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The Academic Advisor Newsletter

Welcome to the first edition of Morgan State University's Academic Advisor Newsletter. This electronic newsletter is a resource for all academic advisors at MSU. Each month The Academic Advisor Newsletter will include advising tips, best practices in academic advising, on-campus support services for students, professional development opportunities for academic advisors, important dates to remember, and other pertinent information to support the efforts of the first year academic advising team at MSU.

Spring 2017 Registration

Spring 2017 registration is just a few weeks away! Online registration begins Tuesday, November 8th. Students will be able to register for courses based on the priority registration groupings set by the Office of Records and Registration.

Advisors should encourage their advisees to schedule advising appointments now and not wait until it's too late. As a rule of thumb, after the advising appointment and once priority registration has begun for your students, the first year academic advising hold (FY) should be lifted for 48 hours (2 days) for students to register for their spring 2017 classes. In addition, all advising notes must be entered under the *notes* section in Starfish.

October 2016

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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SPREAD THE WORD . . . FAFSA has Changed!

Exciting news advisors! FAFSA applications are now available earlier than January 1st. October 1st 2016 marked the beginning of a significant change to the FAFSA application. Students are now able to complete and file a FAFSA application as early as October 1st every year. Direct your students to the Financial Aid webpage <http://www.morgan.edu/financialaid> for more detailed information about this change and encourage them to apply sooner rather than later.

Student Services Spotlight: Center for Career Development

Each month a student support services department will be highlighted. This month the spotlight is being shone on the Center for Career Development (CCD) under the leadership of Ms. Seana Coulter.

Career planning is a lifelong process of defining and working to achieve career goals. The student will grow in many ways while at MSU and some of the biggest decisions they will face relate to what to do with their time here and how they will prepare for what comes next. The CCD is here to assist students with all aspects of career planning – including self-assessment, career exploration, gaining real-world experience via internships, job search assistance, and graduate school planning. Together we can make their “dream” job a reality.

Career Counselors/Advisors can meet with students one-on-one to discuss/formulate career plans, review resumes and cover letters, learn job search strategies, practice interview skills, investigate career options, find internships and jobs, and plan for graduate school. The staff is available for assistance by appointment. Encourage your students to visit the CCD, early and often!

Website: www.morgan.edu/careerdevelopment

Office location: Montebello C-224

Hours of operation: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

For upcoming events: bit.ly/CCDNews

(Source: Seana Coulter, Director of CCD)

Important Dates

October 2016

October 10th–15th

Mid-semester Exams

October 19th

42nd Annual Career Day

October 22nd

MSU Homecoming

October 28th

Last Day to Drop a Class with a “W”

Goals for Academic Advising

Four national surveys of advising practices have collected data on the achievement of eight goals for academic advising. The goals were developed by a NACADA [National Academic Advising Association] task force that was charged with providing input to the Council for the Advancement of Standards (CAS) in 1980. These goals formed the basis for the development of the CAS Standards for Academic Advising and the CAS Self-Assessment Guide for Academic Advising.

1. Assisting students in self-understanding and self-acceptance (values clarification; understanding abilities, interests, and limitations)
2. Assisting students in considering their life goals by relating their interests, skills abilities, and values to careers, the world of work, and the nature and purpose of higher education
3. Assisting students in developing an educational plan consistent with their life goals and objectives
4. Assisting students in developing decision-making skills
5. Providing accurate information about institutional policies, procedures, resources, and programs
6. Referring students to other institutional policies, procedures, resources, and programs
7. Assisting students in evaluating or reevaluating progress toward established goals and educational plans
8. Providing information about students to the institution, college, academic departments, or some combination thereof.

Source: Habley, W. R. (2000). Current Practices in Academic Advising. In V. Gordon, W. R. Habley and Associates (Eds.), *Academic Advising: a comprehensive handbook* (p. 35-43).

Fall 2016 Outstanding FY Advisor Awards

At the end of each semester, beginning fall 2016, one academic advisor will be recognized for his/her outstanding contributions to students and the advancement of academic advising efforts at MSU. More detailed information about the award, selection criteria, eligibility, and nominations will be posted at a later date on the first year academic advising webpage (www.morgan.edu/fyadvising).

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.



Dawn Wilson

Academic Advisor, Center for Academic Success and Achievement (CASA)

Originally from Yonkers, New York, Ms. Wilson began her tenure as an academic advisor with CASA approximately four years ago. In spring 2017 she will graduate with a M.A. in English from Morgan State University. She also earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Morgan State in Telecommunications—Broadcast Journalism. Ms.

Wilson is currently writing a speculative fiction screen play and novel. She enjoys writing, reading, practicing yoga, listening to music, traveling, and cooking.



Rolicia Martin

Retention Coordinator, School of Computer, Mathematical and Natural Sciences

Ms. Martin joined the retention team one and half years ago. Prior to her time as a Retention Coordinator she worked as the Baltimore City Coordinator for FORCE: Upsetting Rape Culture. She also served as a mentor with the Big Brother Big Sister organization. Ms. Martin has dedicated 10 years to research with an emphasis on neuroscience. She co-authored two publications entitled “Isolation of Perinatal Mouse Cerebral Cortical Astrocytes” and “Transgenic Overexpression of the Presynaptic Choline Transporter Elevates Acetylcholine Levels and Augments Motor Endurance”. Ms. Martin is from Marion Station, Maryland and earned her Bachelor of Science in biology from Morgan State University. Some of her hobbies include crochet, video games, anime, and mentoring.

GOT IDEAS!

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