Restructuring Advising

Overview: Effective advising is a key part of retaining students and helping them make progress toward graduation. Construed broadly advising includes both academic and co-curricular issues such as selecting/changing majors, selecting courses in both the major, general education and all-university requirements, career planning, managing finances, navigating personal relationships and working. We need an advising system that quickly detects when students are having problems and then provides the support that gives them the best chance to succeed. Some of these functions are best performed by academic advisors, others are not. The campus is close to adopting an early alert system that will help detect when students are struggling during the course of a given semester, and it will make it possible to coordinate a response. The software should be implemented by next fall. Between now and then, the campus needs to develop a plan for coordinating these different aspects of effective advising and for coordinating the broader challenges of assuring that students make timely progress to their degree from semester to semester.

Charge: The Advising Working Group is tasked with developing a comprehensive advising proposal. The proposal should identify the different reasons for advising, identify the resources needed to effectively and efficiently undertake the various forms of advising and map a process that identifies the individuals or units responsible for advising.

The Working Group should consult broadly within the University and research best practices outside the University. The Working Group will coordinate with the Working Group on Structuring Support for Underrepresented Students.

Timeline: The Working Group will develop a proposal by the end of spring semester.

Membership: TBD