

Office of Advising, Retention & Orientation

**October
2010**

Upcoming Dates:

- **October 18**
Spring Semester Course Schedule viewable online
- **October 22**
Mid-term grading ends
- **October 26**
Last day to drop a full-semester class
- **November 8-11**
Online registration for current students
- **November 12**
Open registration begins
- **November 24-28**
Thanksgiving Break
- **December 3**
New Student Orientation (*Spring Admits Only*)
- **December 10**
Classes end
- **December 13-17**
Final Exams
- **December 20**
Final Grades Due

Contact us:

Karen Johnston, Director
KJS LBR 107, x2269
kjohnston@lssu.edu

Jody Schopp,
Administrative Assistant
KJS LBR 109, x2874
jschopp@lssu.edu

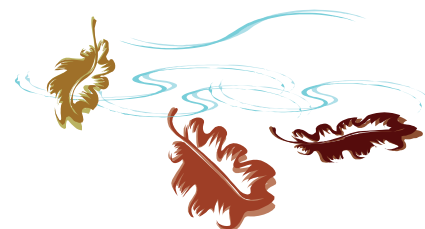
Fall Academic Advising Workshop

On October 6, an Academic Advising Workshop was offered to all faculty. Topics included Faculty Resources, University Policies & Procedures, Fostering the Advisor/Advisee Relationship, Early Alert Processes and more.

Based on positive feedback and requests for a second session, the workshop was again offered on October 19. Between the two sessions, there were over 25 attendees, representing both faculty and staff.

Workshops will continue to be offered each semester. Suggestions on future topics are welcome and can be emailed to Karen Johnston at kjohnston@lssu.edu.

A special thanks to our October presenters: Dr. Paige Gordier, Dean, College of Professional Studies; Dr. Gary R. Johnson, Professor, Department of Political Science; Dr. Barbara K. Searight, Associate Dean, School of Education; Ms. Nancy Neve, Registrar; and Ms. Carolyn Rajewski, Director, Learning Center.



Increased Retention Rates

A review of fall to fall retention data shows an increase in retention among new full-time first-time in college (FTIC) students starting Fall 2009 and returning Fall 2010. The overall retention rate for the students entering Fall 2009 is 68%, a 1% increase from those entering Fall 2008.

The table on the right highlights a few categories of interest. Again, these are fall to fall retention rates of new students who are full-time FTIC's.

Category	Entering F08	Entering F09	% Points of Change
<i>Gender</i>			
Females	67.33%	69.38%	+2.05
Males	66.67%	66.67%	0
<i>First Year, Living On Campus</i>			
Yes	69.85%	67.00%	-2.85
No	61.01%	70.00%	+8.99
<i>First Semester Academic Standing</i>			
Good Standing	75.88%	76.35%	+0.47
Placed on Probation	41.13%	40.78%	-0.35

New Student Orientation

This past summer 775 students visited campus for orientation, a 17% increase from 2009. The **survey responses from new students and parents were very encouraging.** An average of 89% of new students indicated their orientation experience was informative and positive. Additionally, averages of 84% felt better prepared for fall semester and were more confident in their ability to succeed at LSSU, 89% felt more knowledgeable about LSSU in general and 89% were excited to attend LSSU in the fall. When surveying the families, an average of 90% indicated they were pleased with the overall orientation experience. Additionally, averages of 88% were more confident that LSSU was the right university for their student, 91% felt more knowledgeable about LSSU policies and procedures, 89% felt more knowledgeable about LSSU's campus resources and 90% were looking forward to their student attending LSSU this fall.

What topics do we cover at orientation? The opening presentation (addressing both new students and their families) focuses on: Academic Policies/Procedures to ensure Academic Success, Student Affairs, Academic and Support Services and FERPA. Within these topics, we touch on student responsibilities, time management skills, degree audits, general education requirements, GPA requirements and the numerous places to go to for help (faculty/staff, secretaries, catalog, Learning Center, etc.). The Registrar's Office, Business Operations and Financial Aid offices provide a demonstration on how to use and navigate Anchor Access. We also provide an opportunity for students to meet with an academic representative for advising and course registration. All course registration takes place in the Learning Center. Now, depending upon the type of student we are focusing on during orientation, there may be additional activities, including: Family Fun Night (pre-orientation dinner), campus Resource Fair and/or breakout sessions for students and parents.

Who is required to attend orientation? All new students (freshman and transfers) attending main campus are required to attend orientation. The student can register for specific programs based upon their term of admission and student type.

What's next? The Orientation Committee is currently planning the Spring and Summer 2011 Orientations. Dates for the upcoming programs are listed below.

Spring Orientation Dates

Friday, December 3, 2010

Friday, January 7, 2011

Summer Orientation Dates

Freshman Orientation

Saturday, May 14

Friday, June 10

Friday, June 24

Friday, July 22

Transfer Student Orientation

Friday, May 13

Thursday, July 21



If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact:

Jody Schopp at x2874,
jschopp@lssu.edu

Upcoming NACADA Webinar

Faculty and staff are invited to attend NACADA Webcast:

"Tips and Tools for Advising as a Teaching and Learning Process"

When: November 18, 2010 from 2-3:30 p.m.

Location: Crow's Nest, Walker Cisler Center

Description: Advisors who bring a teaching and learning perspective to academic advising often find that this approach opens doors to "teachable moments" that provide opportunities to assist students with "igniting" their potential. Utilizing a teaching and learning approach can assist us in developing the types of relationships that spark motivation and promote student learning. Creating and maintaining these effective relationships requires

certain actions on the advisor's part: preparation for onset of an advising relationship, building rapport, communicating clearly, identifying realistic goals, and demonstrating a connection between academic coursework, academic experiences and real life.

Tips and tools to be discussed: Thank you and welcome letters, academic difficulty analysis form, advising syllabus, cultural profile, learning style inventory, early academic alert, self-evaluation tool for students.

RSVP by Friday, November 12 by contacting Karen Johnston, x2269 or kjohnston@lssu.edu.

For more information visit: <http://www.nacada.ksu.edu/Webinars/W35.htm>