ACN Meeting Minutes  
March 15th, 2011

Members Present:  

Sandy Brusin – New Initiatives in the First Year Writing Program

There has been an adjustment to the cut score for English 101. Also, a prep class for 101 was eliminated. Did look student progression and how mainstreaming students went. Determined that the cut score for ENG 101 had to be raised again. ENG 101 Section 43 is recommended for students who completed ENG 095. Instructors will be familiar with students as well as the ENG 095 curriculum. Students need to contact Sandy Brusin to get into Section 43. ENG 101 Section 8 is for AOC who have completed ENG 095. There is a consistency for the students in this class. Please share this message with the students. The waitlist system is not used for these sections. Students can only be added to the class sections after semester has started and are already on a teachers’ waitlist. Announcements have been made in ENG 095 as to what section to take in ENG 101.

Diane Reddy – U-PACE Grant & Class Opportunities for Fall 2011

UWM received a $2.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education – Institute of Education Science to conduct one of the largest randomized controlled trials ever on a college campus. The purpose of this meeting is to inform you and answer any questions you may have about this grant and to request our help in encouraging students to participate in a study investigating the effects of different types of instructional techniques on student learning and academic success. Students who enroll in two sections of Psych 101 (MW 11-12:15 LAP 162 and TR 2-3:15 ENG 105) will be asked to agree to let us enroll them in either an online or a smaller face-to-face section of the same course. Students will be randomly assigned, with student permission to different types of learning. Certain slots will be held for freshman to enroll during NFO. No students who is repeating Psych 101 will be allowed in the study. This is a completely voluntary opportunity for students to participate in. All sections will be taught by Psych faculty. The two sections will be broken down to face-to-face, U-Pace, amplified assistance and mastery-based. Benefits to students include $150.00 whether or not they drop or withdraw from the course. In addition, if students are assigned the online section, L&S will waive the $275.00 online course fee. Both of the conventionally taught and online sections will be of high quality, cover exactly the same material and have 60 students in them. There are no foreseeable risks to students. Students are free to drop or withdraw from the course in accordance with university drop/withdrawal deadlines and policies on tuition. The $150.00 incentive to participate is the students’ to keep even if they drop or withdraw from the course. Beyond dropping or withdrawing from the course, students are free to withdraw from the study at any time without penalty and may remain in the course even if they are no longer study participants. Smaller studies will be performed in other departments in subsequent years. Over the course of the study, approximately 2,000 undergraduates will participate from three UWM Departments: 2011-12 Psych 101 – Fall 480 students; Spring 480 students. 2012-12 Soc 101 – Fall 240 students; Spring 240 students. 2013-14 Pol Sci 104 – Fall 240 students; Spring 240 students. What is U-Pace? U-Pace is a self-paced, mastery-based instructional approach with amplified assistance, developed at UWM, which capitalized on online technology to personalize student learning. U-Pace removes barriers to academic success by providing personalized academic support to all students without them having to ask for it, and requiring students to master small units of content before progressing to new material. U-Pace allows students to demonstrate to themselves that they have the ability to succeed and deepen students’ perceptions of control over their learning. Thus, students’ confidence and expectations for success increase, affecting their behavior. Approximately 2,500 students have enrolled in U-Pace and we have compared outcomes for these students to 2,500 conventionally taught students. There is a 21% difference between U-Pace vs. conventional teaching methods in the
performance on cumulative exam at the end of the course as well as a 16% difference six months after the course. There were no differences in ACT scores or cumulative GPAs between the U-Pace and conventional exam-takers that could explain the greater learning outcomes for U-Pace. U-Pace also is helping to close the achievement gap of disadvantaged students. U-Pace instructional approach was developed as part of UWM’s Access to Success initiative. Pilot students have been supported by the UW System Office of Academic Diversity and Development: Closing the Achievement Gap Grants. If you have any questions please contact Diane Reddy (reddy@uwm.edu; x6432) or Ray Fleming (mundo@uwm.edu; 3980).

Seth Zlotocha – Advising Committees on the Student Advisor Page in PAWS

Advising committees are now being assigned and can be a bit tricky when reassigning advisors. Both Life Impact Program and the Honors College are currently listed as committees. Please make sure to share this information with whoever performs advisor changes in your respective offices. It is important to recognize that there is more than one row listed. When multiple rows are listed, please update both rows to reflect the subcommittee under the advisor change. Instructions will be coming out shortly via the ACN list serve so please share this information with staff that make these changes in your office. In addition, if you think a committee would be helpful for your area, please let Seth know.

Jason Altmann & Ann Kowaliczko – An Overview of the Student Accessibility Center

Mission Statement of the Student Accessibility Center - The mission of the Student Accessibility Center is to create an accessible university community for students with disabilities, which fosters the development of each student’s full potential. As a campus resource, SAC works with students, faculty and staff to promote an increased awareness of the abilities of all students and to ensure they are regarded on the basis of ability, not disability. Any UW-Milwaukee student with a disability that restricts one or more of life’s major activities may benefit from SAC services. We work with students with mobility, sensory, communications, mental, or learning differences, as well as those with basic health impairments. Common disabilities include: Psychological (Depression, Anxiety, Bi-Polar, OCD, PTSD), ADHD, Learning Disabilities, Chronic Health Conditions (Chron’s, Lupus, HIV, Cancer), Visual Impairments, Deaf and Hard of Hearing and Autism Spectrum Disorders. Academic support is available through Adaptive equipment and materials, Alternative testing, Laboratory and library assistance, Notetaking, Electronic textbook service and Sign Language, oral interpreting, and transcription services. SAC provides legally mandated services to UWM students who have physical, learning, sensory or psychological disabilities that substantially affect or limit a major life activity and clarifies students' responsibilities and encourages self-advocacy. SAC also assists faculty by verifying documentation of disability and identifying reasonable accommodations. SAC also facilitates requests for accommodations and provides information and training on disability issues. SAC Staff members by support area: Medical and Psychiatric Disability - Jon Broskowski; Learning Disability / ADHD - Barbara Simon; LD/ADHD/ TBI - Ann Kowaliczko; Blind/Visually Impaired - Jean Salzer; Deaf/Hard of Hearing/Physical Disabilities - Jason Altmann

Campus Community Reports

- Enhancing Advising Subcommittee
  Reminder to contact Seth regarding orders for the new Advising brochure.
- Graduate/Retention Workgroup
  No report
- Financial Aid
  No report
- Center for International Education
  No report
- LGBT Resource Center
  Lav Grad is taking place on May 18th, 2011 at 7:00 on the 4th floor of the Library. RSVP to lavgrad@uwm.edu
- Women’s Recourse Center
No report

- **Orientation Leadership Team**
  Working to finalize Parent Orientation at NFO

- **Enrollment Services**
  New Freshman Placement Testing – week of Spring Break 1,100 students have already signed up for testing. Please direct additional students to testregistration@uwm.edu

- **Student Accessibility Center**
  Information covered in presentation

- **First Year Center**
  Completed interview students for orientation positions - currently looking for 2 additional PSOA students. Any interested advising offices looking to advise on south campus? There is office space available to host advising appointments – go where the students live.

- **Panther Academic Support Services**
  Katie Press has left UWM and PASS is actively recruiting for a replacement for her position. Online tutoring is available over Spring Break.

### General Announcements

- **Academic Advising at New Freshman Orientation** discussion based session to be held on Tuesday, March 29th from 10:30-noon in Union 280.

- **ESL – Kathy Kaye**
  - A reminder that writing courses for non-native speakers are available. These classes are not just for international students. Possibly a better option for deaf/hard of hearing students or Wisconsin residents whose first language is not English. The English Placement Test is not always a good indicator of language skills since the test is offered through multiple choice format. The ESL Pic Test is a better indicator for students who are non-native speakers. Please post this information as you often don’t know who is a non-native speaker.

- **Life Impact Program – March 2nd** was the deadline but students may still apply. Please send students to Natalie Reinbold if students have questions. The UWM Student Parent Recognition night is April 30th, 2011. There is a nomination form available if you know someone you would like to recognize. Please note the nomination deadline is April 8th, 2011. As a reminder regarding the UWM Student Parent population, 3,800 students declared dependents for this spring on their FAFSA. This population continues to grow ad we need to be aware of these students’ specific needs.

- **James Hardy** was introduced as a Graduate Intern in Business.