

## Minutes of the Stockton Advising Council

Friday, September 24, 2010, F 221

Members present: Mark Sullivan, Donna Albano, Joe'l Ludovich, Mark Berg, Peter Hagen, Norma Boakes, Carra Hood, Stacey Zacharoff, Emma Kluesner, Aakash Taneja, Tony Bethel, Fran Bottone, Bob Ross, Paula Dollarhide, Cindy McCloskey, Amy Hadley, Jenna Bontempo

1. Introductions. The meeting started with introductions and a welcome and thanks by Paula and Peter. We were called to think about the purpose of the group: to raise the level of discourse about advising at Stockton. Advising is much more than a “clerical” function. Advisors are teachers, stewards who care for students. Paula noted that the purpose of the Council is to share information with colleagues in each of the academic schools. The minutes will be posted online along with goals and objectives of the group.
2. Update on interdisciplinary major. Peter shared the progress on developing an interdisciplinary major at Stockton. It is still a work in progress that must be approved through the Faculty Senate. The proposed curriculum would include a “cluster” of courses in two or more disciplines with a capstone course with a thesis or project.
3. Update on Testing. Emma spoke about math testing over the summer with Accuplacer. It seems to be working well for advising for freshmen. The scores are available online from the advisor screen. Also piloted this summer was ESL testing. The problem is that students who are not native speakers have to identify themselves on the application to Stockton. Lois Spitzer began teaching a 2-credit GEN course to help non-native English-speaking students with their writing and speaking skills. The students in her class all have an English tutor paired with them. The hope is that this program will grow.
4. Advising Brown Bag Colloquia. Paula has lined up the fall programs and handout out posters and flyers. Members of the Council are encouraged to come and bring their colleagues, and to help advertise. Anyone wanting to present something for the spring 2011 semester is encouraged to contact Paula.
5. Advisor Training. As we continue to try to train new and continuing advisors, several plans are in the works. Paula recently presented “The Advising Syllabus” with Joan Perks and Marissa Levy to the Institute for Faculty Development. Cindy McCloskey is scheduled in October for “The Nuts and Bolts of Advising” with the IFD. Members of the Academic Advising Staff will present four sessions of BANNER/CAPP training for any advisor at the college on October 19, 22, and 25. Persons can sign up through the Computer Services website for these training sessions. If you are using an advising syllabus, Paula would like to be able to post it on the preceptor resources website.
6. Focus Groups. Paula is on the Middle States team that is researching the nature of advising at Stockton. Members were asked if they would like to volunteer for a focus group on advising. Members will be contacted again shortly to organize times and places.
7. Common Reading. The idea of a common reading for the entire Stockton community was discussed. Amy Hadley suggested some time of “conference format” –maybe combining it with Continuing Education. Some type of forum for a discussion of a common reading could stir interest in advising topics. Amy Hadley, Fran Bottone, and Cindy McCloskey agreed to work on this idea. More volunteers would be needed.
8. Provost’s Excellence in Advising Award. It was noted that Amy Hadley was the winner of the 2010 Provost’s Excellence in Advising Award. She won a \$1000 stipend to use for any time of

professional development, plus a year's membership to NACADA and a copy of Academic Advising: A Comprehensive Handbook. This year we would like to see the award rolled out earlier in the year. Mark Berg brought up the idea of a PR campaign for the advising award. Carra Hood brought up that faculty in GENS are not favorable towards the award because they have no major at the college and don't have the same type of advising function. Paula commented that she would like to see a different structure for the awards, including a winner from each school, which could help the situation with GENS faculty. Peter suggested that a committee coming out of the Council could make a recommendation about the award structure to the Provost. We need volunteers to serve on a committee for this year.

9. Green Dot. Fran Bottone talked about the anti-violence campaign that Stockton is launching. "Green Dot" will roll out in the spring. This campaign focuses on how all of us can stop violence when we see it with even small interventions. In the spring members of the team will be available to make presentations in classrooms, freshman seminars, etc.
10. NACADA. The National Academic Advising Association has many resources available for preceptors at [www.nacada.edu](http://www.nacada.edu). Recently members were forwarded an email from our Region 2 that offers an opportunity to apply for a free membership to NACADA.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Dollarhide