The Institute Advising Office: An Update for Institute Council

October 12, 2011
IAO: University Advising

• University Advising Leadership & Coordination
  – Deans Delegates for Advising
  – RIT Advisors Council
  – Professional development for advisors

• University Advising Services
  – Advocacy, case management, triage and referrals for escalated advising concerns
  – GeneSIS retention & advising team
IAO: Student Success & Retention Initiatives

• Learning Communities
• Outreach: high credit/inactive students
• University partnerships for retention & student success
• Genesis planning & development
Strategic Direction of the IAO

2006-2009
• Internal Transfer Advising
• Advisors Council
• Student Success & Retention Initiatives

2009-Present
• University Advising Leadership & Development
• University Advising Services
• Student Success & Retention Initiatives
+ Conversions

2010-2013

• Q2S
• SIS
Converging Priorities!
Tiger Team Recommendations

Student Success Tiger Team

- Recommendation 2: Establish an Institute Academic and Advising Information Center
- Recommendation 3: Expand Intentional Advising with Students
- Recommendation 4: Create a mechanism/process to comprehensively triage, manage, and coordinate student success.
- Recommendation 5: Strengthen Advisor Education and Recognition

AALANA Student Success Tiger Team

- Recommendation 2: Academic Advising
  - Recommendation 2a: Support an intentional model of academic support for all students (e.g., holds on registration, AIM programs, financial support and counseling).
  - Recommendation 2b: Review and update institutional policies specific to academic actions, standardization, and consistency by College (2009).
Advising @ RIT

Audit 2009/2010 confirmed:

• Decentralized
• Varies across colleges
• Combinations of faculty & staff advisors
• Inconsistent caseloads and responsibilities

Coordination is needed:

• Deans’ delegates represent colleges
• Coordination of communication is a new priority!
Advising Processes Vary Across Colleges

Student #1
College A: Professional Advisor

College A: Professional Advisor

Student #5
College B: Faculty Advisor AND Professional Advisor

Student #4
Institute Advising Office

Student #3
College C: Faculty Advisor

Student #2

Institute Advising Office

MCAS

FYE

COLA Student Services

HEOP

Honors
Deans’ Delegates for Advising

- Robb Adams, NTID
- Sean Bennett, CAST
- Marty Burris, USP
- Michele Firnstein, CMS
- Karen Hirst, KGCOE
- Debbie Kingsbury, CIAS
- Catherine Mahrt-Washington, COS
- Peggy Tirrell, EPSCOB
- John Smithgall, COLA
- Dan Stafford, GCCIS
- Kristen Waterstram-Rich, CHST
Advising Priorities

• Consistent standards/practices for advising across the university
• Right-sized caseloads
• Sustainable model of advising across colleges with clear distinctions of advising roles for faculty/staff
• Clearly communicated advising processes & key touch points for all students
• Consistent assessment of advising services and experiences
• University-wide professional development, training, and recognition for advisors
Consistent Advising Within & Across Colleges

**College Advising**
- Clarity of Roles
- Right-sized Caseloads
- Clear Goals
- Defined Outcomes
- Consistent Practices
- Standard Assessment
- Sufficient Training & Development

Academic Advisor

Faculty Mentor

Clerical/Administrative Support w/ Process
Approved Advising Model for RIT

Diagram showing the relationship between the student, College Advising, and Institute Advising Office.
2010-2011 Highlights

• 10 semester conversion advisors hired by ONE committee for 5 colleges!
• Vision, mission statements for RIT advising
• Advising holds for all new students
• Approval of new advising model by deans
• Subcommittees drafting:
  – Advising outcomes & assessment
  – Advising handbook
  – IAP processes
  – Advisors toolkit
Immediate Priorities

• Moving forward with advising model
• Ongoing student success & retention initiatives
• Individual advising plans (IAP’s) for all students in transition
• Advisors toolkit for semester conversion
• Genesis planning & support
Key Result Areas

• Be renowned for student success
• Maximize opportunities for innovation, creativity, research and scholarship
• Execute with organizational/operational excellence
• Achieve highest levels of stakeholder satisfaction
Guiding Organizations

- Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (CAS)
- National Academic Advising Association (NACADA)
- Council for the Student Retention Data Exchange (CSRDE)