What is advising?

- How would you define advising?
- "Academic advising is a developmental process which assists students in the clarification of their life/career goals and in the development of educational plans for the realization of these goals. It is a decision-making process by which students realize their maximum educational potential through communication and information exchanges with an advisor; it is ongoing, multifaceted, and the responsibility of both student and advisor. The advisor serves as a facilitator of communication, a coordinator of learning experiences through course and career planning and academic progress review, and an agent of referral to other campus agencies as necessary." Winston, et al.
- Faculty intervention is about helping students make the most of their choices. A faculty advisor can play a critical role in helping a student brainstorm the best opportunities for enhancing their plan of study through service learning, independent study, study abroad, internship, and other programs. The faculty advisor's role is to help the student articulate their curricular, co-curricular, and career goals, and then assist them in creating a campus experience that will facilitate reaching those goals.
  Tom Grites, Richard Stockton College of New Jersey

Why advising matters (for you and our students)

- Classes are more than checkboxes
  o Help the student see the connections
  o Understand why a skill set is needed prior to taking a particular course
  o Logic behind the curriculum
- Exploring life, career, and academic goals
  o How do you learn about your field
  o Sharing stories
- Sharing skills needed and the opportunities within a field/career
  o YOU are the expert
  o Share your passion
- Students don’t always know what to ask or what they need
  o Ask them questions
  o Get to know them
- Assists with persistence
  o Research shows that connections with faculty outside of the classroom matter
- Advising is teaching
  o How to find/create the logic of one’s education;
  o How to view the seemingly disconnected pieces of curriculum as parts of a whole that makes sense to the learner;
  o How to base educational choices on a developing sense of the overall edifice being self-built; and
  o How to continually enhance learning experience by relating them to knowledge that has been previously learned
  o (Lowenstein, 2009)
How advising looks at UA

- UA uses
  - Faculty advisors
    - Departments – A&S, C&IS, HES, Education
    - General – SW, Nursing
  - Professional advisors
    - Departments – Culverhouse, HES
    - Student Services Centers
      - First year – A&S
      - Up to 60 hours – C&IS
      - Entire time – Culverhouse, Engineering, Nursing
      - Certifications – Education

Clearing registration pins and changing majors

- Clearing advising pins may be the responsibility of
  - Advisor (faculty and professional) in that unit
  - Advisor (professional) in Student Services Center
  - Office Assistant
- Major Changes may be the responsibility of
  - Advisor (faculty and professional) in that unit
  - Advisor (professional) in Student Services Center
  - College Registrar
  - Office Assistant

References: