University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Work Group for Undergraduate Advising (WGUA)

MINUTES

July 30, 2015 – 3 to 4:30pm
Chapman 211

Call to order at 3:09pm

Present: Phyllis King, Scott Emmons, Rodney Swain, Kay Eilers, Brian Hinshaw, Jennifer DeRoche, Warren Scherer,
Excused: Rob Smith, Louis Molina, Gesele Durham, Jen Hayes, Robin Jens, Hope Longwell-Grice

1. Continue review of brainstorming document to formulate recommendations
   a. Discussed recommendation regarding “undecided/exploring” students and considered the following ideas:
      i. Number of undecided students: For Fall 2014, between L&S and AOC we had 800 (new freshmen), 214 (new transfer) and 100 re-entry/re-entry transfer.
      ii. Recommend changing the term “undecided” to “exploring.”
      iii. Create exploring pathways to keep on track for graduation while still determining a major, (i.e. set of courses for STEM, set for arts, set for health, etc.) limiting course options within course sets to make this less overwhelming.
         1. EAB refers to this as meta-majors.
         2. Need to consider the array of GERs currently available and how these fit into clusters.
         3. Consider assessments (i.e. My Plan used by CPRC) to help students to a meta-major.
      iv. Consider how long student should stay in “exploring.”
         1. Possibly consider 3 semesters maximum but the focus is on earlier decision.
         2. Or consider a specific point or credit limit where there is an expectation that students have declared an intended major.
      v. Consider the number of credits we encourage students to take (consider 13 or 15). Create a campaign (i.e. small post card) to promote this with all new students.
      vi. Consider content of EdPsych course to do some of the exploration.
         1. Should this be required for all exploring students?
         2. Consider creating a customized exploration course for each cluster (i.e. science, arts, etc.)
3. Consider the conclusion of a career exploration course connect with advisors and help them through the process to list as their intended if they are ready.
vii. Consider LLCs that have themes/clusters to guide exploring programs.
viii. Consider surveying the new undecided students to understand where they are at in their decision making process (i.e. through Mapworks)
ix. Consider a summer program option to guide students through exploration earlier (similar to Panther Math Prep).

1. Delivery method could be online program or in person. If it was online, then advisors could follow up to determine if changes are needed.
2. This could be happen even before orientation (i.e. send packet of information to have this completed earlier).
3. Consider who students could contact on campus if they would like to discuss (i.e. CPRC, advising, etc.)
4. Consider how this could fold into Go/Meet Milwaukee events.
5. Consider ways to incentivize participation in a summer program.

x. Considered who would be involved in developing this and doing this work.

1. Need to look to APCC regarding developing the meta-majors and career clusters.
2. Pre-enrollment work could involve admissions and CPRC.
3. Existing advisors could potentially have connection to meta-majors.
4. The major tracker within the SSC would be helpful with this.

2. Timeline moving forward

3. Assignment of tasks for next meeting

a. October 5th – Tentative presentation to CEMAT with recommendations

Meeting adjourned at 4:15pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 6 from 3 to 4:30pm in Chapman 401