



MORGAN
STATE UNIVERSITY™

The Academic Advisor Newsletter

Peer Tutoring Service Highlights

CASA Tutoring Center

Location: Communications Center (CC)120

Hours of Operation: Mon.-Fri. 9am - 6pm

One on one tutoring is available in a wide range of courses. To set up an appointment students can go to casatutoring@appointy.com. For more information about CASA Tutoring center visit morgan.edu/tutoring or email tutoring@morgan.edu

Academic Enrichment Program (AEP)

Location: Residence Halls

Hours of Operation: Sun. – Thurs. 4pm – 12midnight

Appointments and walk-in tutoring are available to all students in primarily general education courses. For more information visit www.morgan.edu/aeptutorting.

University Writing Center

Location: Earl S. Richardson Library 101-106

Hours of Operation: Mon. – Fri. 9am - 5pm

The Writing Center can be used to discuss work, clarify ideas, and improve students' writing skills. To schedule a one on one tutorial session students can send an email to writingcenter@morgan.edu with their availability.

October 2017

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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Helping Students Evaluate Alternatives and Make Decisions

There are a variety of strategies that an advisor can use and teach the students to use that can enhance the advising relationship, and can help the student develop skills beneficial throughout college and life. These strategies include:

Advocacy/intervention – At times the advisor will need to advocate for or intervene on behalf of the student. There is a delicate balance between empowering students to act for themselves or providing direct assistance in helping them negotiate the institutional bureaucracy.

Choices:

- ⇒ Refer the student to the faculty/staff member directly involved;
- ⇒ Make contact yourself;
- ⇒ Refer the student to someone who can help the student develop the skills to deal with such issues.

Intrusiveness – This includes actions on the part of advisors or advising programs to reach out to students and to build relationships so that as problems or issues come up, students know whom to contact.

Things you can do to reach out to your advisees:

- ⇒ Send emails
- ⇒ Talk after class
- ⇒ Invite to a meeting
- ⇒ Invite to lunch
- ⇒ Schedule regular appointments

Important Dates

October 2017

October 9th–14th

Mid-semester Exams

October 12th

RECONNECT CASA

Academy 2k17

October 12th

2017 Annual
Financial Literacy
Symposium

October 18th

42nd Annual Career
Day

October 21st

MSU Homecoming

October 27th

Last Day to Drop a
Class with a “W”

Helping Students Evaluate Alternatives and Make Decisions

Challenging/confronting the student – This can be effective when you and your advisee have a relationship based on respect and understanding.

Mild confrontation is appropriate when you want to:

- ⇒ Challenge students to achieve more than they might think possible.
- ⇒ Open up for consideration of discrepancies in the student’s behavior (on the one hand you say, on the other hand you do...), discrepancies in what a person says and how he appears (you say you’re feeling good, yet you look exhausted), and how the student is vs. how she wants to be (you’re not sure you can make it through college, yet your record indicates you can).
- ⇒ Help the student look at both sides of an issue (I understand what you feel your professor does wrong, but what do you think your professor thinks you do wrong? What does he say about you?).

Modeling/teaching decision-making skills – Students frequently come to advisors seeking a solution for a problem. Advisors can best help the student by modeling/teaching skills to use not just in that situation but in others they will confront.

The following are steps to use in the decision-making process:

- ⇒ Define the problem and clarify the situation.
- ⇒ Collect and use information relevant to a decision and search for alternatives.
- ⇒ Evaluate the alternatives against identified criteria.
- ⇒ Assess the risks involved with the decision.
- ⇒ Develop a plan of action and follow through.

Get to Know the Team

Currently 18 staff members (CASA Advisors and Retention Coordinators) provide academic advising services to the first year student population at MSU. Each month a couple of these staff members will be highlighted.



Deborah Hargrave

Retention Advisor, College of Liberal Arts

Deborah Hargrave, a native of Baltimore, Maryland, graduated from Patterson High School in 1985. After raising a family and supporting her family owned construction business she decided to return to her passion for academics. Ms. Hargrave earned her B.S. degree in Sociology from Morgan State University in 2015. Her passion for Sociology continues to grow as she diligently pursues a Masters in Sociology from MSU's graduate program.

Deborah Hargrave joined the Office Student Success and Retention team (OSSR) as a retention advisor in July 2017. She works hard to keep students engaged, invested, and excited about their academic opportunities.

In her spare time, she enjoys the company of her family. She is most happy when developing priceless memories with her children and grandchildren. She enjoys expressions of the human condition, Ms. Hargrave also enjoys live entertainment including jazz and dance, for they both express the human condition without saying a word.

A message from Ms. Hargrave: "My mission here at Morgan State University is to provide a collaborative environment for both student and advisee, which I believe fosters an atmosphere of success from time of their first day of arrival to their finish line of success. I believe it takes the shoulders of giants to elevate each generation. I've been lucky enough to experience this personally and professionally at Morgan, and my greatest desire is to pay it forward."

GOT IDEAS!

Are there topics you would like to see in the newsletter? Send your ideas to FY_Advising@morgan.edu