question: How long will it take for students to fill out the survey?

Answer: About 12-13 minutes

Question: Will demographic information be collected?

Answer: Yes

Question: After the data is collected, will they try to set up resources for students?

Answer: Financial Aid is their partner, so they will see how Financial Aid wants to use the information.