

Notes from the Center for Academic Excellence

February 2013

EARLY SUPPORT INITIATIVE

The Early Support Initiative for the Spring 2013 semester begins Thursday, February 7th. As part of a strategic planning initiative to coordinate and minimize requests from faculty about student progress, we will be requesting information about *all* undergraduate classes (developmental through 400-level). The ESI database will remain available **through Tuesday, February 12th.**

Why should you participate?

Many faculty take the initiative to speak directly with students about concerns and issues pertaining to their coursework and attendance. In addition, many students have ongoing access to their grades through the Campus Web LMS or other means. However, we ask that you participate in ESI **even if** you already communicate with students through these or other methods, for the following reasons:

1. The ESI notification creates a more formal process of notifying students of a concern. This notice is copied to the student's advisor as well as to the Center for Academic Excellence. This formality helps students see that Franklin Pierce University takes student success seriously.
2. ESI provides a way for the University to direct targeted information to students about ways that we can help them be successful. For example, we may send specific tutoring information to a group of students who are struggling with course content.
3. Using ESI allows us to get a "full picture" of the student's progress so far this semester. A student who is struggling in or absent from one class is very different from a student who is struggling in or absent from all five classes. By participating in ESI – **even to tell us that you have NO concerns** – you give us a more complete idea of how each student is doing. This information allows us to prioritize our outreach efforts.

Information about accessing the ESI database and entering information will follow from the Center for Academic Excellence.

The Center for Academic Excellence will collect and compile all ESI data submitted, notify students of any early support notices and make appropriate referrals for interventions. This process is timed so that students have the opportunity to respond to feedback and take advantage of services prior to the **Student-Initiated Withdrawal Deadline of February 19th.** Please note that **only those notices received on or before Feb. 12th will be sent out as an Early Support notices.**

FEBRUARY IMPORTANT DATES

STUDENT-INITIATED Withdrawals end Tuesday, February 19th

- Signatures of all instructors are required for Withdrawals (notification)
- Advisor signature is required
- Withdrawal from a course results in a grade of W on the transcript for that class. There is no fee to withdraw from a course.
- **Tuition charges for withdrawn course still apply.**
- [Forms](#) are available on the Registrar's page on eRaven and on Campus Web

FACULTY-INITIATED Withdrawals begin Wednesday, February 20th

- 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.
 - **The last day to submit a faculty-initiated withdrawal is Sunday 4/21**
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PEER TUTORING

The tutoring program is up and running! Students who are struggling with course content and/or organization issues should be encouraged to attend tutoring sessions. Students & advisors can access the tutoring schedule as well as other information about academic support on the [Center's eRaven page](#). The Wensberg Writing Center schedule is posted at <http://eraven.franklinpierce.edu/writingcenter/index.htm>

SCIENCE SUPPORT CENTER

Students should be encouraged to drop in to study at the Science Support Center on Monday-Thursday evenings, between 5-9 p.m. in Marcucella Hall, Room 219. With ample, quiet space for individual or group work, successful, math/science students are on hand to work with students by answering questions & providing assistance in preparing for tests, quizzes, presentations, and writing laboratory reports.

BLUE SHEETS – ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It's not too late for students to request Blue Sheets. If you feel as though a student is struggling and accommodations may help, please encourage them to see [Jeff Ogden](#), Coordinator of Student Accessibility Services.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN ACADEMIC ADVISING

Advising ESL and International Students - Wednesday, February 27, 2013 at 2pm in the Map Room

Please join us for a viewing and discussion of this NACADA Online Panel Discussion. 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-Feb-2013.aspx>

NACADA: The Global Community for Academic Advising

Northeast Region 1 Conference ~ March 20-22, 2013 (*Franklin Pierce Spring Break week*) **at the Fairmont Queen Elizabeth Hotel in Montreal, Canada**

NACADA conferences bring together faculty advisors, staff advisors, advising administrators and others in higher education who support the role of academic advisors. The regional conference is a great resource for networking with other advisors and for attending excellent presentations about best practices in the field of advising. For more information about the conference visit <http://www.nacada.ksu.edu/Events-Programs/Events/Region-Conferences/Region-1.aspx>

Details about registration, lodging and preconference workshops can be found on the site.

Franklin Pierce University will be represented at the conference by presentations given by Tracy Mendham, Coordinator of Learning Assistance and Ashley Tringale, Graduate Assistant in the Center for Academic Excellence.

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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