January, 2011

Issue 17

Ashland Community & Technical College
HIGHER EDUCATION BEGINS HERE

Title III: Closing the Educational Gap

PEOPLE PLACES + NEWS

# Academic Advising

This month, Title III staff members have been working on an Advising Online component on the ACTC website. This component will assist students in identifying a major, locating program check sheets as well as the schedule of classes for a given semester. In addition it will provide instruction on the use of Student Self Service (PeopleSoft) and AdvisorTrac. Students will be encouraged to make appointments through AdvisorTrac with their advisors and go to those appointments prepared with trial schedules and questions about their programs. Additionally, through this site, students will be able to submit questions through a "Contact Us" link. These Advising Online services are being customized for our returning cohort of second year students; however, first year students will also be able to use the services. Since many of our students will be using AdvisorTrac to schedule advising appointments, advisor training designed to address AdvisorTrac updates will be conducted in early February. At those training sessions, the updated placement policy will also be discussed. The placement policy changes will be added to PeopleSoft in preparation for summer and fall pre-registration which will begin for KYVU on March 1. All academic advisors are encouraged to attend one of these training sessions to learn more about AdvisorTrac and the placement policy. Look for an announcement of training times soon.

## Advising by the Numbers

| COMPASS Tests: | CDC | TDC | Combined Totals |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total # of tests given from September 1, 2010 – January 25, 2011 | 427 | 163 | 590 |
| Of these tests # of High School Students | 29 | | |
| Of these tests # of Re-tests (or those having taken COMPASS before) | 113 | 58 | 171 |
| Leaving this many new COMPASS students (never taking COMPASS before) | 285 | 105 | 390 |

| SIGN-INS: | CDC | TDC | Combined Totals |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total # of students who signed in to speak with an advisor. | 948 | 157 | 1105 |

| ORIENTATIONS: | CDC | TDC | Combined Totals |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total # of Orientation sessions offered from September 1, 2010 – January 25, 2011 | 30 | 17 | 47 |
| Total number of students attending Orientation | 346 | 126 | 472 |

Advisor Jim Jagielo works with a student

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

# Peer Mentoring

In year three of the Title III grant, while we will continue to provide services for our developmental/undecided students through peer mentoring, supplemental instruction and academic advising, we will begin focusing on a returning cohort of students who enrolled for the first time fall 2009. Providing advising online services, customized transfer information and career planning becomes the focus for this grant year. To address these goals, Peer Mentors are interacting with the students identified in the returning student cohort via email. These students are notified about upcoming transfer advisor visits and newly implemented student visits to transfer institutions. Mentors will alert students to a Transfer Fair this spring designed to provide our students with an opportunity to meet with representatives from several transfer institutions in our area. Mentors also offer support through office hours and electronic contact to assist students with transfer and career questions. Beginning in January, in cooperation with the Career Center, noontime career chats were initiated to assist all students in resume' writing, finding a job, preparing for an interview and following up on an interview. Community speakers will be invited to provide job search tips for our students as well. Information about all of these events is included on the ACTC Facebook page, as well as the Peer Mentoring Facebook and Supplemental Instruction Facebook pages. We encourage all students, faculty and staff to "LIKE" us on these pages to get the most recent updates.

# Supplemental Instruction

There are eleven S.I. Leaders for Spring 2011. All leaders participated in a two-day training session on what S.I. is and is not, how to assist students, and how to conduct a successful session. S.I. is supported in MT 55, MT 65, ENC 091, ENG 101, ENG 102, BIO 137, BIO 139, and ART 100. S.I. began the second week of classes and is open to students registered for ALL sections of these classes. Book marks with the session times and locations have been distributed to students in these S.I. supported classes as well as in the GEN 100 and GEN 102 classes. The schedule is also posted on the ACTC website http://www.ashland.kctcs.edu/Academics/Title_III/Supplemental_Instruction .

Spring 2011 S.I. Leaders

S.I. Leaders Justin & Joanna work on a team-building exercise

**AdvisorTrac Version 4.0**

- **New look**
- **Simplified functionality**
- **Calendar similar to MS Outlook**
- **Compatible with MS Outlook calendar**
- **Coming in February 2011**

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Title III Team

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