

Strategic Plan: Student Success

Improving the Academic Success of our Students

YSU has made the following progress on nine selected initiatives:

- 1. *-Create an Enrollment Management Team*
-Examine & Revise Admission/Retention Requirements
(These two initiatives will be worked on by the same team)**

These initiatives have been combined. We have established a 27-member Enrollment Management Team consisting of faculty, staff and administration to guide the university's enrollment efforts. Joseph Mosca, Dean of the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services, will chair the team. The team will thoroughly review and assess the university's admissions standards/policies/deadlines/procedures, retention practices and the role that tuition, fees, scholarships and financial aid play in enrollment. The committee will make recommendations on how to improve each of these areas. The team will also make recommendations to ensure that YSU recruits the best students possible, underrepresented students and students from outside our immediate area as we transition from an open enrollment university to an urban research university. The team's first meeting is November 14.

2. *Align Systems of Advising*

Dr. William Buckler is the leader for this initiative. He has met with advisors in each of the six colleges and the athletic department to become acquainted with the various advising models; to solicit concerns; and to assess personnel needs during the peak advising periods. The Coordinator has also met with the 10-member YACADA Advising Assessment Team to propose and establish academic advising initiatives for the year and beyond; prioritization of these activities are in discussion.

The Coordinator is in the process of meeting with 21 different units on campus whose personnel deal with advising issues. Although a priority sequence has yet to be determined, the following goals are being undertaken for the remainder of the academic year: To update the university advising website. To create a website on which all professional academic advisors are identified by name, photo and college and a method is indicated by which they may be contacted. To create a one-stop website on which curriculum sheets for all YSU majors can be found along with the university's General Education requirements. To work toward more uniformity of information among the academic advising websites of the individual colleges. To meet with Eastern Gateway Community College advisors to apprise them of the new YSU General Education requirements effective for fall, 2012. To bring to campus Dr. Charlie Nutt, executive director of NACADA, to specifically address the faculty about improving faculty advising.

Improve Orientation Processes and Programs

We have established a 13-member team to assess and improve the university's orientation processes and programs, including a thorough examination of and the development of recommendations to improve the Student Advisement, Orientation and Registration (SOAR) program.

3. *Create Early Warning processes to Improve Student Success*

This team is led by Jeanne Herman and Jonelle Beatrice. We purchased STARFISH retention software [web link of starFish](#) in June. We've spent several months loading and testing data. All parties are excited about the potential benefits of the software. We plan to pilot the software in our developmental classes this Spring. Our goal is to have full implementation for next Fall.

- 4. *-Develop a major marketing campaign to position YSU as a University of choice...
-Publicize Research Outcomes (Urban Research Cornerstone)
-Develop marketing/recruitment strategies targeting graduate students & highly able undergraduates (Urban Research Cornerstone)
(These three initiatives will be worked on by the same team)***

This team consists of 15 faculty, staff and students and is led by Mark Van Tilburg. The team began meeting in July and has had three meetings. Marketing and Communications has quickly begun to implement an enhanced marketing campaign designed to begin to address these initiatives.

5. *Develop Freshman-Year Experience (Seminar or Boot Camp)*

A committee, led by Dean Shearle Furnish is nearing its initial meeting.

6. *Tighten and Improve Enforcement of Academic-Progress Policies*

(No Report)

7. *Improve Course Completion Rates*

(No Report)

8. *Support faculty Development in Teaching and Learning*

(No Report)