



Henderson Community College Title III

Coaching for Student Success

Title III Travel Notes: NACADA Workshop Lays Groundwork for HCC Fall Project

By *Rebecca Emerson, Advising Coach*

How can students track their academic development and success at HCC? And if they are able to track their accomplishments, how can that information be made available to faculty advisors? Lastly, how is this information best put to use?

These are questions I sought out to find answers for when venturing off to Cleveland, Ohio, this April to the National Academic Advising Association Regional Conference (NACADA).

Hilliard College, a two-year division of the University of Hartford, has developed what they call a “Syllabus and Portfolio for Advising” (SPA). SPA is a user-specific tool created within Blackboard that enables faculty and students to access student information, such as career planning, learning styles and academic tracking tools.

SPA is used within the classroom, with each faculty member tailoring it for their students’ use. Some may simply list SPA’s availability in their syllabus while others weave it into the very fabric of their courses.

Where SPA really proves useful, though, is in advising. U of H Assistant Dean of Student Services, Paula Alderette, says that PAC “accelerates the advisor/advisee connection” because it creates a comfortable introduction to the advising relationship. In addition, Alderette says that program such as SPA empowers the student, giving them greater sense of ownership within their education as well as offering an early warning system when a student is beginning to get into academic trouble.

This is part of what my job duties will include for this summer and fall: to develop an on-line interactive system whereby students and advisors can track student development, providing early warning and intervention for students at risk of

academic failure. This system will incorporate professional services throughout the college and will provide students with a way to discover information about themselves such as learning styles, career interests and how they may build academic confidence. It will provide them with an outlet to learn time management, build scholastic plans, and help them arrive for advising sessions more prepared through the use of student curriculum worksheets. Look for more information when you return to classes this Fall!

Tips from our Faculty

By *Jonna Ruele-Ziniel*

Have you ever made an appointment with an advisee and wished you had a way to remind them of the appointment? Have you ever set up a time for someone to meet with you, and wished you had a way to write it down for them? Well, the Advising Center has the answer you’re looking for!

At the beginning of Spring semester, Heather McCormick suggested that we begin having an appointment reminder on the back of a business card. These are appointment cards that can be distributed to advisees to remind them of an appointment you have set up with them. They work just like the appointment cards that you get from a doctor’s office. These are perfect for those hectic first encounters during open registration. You can set up an appointment for a time that the student can return in two weeks, and simply write the time on the back of their card!

During this Spring semester I have used these cards myself, and the return rate of advisees visiting my office has been incredible. I would strongly suggest you try them out in the Fall! Contact Rebecca Emerson at the Advising Center for more information!

Inside this issue:

Title III Travel Notes: **2**

Tips from our Faculty;
Staff Directory **2**

Blackboard & eCommunities: Making it Work for You

By Marc Baltzell, Learning Specialist—

One exciting component of the Blackboard course management system is called eCommunity. Born from the concept that collaboration is a necessary part of education at all levels, this aspect of Blackboard gives participants a powerful communication tool. Once established, participants in an eCommunity can interact in a variety of ways. Resource archives, discussion boards, announcements, and file sharing are all components of the eCommunity.

How can a faculty or staff member use an eCommunity Blackboard site?

- Committee Portal
- Special Interest Group
- Specific Concept Archive
- Orientation or Tutorial Site

Within the eCommunity you can access all of the assessment tools available to regular course shells. These include the ability to create tests, quizzes, and even surveys. Additionally, you can choose members, make your eCommunity available to all users, or enable a password to restrict access to your eCommunity.

In the near future, I will be offering some training opportunities to help you get started creating your own Blackboard eCommunity. In the meantime, I invite you to access my eCommunity. Simply login to blackboard, click on the eCommunity tab, run a search for “Learning Specialist”, and then enroll. The enrollment password is: “knights”.

KCTCS Blackboard URL:
<http://Elearning.kctcs.edu>

May Professional Development Opportunity

Blackboard CMS Orientation:

Friday, May 19, 2006

Begin: 9:00 a.m.

End: 12:00 a.m.

Location: Computer Lab AS228

Registration Contact: Jenny Page ext. 19684

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