

# Academic Advising



During the month of April, 12 orientation and testing sessions were conducted for new students. Students were introduced to the online version of our New Student Orientation, available on the ACTC homepage. Using the online version allowed the students to become familiar with our homepage and learn how to use their Student Self Service Account while learning about the college services and policies. At the end of the session, students completed an assessment of the orientation, designed to measure the goals of orientation. As of April 15, 103 students had completed the orientation and assessment. Of those, 100% agreed they found the orientation to be beneficial. Thanks to all of the academic advisors who entered advising availabilities in Advisor Trac, advising personnel were able to schedule appointments for these new students to meet with an advisor and preregister for summer and fall classes. These efforts have resulted in an increase in the number of new students registered for summer and fall courses as compared to previous years.

As a reminder, the new placement policy goes into effect Fall Semester 2010, so advisors are asked to be aware of the new scores in math and reading. Over the months of June and July, orientations and testing will be ongoing and new students will have an opportunity to meet with an advisor and register for classes during the weeks of June 7 through June 11; June 21 through June 25; and July 12 through July 23. If you will be available during any of these days and are willing to advise and register students, please contact Cris McDavid before the end of the semester.



# Peer Mentoring & GE 100

Peer Mentors are wrapping up the semester with sessions on Career Planning and Transfer. They've assisted their mentees in setting academic, career and life goals. One group of mentees recently created posters depicting their imagined lives in ten years, a fun exercise that helped them realize the financial reality of creating the lifestyles they imagined. Peer Mentors have also participated in the orientation process, preparing for summer orientations which they will facilitate. New students involved in the orientations seem to relax visibly when a student like themselves talks about the college experience. We are currently in the process of recruiting new Peer Mentors for fall 2010, so if you have a student in good standing who you think might make a good Peer Mentor, please contact Karen George.

Peer mentoring is making a difference. A recent examination of retention rates fall to spring from Fall 2007 through Fall 2009 revealed that overall retention has improved from 68.07% in Fall 2007 to 76.21% in Fall 2009. Retention of students who were enrolled in GE 100 with peer mentoring from Fall 2009 to Spring 2010 was 82.89%. To expand the peer mentoring opportunity, we will be working with GE 101 instructors to provide this service to students enrolled in GE 101 classes in Fall 2010.

Term	Total Students	# Retained	Rate	# Left	Rate
4074 Fall 07	1572	1070	68.07%	502	31.93%
4084 Fall 08	1808	1329	73.51%	479	26.49%
<b>4094 FALL 09</b>	2518	1919	<b>76.21%</b>	599	23.79%
<b>4094 PM Students</b>	152	126	<b>82.89%</b>	26	17.11%

***For additional information, visit the Peer Mentors on Facebook.***



# Supplemental Instruction

Our final Lunch and Learn (pot luck) will be Friday, April 30. The featured speaker will be Mr. Bob Owen of Learning Through Laughter. His oration is titled "Your Attitude Rocks!"

We welcome our new SI Leaders for fall: Mr. Tobin Wonn (English 101 and 102), Ms. Olivia Black (Art 100), Ms. Whitney Martin (English 101) and Sarah Klein (ENC 091). We are still looking for a few good students to serve as SI leaders in developmental math and developmental writing, as well as ART 100. The spring 2010 SI Leaders will be honored on Thursday, May 13, 2010 at the annual Honors Program in the Sowards Theatre. They will be honored for serving the ACTC students as peer leaders in the classroom promoting learning excellence.

This will bring a close to our first SI pilot year. The SI Leaders have been very instrumental in helping build a new culture of learning excellence at ACTC. We look forward to the upcoming year and what our new SI leaders will bring to the students beginning in August of 2010.

*"Tell me, and I forget; show me, and I remember; involve me, and I understand." - Chinese Proverb*

## AdvisorTrac News



Data comprised of AdvisorTrac activity from April 1, 2010 to August 20, 2010 in preparing students for the upcoming summer and fall semesters indicate the following:

- 2,648 hours of availability have been created in AdvisorTrac to date.
- 88% of advisors have created availabilities to date.
- 489.4 hours of time has been logged for advising visits.
- 705 visits have been logged in AdvisorTrac for 601 different students with 215 visits recorded and notes entered for those visits.

AdvisorTrac Tip: ***When recording appointment notes make sure to enter a time in and a time out for each visit; otherwise the visit is not recorded and saved.***

### Title III Team

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