Hello Parents and Family Members!

It is hard to believe that we are nearly half-way through fall semester. Last week, the office of University Advising Services (UAS) was busy meeting with students to discuss mid-semester grades and brainstorm strategies for how they can finish the semester as strong as possible. In addition to mid-term grade discussions, UAS has been actively promoting spring registration which will be opening the week of November 3rd. Since early September, advisors have been meeting with students to discuss spring registration. It may sound strange to think we are talking about classes for an upcoming semester before a student has even finished their current course load, however, this is commonplace on college campuses. Students have been encouraged by class instructors, flyers, and e-mails to schedule advising appointments with UAS to avoid long waits during walk-in hours when registration opens.

All freshman students had an academic advising hold placed on their account at the beginning of fall semester. This hold is to ensure students speak with an advisor to discuss required courses and academic progress prior to spring registration. Fortunately, we have had the pleasure of meeting with many freshmen students already. A quick reminder from family may catch those students we have not met with as of yet. Students can schedule an advising appointment by logging into their Success Network via MyFAU.

During these important “pre-registration” appointments students are meeting one-on-one with an academic advisor for at least 30 minutes. Below are some common questions students are being asked:

* *How are your classes going so far this semester?*
* *Are you still planning on pursing the (fill in the blank) major?*
* *How are you enjoying FAU?*
* *Has college been what you expected so far?*
* *Have you given any thought to your courses for next semester?*

These questions often open the door to quality conversations where we as advisors can promote campus resources such as supplemental instruction and tutoring; while also getting to know our students’ ambitions, strengths, and weaknesses. Based on my own personal conversations with students throughout these past few weeks I have identified some common challenges for students:

* College has proven to be very different from high school

(Requiring more studying and time management)

* Difficulty adjusting to living on campus, especially when away from family
* Not aware of campus resources

It is important to remember that UAS is now home to both freshman and sophomore students for academic advising and we strive to assist students with all of their academic needs. UAS is currently offering appointments through Friday, October 31st. Beginning November 3rd students will be assisted on a walk-in basis.

Below are some helpful links relating to spring registration and as always, if you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

My FAU: <https://myfau.fau.edu/cp/home/displaylogin>

Academic Calendar: <http://www.fau.edu/registrar/registration/calendar.php>

Spring Registration Dates: <http://www.fau.edu/registrar/schedule/advreg.php>

Go Owls,

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