

Student Success Office

An AQIP Action Project regarding Student Success was initiated in June 2008. The Student Success Action Project originated through a convergence of issues:

- decreasing accessibility to students because of changing student profiles, especially the significant increase in transfer students and other students who live and work off campus and do not avail themselves of current advising opportunities
- campus satisfaction surveys that indicated inadequate communication of information leading students to feel overlooked and uninformed
- an increase in the number of students on academic probation requiring creative ways to use existing resources to address their academic, advising, and mentoring needs with more immediacy.

The goal for this project was to design a system for advising and mentoring that will enhance student learning and retention. This system will:

1. ensure that all new students (including transfers), especially the undeclared, are immediately linked with a team of well-trained faculty and student services advisors for optimum academic and career advising
2. support all students in investigating academic and career options while allowing early effective contact with programs of choice
3. assure strong mentoring relationships for all students throughout their course of study

The USM Office of Student Success provides academic support services designed to empower students from their very first day on campus all the way up through graduation. They help ensure that students will become acclimated to college life and excel at USM.

They act as a liaison between students and the many resources available at USM that will help make the student's college experience a success.

Working in conjunction with the First Year Experience program, USM career services, and Saint Mary student life, the Student Success Office contribute to a student's growth through individualized coaching, classroom presentations, and special topic workshops that cover topics from time management and test preparation to choosing a major and adjusting to college life.

If a student has a question about college life, are concerned about their coursework, or just need help getting organized, they can contact a success coordinator.