

## Minutes of the Stockton Advising Council

Friday, February 4, 2011

Members present: Paula Dollarhide, Cindy McCloskey, Emma Kluesner, Peter Hagen, Tara Luke, Joan Perks, Lois Spitzer, Amy Hadley, Marc Sullivan, Aakash Taneja, Marissa Levy, MaryBeth Sherrier, Joe'l Ludovich, Carra Hood, Fran Bottone

1. New Scheduling Software. Linda Feeney demonstrated a new web appointment scheduling system developed by the Computer Services department. It is integrated into Blackboard. It is due to be “live” shortly. It will automatically download the preceptee list for preceptors. The preceptors will set up their own parameters for meeting times. The consensus of the group is that this will be a great help in managing appointments.
2. Preceptor Award. New changes to the type and scope of the award have been approved by the Faculty Senate. This year will be a trial year for a type of R&PD award still to be determined. Types of awards could be release time by a faculty member to serve as an “advising fellow” in the Center for Academic Advising, release time for a research project in advising, or funding to attend an advising conference. This type of award is certainly unprecedented in the country. It opens to the door to many great opportunities to “raise the discourse about advising.” Bob Helsabeck, President of the Faculty Senate, will oversee soliciting volunteers to judge the selection of winners of such an award.
3. Orientation. MaryBeth Sherrier, Assistant Dean of SOBL, commented on this year’s orientation and drop/add process. In SOBL, she experienced more issues/problems with new transfers and the crop/add process. She and the other assistant deans are working together to try to assess the main stumbling blocks to a smoother orientation and try to facilitate change. Some of the issues include whether or not to continue unlimited waitlisting for each student. It is possible that some students hold on to classes late in the drop/add week, or do not take themselves off waitlists once they are satisfied with their schedules. Paula would like to see advising information added as part of the orientation day, so that new students are more aware of the advising relationship and purpose at Stockton. Graduate studies has written letters to their new students, telling them that their orientation is “mandatory.”
4. Provost Opportunity Fund. Amy Hadley developed a proposal for the Provost’s Faculty Opportunities Fund. She has put in for a request for faculty training and scholarship which supports the Stockton 2020 Strategy Map in the area of learning and engagement. Her proposal is much like a “mini conference,” with a keynote speaker and common readings. Faculty who apply will choose from selected readings, and will discuss the readings in a roundtable format. Her goal is to develop an outline for a Stockton advising document that will lead us in the future of the college. Amy and Fran Bottone have been looking at various articles to include should it be funded. The target date would be for a day between May graduation and the beginning of summer school. Keep your fingers crossed! This would be a wonderful event for Stockton.
5. BAIS degree—Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies. Peter reported on the progress of this degree. It was discussed at the last Faculty Assembly meeting and it has gone back to committee for more discussion. Some positive aspects of the degree include helping returning

students who have a “collection” of courses make some sense of it and finish the BA. Often this includes non-traditional students who may have started a degree in an earlier part of their life and now have motivation to come back and finish. There is a structure to the BAIS and the Center for Academic Advising would be instrumental in helping to advise these students properly. Anyone pursuing the BAIS would have a common core of courses in a discipline (40 credits) and it would include a capstone course. There would be 24 credits in a secondary discipline.

6. Preceptor Evaluations. Testing is being completed now for the spring preceptor evaluation period. There is a possibility that next fall preceptors will be able to record a meeting with preceptees to facilitate early registration. This could encourage students to meet more regularly with preceptors.
7. Advising Brown Bag Colloquia. The spring 2011 line-up of colloquia was passed out. All members of the Stockton Advising Council are urged to attend and to bring colleagues.