

Notes from the Center for Academic Excellence

April 2013

IMPORTANT DATES

RINDGE ONLINE COURSE REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER & FALL 2013 begins today and runs through April 19th

- A detailed schedule and instructions for registration is available online - http://eraven.franklinpierce.edu/s/dept/registrar/docs/How_to_register_for_Summer_Fall_2013.pdf
- Students should meet with advisors the week before their online registration begins and must submit a signed registration form to the Registrar's Office to hold online selections.
- Information about Summer offerings and schedules, including the new Maymester courses/schedule is available online at http://www.franklinpierce.edu/academics/summer_program.htm

THIRD STUDENT SUPPORT COLLECTION will take place the week of April 8th

- Information will be collected from faculty about the academic progress of a select group of students
- Specific dates and information about the collection will follow via email from the Center for Academic Excellence.

FACULTY-INITIATED WITHDRAWALS end Sunday April 21st

- Students may not, on their own initiative, withdraw from courses during this time.
- Faculty may withdraw students from courses during this time, will assign a grade of WP or WF and will submit that to the Office of the Registrar.
- It is not required for students or advisors to sign off on faculty-initiated withdrawals
- Students should be advised to contact Student Financial Services about the impact of course withdrawals on eligibility for continued financial aid.

NON-WITHDRAWAL PERIOD – Monday, April 22nd to Friday, May 10th

GLE INFORMATION FOR ADVISING FIRST YEAR STUDENTS

Attached you will find a quick paper audit along with a full list of GLE courses, both reviewed by the co-coordinators of GLE and the Dean of the College at Rindge. A few notes to keep in mind when advising these students:

- At least two different course prefixes are required to fulfill each K&U category with two exceptions – Natural Science requirements may be fulfilled by two courses with the same prefix. However, courses taken in the 12-13 academic year from the GLE list will be counted in K&U where indicated, even if the two-prefix rule is not met.
- Institutional (or “floating”) Learning Outcomes are considered to be valued-added Learning Outcomes and students should be encouraged to take them. However they are not required for students who began in Fall 2012 or Spring 2013 as they are still under review.
- Students who entered Fall 2012 or Spring 2013 as “Transfer Students” – meaning that they had completed college credit post-high school graduation – will continue to follow the Approved GLE Policy for Fall 2012 Transfer Students which is also attached. A copy of this policy should be in the advising files for these students and is noted in their Advising Worksheet on Campus Web as “Transfer Core”

ACADEMIC ADVISORS NEEDED

OPEN HOUSE ADVISORS NEEDED

Deposited students will be given the opportunity to select Fall 2013 classes at the Spring Open House on **Saturday, April 20th**. Faculty Advisors from all Divisions are needed to assist students with this process. Registration materials will be mailed to students ahead of time but this day will be the first opportunity students have to actually register for classes so we anticipate a busy event. Please contact Terri Downing at downingt@franklinpierce.edu if you can assist with academic advising on this day.

FALL 2013 TRANSFER ADVISORS NEEDED

Transfer Student Advisors are needed to assist new transfer students entering Fall 2013

- Work with 8-12 new advisees who will be entering at the sophomore level or above
- Assist Transfer Students with schedules in the morning on September 2nd

Please contact downingt@franklinpierce.edu if interested.

SUGGESTIONS FOR STUDENT OUTREACH / FOLLOWING UP ON MIDTERM GRADES

adapted from *Engaging Students through Communication and Contact: Outreach Can Positively Impact Your Students and You!* by Wendy Achilles, et al - http://jolt.merlot.org/vol7no1/byrd_0311.pdf

This time of year is critical for student retention. As students approach the end of an academic year and are faced with making decisions about the following year (registration, housing, etc..) they give serious consideration to alternative paths. Outreach from faculty and advisors can be important in helping students complete the academic year on a positive note and remain connected to Franklin Pierce. Information about ESI and Midterm progress has been made available to faculty advisors but what should you do with that information?

Initiate outreach to Students who are obviously struggling. Most of us focus our outreach efforts on these students. They may be struggling with course material, there may be reports that they are not attending classes, or we may be receiving other information about them that shows us that they are having a difficult time this semester, such as sanction reports or all unsatisfactory marks at midterm. ***We need to continue to do outreach to these students, encouraging them to utilize campus resources***

or even just talk about the issues they are having. An invitation (in person if possible) to sit down for a meeting that is focused on the *student's* concerns or issues can go a long way towards helping them to become open to assistance.

Initiate outreach to Students doing well overall but showing a recent decline. These students sometimes get missed by outreach efforts until they reach a point where they fall into the first category. However, by being proactive we may be able to prevent a student from becoming discouraged or getting too far behind. The overall good student who receives one midterm grade of U would benefit from outreach that acknowledges that such a grade is an anomaly for that student but that assistance is available to address it. ***This type of student in particular may not be aware of the resources of the University*** that are available to address academic or social issues, having perhaps never faced such issues before. Provide information about academic and other campus support and encourage students to take advantage of these offerings.

Acknowledge High Performers. Instructors and Advisors can help to reinforce positive student achievement through specific outreach efforts as well. Sending a quick email to a student (copied to the advisor for even more recognition) ***acknowledging their good work on a specific project or overall in the class can have a great impact on students*** and they typically are quick to respond with appreciation of this acknowledgement. Mentioning good things you have heard about the student when meeting with them during an advising session can also let the student know that their good work does not go unnoticed.

Not all outreach efforts have to be complex or overly time-consuming – a quick conversation after class or at the end of a meeting or a short email can be an effective way to engage students more fully in their academic endeavors.

PEER TUTORING

NEPTA – the New England Peer Tutoring Association

On Saturday, April 6th, Franklin Pierce Peer Tutors **Gerome Gepigon, Jenn Cartier, Brennan Whalen** and **Dan Champigny** will be presenting three different sessions on “Search For The Clues. Find The Answers. Solve The Mystery” of Peer Tutoring at the New England Peer Tutors Association 19th Annual Tutor Conference at Nichols College. This will be the second year our Peer Tutors have been chosen to present and the third year they have attended under the mentorship of Maureen Baptiste and Patti Vorfeld. The maximum number of presentations allowed from any one University is three so the Franklin Pierce Peer Tutoring program is honored to have had so many presentations selected. Congratulations and good luck to our tutors.

College Reading & Learning Association – Level One Peer Tutoring Certification

The College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA) has granted Franklin Pierce University's Peer Tutoring program Level 1 certification, giving the program recognition as an internationally certified program. Franklin Pierce has been developing and refining its Peer Tutoring program for years and is honored to be counted among the colleges and universities that have met the rigorous requirements necessary for receipt of this prestigious certification.

Please encourage your students to take advantage of our regionally and nationally recognized Peer Tutoring program! The current schedule of Peer Tutoring (which is free and offered mainly on a drop-in basis) is available at <http://eraven.franklinpierce.edu/s/asc/>

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN ACADEMIC ADVISING

Advising Strategies for Students who are on Academic Probation, Facing Dismissal or Seeking Reinstatement

Wednesday, April 24, 2013 at 2pm in the Map Room

Join us for this informative online panel discussion about advising students on academic probation, facing dismissal, or seeking reinstatement, presented by the NACADA Probation / Dismissal / Reinstatement (PDR) Issues Interest Group. Topics to be addressed include:

- Models for specific programs that work with students on probation, including international institutions
- Early alert mechanisms
- Methods for intervention
- Materials for working with students on probation, including online components

Panel discussion will take place from 2-3pm and we have the room reserved until 3:30pm for discussion following the panel. ***Please feel free to drop in as your schedule allows.*** Read more about the panelists at <http://www.nacada.ksu.edu/Events-Programs/Events/Web-Events/Web-Events-Coming/Web-Event-April-2013.aspx>

A previous online NACDA panel - Advising Transfer Students: Strategies for Today's Realities and Tomorrow's Challenges - took place March 28, 2013

If you missed this event, please note that we have access to the live recording of this event, which will be **available through April 29th** at <http://connect.ksre.ksu.edu/p16032813/> Also, the Event Handout has been posted to <http://www.nacada.ksu.edu/Events-Programs/Events/Web-Events/Web-Event-Handouts.aspx>

If you have information that you would like to see included in future issues of this newsletter, contact us at academicexcellence@franklinpierce.edu

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