

**UPAC Meeting Notes  
December 12, 2007**

**GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- There will be no January meeting.
- Please look at the proposal for general education that is outlined in the December Connected newsletter. The Gen. Ed. Council needs feedback. Please send feedback to the ARC or to Rebecca Mitchell before January 16, 2008.
- Kerith Morriss contacted the Registrar's Office regarding formatting of SAPRs for veterans and student athletes. There will be a meeting the week of Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>. Please let Kerith know if you have feedback ([kerith@u.arizona.edu](mailto:kerith@u.arizona.edu)).

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**UA SUMMER RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM (SROP) – Nura Dualeh,**

The programs include:

Ronald E. McNair Achievement Program (MAP) accepts all majors. The eligibility requirements include being an undergraduate, first generation college/low income student interested in obtaining a Ph.D., g.p.a. of 3.0 or above. Must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident with 65 units completed towards a bachelor's degree.

Summer Research Institute (SRI) accepts all majors. The eligibility requirements include being an undergraduate junior or senior, underrepresented minority student interested in obtaining a Master's or Ph.D., U.S. citizen or permanent resident, 75 semester units completed towards a bachelor's degree, and a g.p.a. of 3.0 or above.

Minority Health Disparities Program (MHD). This program is for science majors. Eligibility requirements include being an undergraduate rising junior or senior, underrepresented minority student interested in obtaining a Ph.D. in the biomedical sciences, U.S. citizen or permanent resident, 75 semester units completed towards a bachelor's degree, and a g.p.a. of 3.0 or above.

All of these programs have stipends included. The number of applicants for these programs has gone down, so please let students know about them.

Please visit the webpage at <http://grad.arizona.edu/mcnair/> for more information.

**NACADA TECHNOLOGY SESSION HIGHLIGHTS – Alan Beaudrie & Kathy Godwin**

A demonstration/discussion was given of Facebook, blogs and other technology in advising. More information about this was sent to the UPAC listserv.

One disclaimer: If an individual is going to put up a blog or Facebook account, please get departmental approval. Also, keep FERPA in mind.

### **Instant Messaging:**

#### Questions/Comments –

-Do IM's from students pop up all day, and does that cause a disturbance?  
Students can call, as well, and it would be just as much of an interruption.  
It can be open all day or just during certain hours.

-Do advisors advise through IM's?  
No, it is really just appropriate for answering general questions.

-Do you need to know the IM vocabulary?  
Not necessarily. You can always ask students not to use it if it's causing a problem for you.

-How do you get the screennames of students?  
Students seem to prefer the option of adding you to their IM address list, not you asking them for their screennames.  
Advisors can e-mail their screennames to students or include it in their e-mail signatures to give students the option to add you.

-How does one get IM?  
Download it from many different sources – AOL, MSN, Yahoo, etc.

### **Facebook (social networking site):**

Students can post general questions as well as discussions. Students are using this more than e-mail.

#### Questions/Comments –

-What is the difference between a blog and Facebook?  
Blogs generate blocks of comments that others can comment on. A downside to Facebook is that not all students use it; however, the students who are on it use it a lot.

-What are the responsibilities to monitor discussion boards?  
Usually offensive posts or individuals will be removed.

### **ACADEMIC CATALOG REDESIGN – Gene Lyman & Jeanie Darnall**

The UA catalog is a legally binding statement of academic policies and programs at the UA. It went online in 1993. It has become locked into an older format that is less

relevant and user-friendly. It is not easy to search for policies. They want to come up with an interface that is more appealing and easier to use. They would like academic advisors to be involved in the process.

Questions:

What is the timeline?

It will be a phased process, roughly two years in length. The 2009-10 catalog will have the first significant changes. A policy beta version may be ready by fall 2008. They will ask people to be beta testers. A sign up sheet has been passed out for those who want to be involved. Also, they asked that advisors let them know if there are things they do not like about the current version.