

Committee on Academic Advising

Annual Report 2019-2020

Members:

Aram Ayalon (Educational Leadership, Policy, and Instructional Technology), Justine Gamache (SEST), Gil Gigliotti (English), Gena Givens (Criminology and Criminal Justice), Jacqueline Guzman (Business), Larry Hall (Admissions), Mary Horan (CLASS), Yvonne Kirby (Institutional Research and Assessment), Chester Labedz (Management and Organization, CAA co-chair), C. Christopher Lee (Management and Organization), Sadie Marjani (Biology), Caroline Marquez (Explore Central, CAA co-chair), Kevin Oliva (Academic Center for Student Athletes), John Tully (History), Elizabeth Wright (SEPS), Shuju Wu (Computer Electronics and Graphics Technology), Vacant (FYE director), and John Carpa (SGA).

Activities:

Advising Survey. The committee has worked to design an attrition survey aimed at non-returning undergraduates this fall. The survey will access the causes of attrition so those concerns can be effectively addressed by the university. The survey asks students to identify the issues that most influenced their absence from CCSU. The issues included are academic, advising, financial, logistics, and personal. (Our latest draft provides opportunities for students to identify the Coronavirus as a significant factor influencing their non-enrollment.) We think the survey should be administered beginning in late September, just after the enrollment data census freeze. To ensure effective distribution and collection of survey data there is a need for someone, experienced in the survey software that CCSU offers/supports, to promptly receive and employ the attrition data and use it to send out the survey to all non-returning undergraduates in late September. This person will also need to validate the responses. Additionally, there is a need for financial support for survey response incentives. We think technical design and implementation should be funded by CCSU, as should the modest cost of response incentives CCSU would offer. We think all raw data collected each time the survey is conducted should belong both to the CAA and OIRA for their independent analyses and use. A copy of the survey is attached to this report. We look forward to feedback from Faculty Senate and OIRA. If the senate approves our proposed plan and timetable, we need prompt authorization of the resources indicated above in order to assure timely, orderly survey administration early this autumn.

Advising Forum. In collaboration with the Student Government Association, the CAA hosted an Advising Forum on campus on October 21, 2019. The event was designed as an opportunity for CCSU students to communicate any advising related questions or concerns they may have. Faculty members and Academic Advisors from each school based advising center led a panel discussion and question and answer period with students. 550 students attended the forum. A survey was sent out to all enrolled undergraduate students after the event. This survey garnered nearly 400 responses, identifying communication with advisors as a positive and highlighting transfer credits as a possible area of concern.

Dual Advising Model. The committee worked closely with John Tully, CAA member and liaison to the Dual Advising Workgroup, to remain engaged in the planning process for the Dual Advising Model. We met with Dr. Toro on November 15, 2019 to review the Dual Advising Model proposal. CAA prepared its official response to the proposal and Caroline Marquez presented that feedback on behalf of the group to the Faculty Senate on December 10, 2019.

Respectfully submitted, Caroline Marquez and Chester S. Labedz, Jr., co-chairs, for the committee