The Goals for Today’s Discussion

1. A brief review of key concepts in effective advising
2. An overview of the College Student Inventory as a powerful tool for effective advising
3. A discussion of the role of referrals as building blocks for advising partnerships
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Key Concepts in Effective Advising
Relevant Theories in Student Success

- The importance of challenge and support (Sanford)
- The value of involvement and Input-Environment-Output (I-E-O) (Astin)
- The imperative of academic and social engagement (Tinto, Braxton-Hirschy)
- The effectiveness of validation (Rendon)
- The importance of early intervention (Noel-Levitz)
The Value of Relationships

“There’s enormous evidence in the literature that students who stay in college and who graduate are much more likely to be students who develop a relationship with one significant person in the employ of the college.”

John Gardner
National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience & Students in Transition
Academic Advising as an Influential Relationship

"Academic advising is the only structured activity on the campus in which all students have the opportunity for on-going, one-to-one interaction with a concerned representative of the institution."

Wes Habley, ACT
Proactive/Intrusive Advising

“Intrusive advising refers to an active concern with students’ academic preparedness and a willingness to assist them in exploring services and programs that can improve their skills and motivate them to complete their educational plan. It also requires taking an interest in them personally and approaching the situation with an open and caring attitude.”

Lee Upcraft and Gary Kramer
Patterns in the Present, Pathways to the Future
Advising as Teaching

Advisors teach students....

– To value the learning process
– To apply decision-making strategies
– To put the college experience into perspective
– To set priorities and evaluate events
– To develop thinking and learning skills
– To make choices.

– Core Values (National Academic Advising Association)
National Data from Noel-Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory Ranks Advising as the Most Important Factor to Students

Scale:
7 = Very important/very satisfied; 1 = Not important/not satisfied at all

Academic Advising
Importance: 6.29
Satisfaction: 5.18
Performance gap mean: 1.11

Instructional Effectiveness
Importance: 6.28
Satisfaction, 5.22
Performance gap mean: 1.06

N: 94,131
Four-year public universities
# 2007 Academic Advising Study*

## Four-Year Public Colleges and Universities

*(7 = very important / very satisfied 1 = not important / not satisfied at all)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Importance</th>
<th>Satisfaction</th>
<th>Performance Gap</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Academic Advising Scale</strong></td>
<td>6.29</td>
<td>5.18</td>
<td>1.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>My academic advisor is knowledgeable about requirements</strong></td>
<td>6.47</td>
<td>5.40</td>
<td>1.07</td>
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<tr>
<td>in my major.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>My academic advisor is approachable.</td>
<td>6.38</td>
<td>5.36</td>
<td>1.02</td>
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<tr>
<td>Major requirements are clear and reasonable.</td>
<td>6.36</td>
<td>5.26</td>
<td>1.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My academic advisor is concerned about my success as an<strong>individual.</strong></td>
<td>6.23</td>
<td>5.10</td>
<td>1.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My academic advisor helps me set goals to work toward.</td>
<td>6.02</td>
<td>4.80</td>
<td>1.22</td>
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N= 94,131 student records

*Excerpted from the 2007 National Student Satisfaction/Institutional Priorities Report*
The Retention Management System as a Catalyst for Student Success
A conceptual model of retention:

\[
\text{Entering Student Variables} + \text{Student Motivation Variables} + \text{Student Integration Variables} = \text{Student’s Likelihood to Persist}
\]
The College Student Inventory of the Retention Management System (RMS) is a motivational assessment and intervention program used by 450 campuses.
This motivational assessment serves as a springboard for proactive interventions with incoming students.
Log In at our Web site, www.noellevitz.com, and access your myNoel-Levitz account. If you haven’t received myNoel-Levitz access information in a separate e-mail or if you have forgotten your password, click “Forgot your login information?” Enter your e-mail address and your password will be sent to you instantly. Once logged in, select Retention Data Center from the box titled my Application.

1. At the DASHBOARD select the desired survey from the dropdown menu. Click the student count at Completed Surveys. *The hyperlink will take you to your completed student records.*

2. Search for the student by first name, last name, or e-mail address.

3. Use the under Actions to view the individual reports for the student.
Actions also provide tabulated windows to log meeting/discussion notes, update a profile, or send an e-mail message.

To print or save the document scroll over the report and the following toolbar should appear. You may need to use the scroll bar of the far right to scroll to the bottom of the page in order for the toolbar to appear.
Reports include three individual reports of each student, and the summary and planning report on the incoming class.
Advisors meet with students about their student report, discussing the pattern of strengths and needs as the student transitions to college, referring them to relevant campus services.
This information helps in establishing a meaningful dialogue with new students about their motivations, goals, and campus services, as they develop their educational plans.
...focusing on the timeless relevance of personalized and informed interventions
guiding students toward the attainment of their academic, personal, and career goals.
Developing Individual Game Plans for Success

- Identify two of your strengths from your student report.

- Identify two things you would like to improve upon based on your student report.

- List contact information regarding obtaining in assistance with areas in which you would like to grow.

- List three strategies and how you plan to implement them in order to make the first year at UMES successful.
• Identify two of your strengths from your student report.

• Identify two things you would like to improve upon based on your student report.

• List contact information regarding obtaining in assistance with areas in which you would like to grow.

• List three strategies and how you plan to implement them, in order to make the first year at UMES successful.
3
The Value of Timely and Relevant Referrals
Proactive student success initiatives serve to counter-balance many concerns.

Interventions

Motivations

Risk Variables
- Academic
- Financial
- Social
Network of Support:
The Value of Partnerships
Referrals to Support and Service Offices: A Means for Helping Students Make the Most of Campus Resources
The success of students and the success of the institution are inseparable.
Advising is a Key to Student Retention

“The best way to keep students enrolled is to keep them stimulated, challenged, and progressing toward a meaningful goal. The best way to do that – especially among new students – is through informed academic advising.”

– Academic Advising for Student Success and Retention, Leaders Guide, Noel-Levitz, P. 39