

ADVISOR NEWS

Spring Semester 2002

Advising and Transition Services - A division of the Provost's Office - <http://www.usu.edu/ats> - 797-3373

Calendar of Events

Advising Coordinating Committee Meetings

Thurs. Jan. 17 10:30 a.m. MLIB 204
Thurs. Feb. 7 10:30 a.m. MLIB 204
Thurs. Mar. 7 10:30 a.m. MLIB 204
Thurs. Apr. 4 10:30 a.m. MLIB 204

Meetings are open to everyone and will be broadcast through Distance Education to various education centers and extension sites.

National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) Regional Conference

March 6-8, 2002 in Albuquerque, New Mexico

Career Fair

Wednesday, March 13, 2002

Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration (SOAR)

For students entering USU Summer 2002
Tuesday, March 26, 2002

Utah Advising and Orientation Association (UAOA) Annual Conference

May 23-34, 2002 in Park City, Utah

New Advising Assignments

New advisors and faculty members who have taken on advising assignments include: **Rachel Lewis** for transfer students in the Office of Advising and Transition Services; **Joslyn Heiniger** in the Business Advising Center; **Hyrum Hall** for Distance Education in the College of Business; **Lisa Hamblin** in the Science/HASS Advising Center; **Julia Dance** for majors in the Department of Forest Resources; and **Jeannie Pacheco** in the Office of International Students and Scholars. **Jennifer Loscher** is a new advisor with Career Services and will assist students in the colleges of Family Life and Science.

Office Relocations

The **Office of Advising and Transition Services (ATS)** has moved to its new location in TSC 304. The new ATS UMC is 0114 and the new fax number is 797-8067.

The **Academic Resource Center (ARC)** has moved to TSC 305; the **Science/HASS Advising Center** has moved to TSC 302; and the **Assistant Vice President for Student Services for Academic Support Services** has moved to the ground level of the University Inn.

The **Computer and Information Literacy (CIL) Lab** has moved to its new location in the Eccles Science Learning Center (ESLC) Room 131. The new CIL web address is complit.usu.edu.

University Transfer Advisor/ Articulation Specialist

Rachel Lewis, formerly of the Admissions Office, has filled a new position as the University Transfer Advisor/Articulation Specialist. The majority of advising for transfer students will continue to take place within individual academic departments. Rachel will advise students who transfer, or may transfer, to USU from institutions for which USU does not currently have articulation agreements. She will advise students on the transferability of credits to satisfy University Studies requirements, and will refer students to have their major requirements evaluated by their major advisors. Rachel will expand the existing course-by-course articulation agreements within the state by working closely with departmental advisors. Together, they will create major-specific articulation agreements for students who transfer to USU from within the State of Utah. She will also work with the returned missionary population to assist them in their transition back to school. Rachel may be contacted at 797-8066 or rdl@cc.usu.edu.

General Catalogs and Advisor Handbooks

Faculty and staff who have misplaced or may need an office copy of the *General Catalog* or *Advisor Handbook* should visit the Office of Advising and Transition Services (TSC 304) for replacement or additional copies.

Professional Advisor of the Year

Nominations are being accepted for the Professional Advisor of the Year Award for the 2002 USU Robins Awards. Nominations may be made by students, faculty, and University staff. To obtain a nomination form, please contact John Mortensen (797-9303 or mort@cc.usu.edu) or go to the ATS website at: www.usu.edu/ats. Nomination forms must be submitted by Friday, February 1, 2002. All nominees will be contacted and informed that their remaining nomination materials must be submitted by March 1, 2002. The website provides more details about eligibility requirements for this award.

Career Fair

Please remind your students to attend the Career Fair on Wednesday, March 13, 2002 in the Taggart Student Center. More than 180 organizations attend this event annually. For more information, contact Career Services at (435) 797-7777, or have your students visit the Center (University Inn 102).

New Courses: USU 1350 and 1360

After USU switched to semesters in 1998, students who passed USU 1310 (BSC), Integrated Science, have had the choice to use the course to satisfy either the Breadth Life Sciences or the Breadth Physical Sciences requirement. Beginning Fall Semester 2002, USU 1310 will no longer be offered. Two new courses will be introduced: USU 1350 (BLS) Integrated Life Science, and USU 1360 (BPS) Integrated Physical Science.

On Course is On Track!

On Course, a flexible, user-friendly, degree audit program, soon makes its official Utah State University debut, and brings with it many benefits to the campus community. A component of SIS Plus, *On Course* promises to drastically reduce the time required to process graduation papers. Advisors will find that *On Course* greatly simplifies the evaluation of students' progress toward their degrees, freeing the advisor to concentrate on substantive academic issues. Additionally, the successful execution of *On Course* will significantly aid in student retention and recruitment, two of President Hall's biggest goals for USU.

To expedite implementation, the Registrar's Office recently hired **Krystin Deschamps** as the *On Course* Program Leader. Krystin will assist colleges and other academic units with the organizational implementation of *On Course*. In the coming months, she will meet with academic advisors to demonstrate how *On Course* can reduce advising paperwork. Additionally, Krystin will train advisors, faculty members, academic deans, and incoming students, and serve as a resource to those who use the program. Krystin joins **Cara Allen**, the Degree Audit Specialist, who has brought the program to its near fully operational status. Together, they make a capable team who stand ready to employ *On Course* and to serve the needs of USU's advisors and students.

On Course is on track for implementation in the early months of 2002. The following schedule represents the timeline for integration. In the next month, the *On Course* Team will visit two other schools that use this program, with the primary consideration being how *On Course* affects advisors. Next, the College of Science will go "up," followed by comprehensive advisor training. Finally, *On Course* will be implemented systematically in the remaining colleges, the last one by Fall 2002. Advisors can be confident that this program will save them time, and that they will be fully supported by the *On Course* Team during and after the transition.

NACADA

Call For Proposals

Utah State University is hosting the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) National Conference in 2002. The conference will be held September 29 through October 2 the new Grand America Hotel in Salt Lake City. Anyone interested in presenting at the conference may contact John Mortensen (797-9303 or mort@cc.usu.edu), and he will send you a hard copy of the Call for Proposals. You may also submit your proposals online at: www.nacada.ksu.edu/2002proposals.htm

UAOA

Call For Proposals

The Utah Advising and Orientation Association (UAOA) invites you to submit a proposal to make a presentation at the Annual Utah Conference. Presenters may choose from three possible formats (50-minute presentations): round table discussion, workshop, or panel. A copy of the Call for Proposals is available on the UAOA website, located at www.weber.edu/uaoa/call_for_proposals. The submission deadline is February 1, 2002. Questions about program proposals may be directed to Debra Bryant (bryant@dixie.edu).

New Dropping Courses Policy

The current Dropping Courses policy, found on page 17 of the *General Catalog*, will be obsolete beginning Fall 2002. The new policy will be as follows:

Dropping Courses. Students who do not attend class during the first week of the term or by the second class meeting, whichever comes first, may be dropped from the course by the instructor. Students may drop courses without notation on the permanent record through the first 20 percent of the class. If a student drops following the first 20 percent of the class, a "W" is permanently affixed to the student's record. After 60 percent of the class is completed, the student's academic advisor must sign any drop request, and a "W" with a grade assigned by the instructor will be entered on the student's permanent record. A student may not drop all of his or her classes without an official withdrawal from the University. The deadline for a student to declare for a P/D+, D, F grading option will be set at the 60 percent point of the course.

New Adding Courses Policy

The current Adding Courses policy, found on page 16 of the *General Catalog*, will be replaced beginning Fall 2002. The new policy will be as follows:

Adding Courses. Courses may be added through the first 20 percent of the term. The instructor's signature is required beginning the sixth day of the semester or second day of workshops and short courses. Following the add period, the Provost's Office must also approve any add request. **A late add will be approved only upon demonstration of extenuating circumstances.**

Career Services

In the Office of Career Services, advisors are available to assist students in creating and updating resumes, preparing for interviews, learning effective job search techniques, signing up for on-campus recruiting, and researching companies for both internship/practicum and career opportunities. The Office also offers an on-line job search website called eRecruiting, through which employers may post jobs and students may apply for positions. To find out more, visit the Career Services website at www.usu.edu/career.

Following is a list of staff members and their assignments:

Dave Hart - Education
Dallin Phillips - HASS/Agriculture
Donna Crow - Engineering
Melissa Scheaffer - Business
Jennifer Loscher - Family Life/Science
Lon Bailey - Natural Resources/Government
Glen Maw - Career Exploration
Peg Hennon - Career Exploration
Eric Jensen - Testing
Chris Cook - Testing/Career Librarian
Kim Latu - Recruiting Coordinator
Trish Glowski - Administrative Assistant

Full-time Status is Misleading

The University definition indicates that the minimum registration load for a full-time undergraduate student is 12 credits. To be eligible for student body offices or scholarships, students are required to register for 12 or more credits. However, it will take students five or more years to graduate if they average only 12 credits per semester. The Educational Policies Committee has approved the following statement to be included in all University publications that describe full-time status:

Students who desire to graduate in four years (eight semesters) must average a semester load of at least 15 credits per semester.

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Additional University Studies Courses Approved

Since August 2001, the following courses have been approved as satisfying University Studies requirements:

Communications Intensive: JCom 2110 (CI) Introduction to On-line Journalism (2); JCom 2120 (CI) Reporting Public Affairs (3); JCom 2310 (CI) Writing for Public Relations (3); JCom 3110 (CI) Beyond the Inverted Pyramid (3); NFS 4050 (CI) Education and Counseling Methods in Dietetics I (2); NFS 4060 (CI) Education and Counseling Methods in Dietetics II (2); NFS 4560 (CI) Clinical Nutrition II (4); Spch 3250 (CI) Organizational Communication (3).

Depth Life and Physical Sciences: FW 3600 (DSC) Living with Wildlife (3).

Recommended Reading

Making The Most of College
by Richard J. Light

Why do some students make the most of college, while others struggle and look back on years of missed deadlines and missed opportunities? What choices can students make, and what can teachers and university leaders do, to improve more students' experiences and help them achieve the most from their time and money? Most important, how is the increasing diversity on campus—cultural, racial, religious—affecting education? What can students and faculty do to benefit from differences, and even learn from the inevitable moments of misunderstanding and awkwardness?

From his ten years of interviews with Harvard seniors, Richard Light distills encouraging—and surprisingly practical—answers to fundamental questions. How can you choose classes wisely? What's the best way to study? Why do some professors inspire and others leave you cold? How can you connect what you discover in class to all you're learning in the rest of life?

Filled with practical advice, illuminated with stories of real students' self-doubts, failures, discoveries, and hopes, *Making the Most of College* is a handbook for academic and personal success.

Advising and Transition Services Staff

Director - John Mortensen	797-9303
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Transfer Advisor - Rachel Lewis	797-8066
Publication Editor - Sheri Peterson	797-2610
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