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Are you Developing Four-Year Plans with your Advisees?

by Cerbo C. Cervantes, Ed.D.

Did you know that we have a rubric to develop a “4-year plan” on our website? You can download the rubric from here. The rubric will help you and your advisees to develop a realistic and viable academic plan (hopefully as early as the freshman year).

Why is advance planning important? Academic planning is no different than the planning we all do everyday in our professional and personal lives. Advance planning will help your advisee to stay on track toward timely graduation and avoid costly mistakes that might delay his/her graduation.

As many as 16 percent of our students are enrolled concurrently at La Verne and a transfer institution in their last semester. While there might be many reasons why a student might need to enroll in extra units at another institution, one frequent reason is that our students are short units or requirements. With advance planning you might help your advisees to avoid additional costs that are associated with enrollment in extra units (at La Verne or elsewhere) in their last semester at La Verne, or to delay their graduation.

Advising Tip:

Avoid asking questions that elicit “yes” or “no” answers. Probe your advisees—allow for “silent moments” about their personal, academic, and occupational goals. Your advisees will appreciate your efforts in engaging them about them.

Newsletter Spotlight:

Registration Dangers

Track I GE allows for no more than one major course to count for a GE Breathe Requirement.
Advising Corner

- Advising Workshop Dates will come out soon.
- We've updated our Forms Page
- We've uploaded new videos on our Video Tutorials page
- We've updated our Mission Statement to more clearly articulate our commitment to developmental advising

Looking Ahead:

1. Midterm reports will roll out soon. Please return the midterm report(s) if you are teaching this semester even if you don't have anyone to report. Encourage your instructors to return their midterm reports. We can't help our students unless instructors communicate with us.

2. Midterm Reporting 2.0 is moving along well. Beta testing with OIT is on-going. We hope to activate the Midterm report module via MyLaVerne next spring semester.

3. Please mark your calendars for one or more of NACADA's webinars for this academic year. We will sign up for all of them. These will be "brown bag" events, but we will have soft drinks and an appetizer platters at each event. You can find more information here: http://www.nacada.ksu.edu/webinars/events.htm

Registrars Corner:

- Banner INB will be off-line between October 14-19. Downtime will also impact access to MyLaVerne.

- January and Spring class schedules will soon be delivered to academic departments.

Featured Article: Vincent Tinto argues that it is not enough to give students access to higher education if colleges do not offer support resources to help them succeed. Dr. Tinto addresses this topic in this Newsletter's featured article, Access Without Support Is Not Opportunity.

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