

Advisor News

Spring Semester 2004

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

Meetings are on Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. in Merrill Library room 204 and are open to anyone who would like to attend. Meetings will be broadcast through Distance Education to various Education Centers and Extension sites. Meetings are scheduled on:

January 15, 2004
February 12, 2004
March 11, 2004
April 8, 2004
May 6, 2004

Advising Workshop Series

Workshops are on Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. in Merrill Library room 204 and are open to anyone who would like to attend. Workshops will be broadcast through Distance Education to various Education Centers and Extension sites. Workshops are scheduled on:

February 19, 2004
March 25, 2004

National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) Regional Conference

March 3-5, 2004 in St. George, Utah

Career Fair

Wednesday, March 3, 2004

Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration (SOAR)

For students entering USU Summer 2004

Tuesday, March 30, 2004

Academic Dismissal

Students who become subject to suspension for a third time will receive notice of academic dismissal from the University. Students who have been dismissed may apply for readmission to the University following a layout of five calendar years. (Approved 12/4/03 by the Educational Policies Committee)

2003 Outstanding New Advisor Award

The National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) has created a new award category for advisors with three or less years of advising experience. In following the lead of NACADA, USU has created a similar award. A selection committee was formed, and **Susie Maughan**, an advisor in the Department of Elementary Education, was named the **2003 Outstanding New Advisor**. Other finalists for the award were **Rachel Lewis**, articulation and transfer advisor in the Office of Advising and Transition Services; **Tami Spackman**, an advisor in the Department of Plants, Soils, and Biometeorology; and **Melanie Jones**, an advisor in the Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation.

SOAR and Transfer Students

Transfer students will no longer be required to participate in Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration (SOAR), beginning with students entering USU Summer Semester 2004. However, the advising requirement is still in place. Transfer students will receive an advising hold in SIS Plus. Advisors will be responsible to remove the advising hold. Transfer students may still choose to attend SOAR, but they will be encouraged to make their own arrangements to meet with their advisors.

Academic Renewal Redefined

Students who are granted academic renewal will have all grades of D+ or below eliminated from the grade point average computation. Prior to this change, students could choose to maintain specific courses. Academic renewal also applies to transfer credit.

New Advising-Related Assignments

New professional advisors and/or faculty members who advise and are now the first advising contact for students in various areas include: **Denise Conover** in the History Department; **Lawrell Cook** in Military Science; **Erin McDonough** in Student-Athlete Services; **Brandon Boulter** in Tooele; and **Eloise Young** in Provo/Orem. **Dr. Samuel Sturman** is the new associate director of the Moab campus. **Sam Curly** is the Native American coordinator in the Office of Multicultural Student Services. In the Registrar's Office, **Janalee Johnson** is the new transcript evaluator/degree audit specialist, and **Krystin Deschamps** is the new matriculation advisor.

Audit Policy Revised

Auditing Classes. *Admitted students* who wish to audit a class must register as auditors. Auditing is dependent on space, resource availability, and instructor approval. No credit or grade points will be granted. The regular *tuition and course fees* will be assessed. At no future time may students request or receive credit for the audited course by any other means than by officially registering for the course and doing the required work. Audit requests, approved by the instructor, must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar and *tuition and fees* paid at the Cashiers Office before class attendance is permitted. Students are not permitted to register as auditors during *Priority Registration*. (Approved 12/4/03 by the Educational Policies Committee)

Services Available Through the Academic Resource Center

The Academic Resource Center (ARC) offers many services to students. Students experiencing difficulties reading a college-level text can access the ARC for a reading assessment to determine their needs and receive individual assistance as needed. The ARC has three professional staff members who are available to provide students with individual assistance in developing effective academic strategies. The ARC offers free drop-in mathematics and statistics tutoring. Times and locations are listed at www.usu.edu/arc/tutoring.

Students may sign up for a one-credit study skills module to help them improve academic skills. The ARC also oversees the University Supplemental Instruction (SI) program. SI times and locations will be posted on the ARC website.

Career Fair

Mark your calendars! Wednesday, March 3, 2004 is the date for the 15th Annual Career Fair. Career Services sponsors this event to allow your students to network with a large number of employers on campus all in one day. Encourage your students to visit the Career Services website (www.usu.edu/career) to review the ever-growing list of employers who will attend this valuable event. Students will want to visit the second floor of the Taggart Student Center from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to meet with employers from industry and government agencies. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Crow at 797-3588 or e-mail her at donna@cplace.usu.edu.

Call for Proposals

The Call for Proposals for the October 2004 National Conference on Academic Advising in Cincinnati was mailed to all current members in late November. Proposals can be submitted online at: <http://www.nacada.ksu.edu/2004proposals>. The proposal deadline is February 9, 2004.

Exceptions to University Studies Requirements

Advisors have some flexibility when it comes to matching transfer coursework to University Studies requirements. The *Advisor Handbook* outlines specific transfer courses for USU's top 17 feeder institutions. However, no course taken at USU may be used as a substitution for a University Studies requirement. Only courses officially approved by the General Education Subcommittee and the Educational Policies Committee may count as satisfying University Studies requirements.

University Deposit Information

Beginning Fall Semester 2004, new freshmen will be required to pay a \$100 University Deposit. The deposit will be applied toward each student's account. The deposit will cover the cost of SOAR, and any remaining balance will go toward tuition and fees.

The purpose of the deposit is threefold. First, the deposit guarantees a student's place in the freshman class. Second, the earlier students indicate their intentions to attend USU, the better prepared USU administrators and staff will be to meet their individual needs related to course availability and advising. Third, students who pay their University Deposit and register for SOAR by May 1, 2004 will be allowed to preregister for a cluster of courses. Freshmen are typically not allowed to register for any classes until they participate in SOAR.

A brochure providing more details about the University Deposit, SOAR, and course clusters has been designed and will be mailed to all new freshmen in February. Copies of the brochure will be provided to advisors at a future Advising Coordinating Committee meeting.

National Student Exchange

Applications are now being accepted for participation in the National Student Exchange (NSE) for the 2004-2005 academic year. To qualify, students must have a minimum of a 2.5 GPA and be currently enrolled full time.

NSE is a consortium of approximately 180 colleges and universities in the United States and its territories, including, for example, the universities of: Alaska, Georgia, Oregon, Minnesota, Massachusetts, Hawaii, Arizona, Connecticut, Maine, Maryland State, Oregon State, Humboldt State, Mississippi State, Montana State, and New Mexico State.

Participating students have the opportunity to attend one of these 180 schools, and in some cases, pay USU tuition or pay resident tuition at the host school.

Applications are due no later than March 1, 2004. Interested students should contact the NSE Office in University Inn Room 101, or call 797-1132 or 797-1131.

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