



**Minot State**  
**UNIVERSITY**

## ACADEMIC ADVISING NEWSLETTER

### Advisor Workshop

#### Advisor Role in Starfish Early Alert

The Academic Advising Committee has partnered with the Starfish Team and will hold training for all advisors Feb. 2 from 12:30 to 1:30 P.M. and again Feb. 3 from 2 to 3 P.M. Both sessions will be in Old Main 405. The session will focus on the following topics: the benefits of using Starfish Early Alert, the process of following up with an advisee when a flag has been raised, and changes in the process of closing the loop. The session will also highlight the ability to filter advisees by academic standing, athletic participation, registration for the upcoming semester, and more. Please attend to learn how Starfish Early Alert can be a valuable tool when working with advisees. For questions, contact Heather Martin at [heather.martin@minotstateu.edu](mailto:heather.martin@minotstateu.edu) or ext. 3265.

### Change in Transcribing Elective Transfer Credit

Coursework transferring to MSU as elective credit will now be coded as Transfer 100, 200, 300 or 400 based on the level of the course at the sending institution.

### All Welcome - Upcoming Advising Webinars

The POWER Center invites interested participants to join us for the following webinars. Please RSVP to Holly Major, [holly.major@minotstateu.edu](mailto:holly.major@minotstateu.edu), or call ext. 4047 if you plan to attend or are interested in the information but cannot attend. Both will be viewed in the POWER Center on the 2nd floor of the Student Center.

## FEBRUARY 2017

### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### Wednesday, February 1

Webinar: Mindset, Right to Fair, and Persistence: Academic Advising to Support Student Success (1 – 2 P.M.)

#### Thursday, February 2

Webinar: Rethinking Retention: Elevating College Retention Rates (11 A.M. – 12 P.M.)

#### Thursday, February 2

Advisor Workshop: Advisor Role in Starfish Early Alert (12:30-1:30 P.M.)

#### Friday, February 3

Advisor Workshop: Advisor Role in Starfish Early Alert (2 – 3 P.M.)

#### Monday, February 20

President's Day, University Closed

#### Monday, February 20

Last day to withdraw from all classes and receive a 75% refund

#### Friday, March 3

Summer and Fall semester graduation applications due to advisor

## Mindset, Right to Fair, and Persistence: Academic Advising to Support Student Success

Wednesday, February 1 – 1:00 – 2:00 P.M.

Research suggests that many students are entering college environments lacking skill sets that are predictive of college persistence and success. In addition, today's students often have misleading perceptions regarding their abilities and the effort required to succeed in college. There are those who feel they lack the 'natural' acumen to do well in a course, and others who believe they have innate ability that transcends the need to study. When these students encounter academic difficulties, many feel lost and lack the skills needed to manage these difficulties and "bounce back."

How do these attitudes impact students' lives and chances of academic success, and how can they be changed? This webinar will explore how advisors can help these students to cope, navigate, and thrive.

## Rethinking Retention: Elevating College Retention Rates

Thursday, February 2 – 11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

This webinar will provide insight on understanding and engaging under-resourced college students to examine cause and strategies for addressing the high dropout rate of those who are in greatest need of the boost that only a college degree can offer.

## Why should I share the Academic Requirements Report with my Advisees?

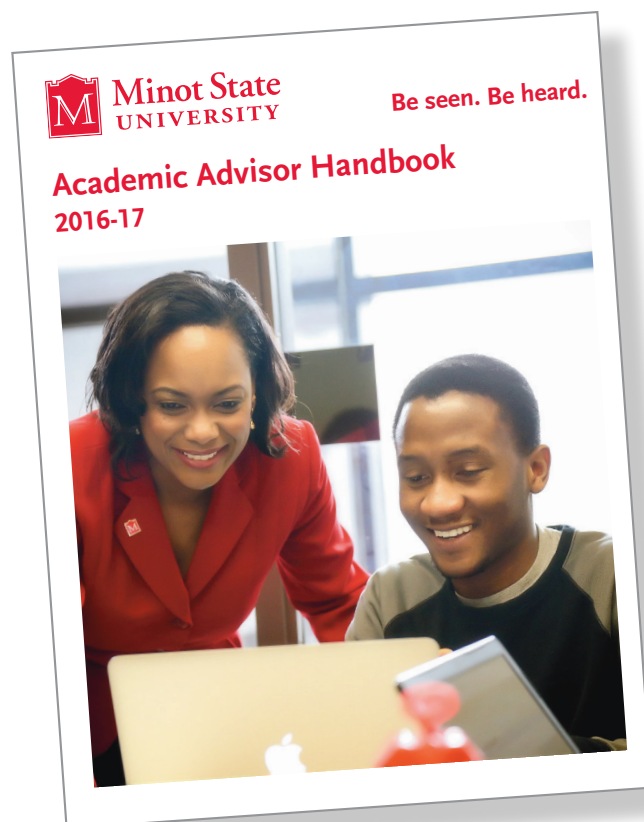
The Academic Requirements Report is an advising tool for MSU undergraduate students and advisors. This feature enables students to work with their academic advisors in planning their schedules. Students can also access summaries of degree requirements already completed and requirements still needed to graduate.

This report is designed to show students' progress towards overall MSU requirements, General Education and major, minor, or concentration requirements. The report outlines each requirement and shows the courses that students have taken to meet the requirements.

Students and advisors can use this report in monitoring progress towards the students' degree however it is not a graduation audit. The Academic Requirements Report is intended as a guide on completion of a degree but it does not replace the academic advising that students receive from their advisors. While the Academic Requirements Report is "unofficial", the Registrar's Office uses it as a tool to evaluate students' majors, minors, and concentrations who have applied for graduation.

## Academic Advisor Handbook

The Minot State University Academic Advisor Handbook is designed to provide academic advisors, faculty and staff with the tools they need to be successful advisors. It is to serve as a useful reference for advising-related questions and facilitate continuous, ongoing advisor training. The handbook is intended to help advisors articulate policies and procedures; define and practice effective advising; find correct, accurate, concise, and consistent information; locate referral resources; and provide standardized assistance to students. The 2016-17 Academic Advisor Handbook is available at <http://www.minotstateu.edu/advising/AcademicAdvisorHandbook.shtml>.



## Accuplacer replaces the Compass Exam

Under NDSU policy 402.1.2, placement scores are required for enrollment in entry level, degree credit courses in English and Math (e.g. College Composition I, College Algebra, Finite Math, Elementary Statistics, Precalculus, Applied Calculus, and Calculus I). Students who do not achieve the required ACT score may take a placement test to qualify for the course. The Compass placement tool was discontinued effective November 30, 2016. MSU adopted Accuplacer to replace the Compass for Math and English placement testing.

As with Compass, Accuplacer uses an online format. The test questions are based on responses to each question already answered. Questions increase or decrease in difficulty depending on the answers as the student works through the test. Accuplacer tests are untimed, and results are available immediately. Tools and resources to prepare for testing are available for students at [www.accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students](http://www.accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students). The following chart includes the Accuplacer placement scores for English (Writeplacer Test) and Math (Arithmetic, Elementary Algebra, and College Level Math Test).

<b>Writeplacer (for English)</b>	
<b>Test Score</b>	<b>Course Placement</b>
0-3	ASC 87 College Writing Prep
4	ENGL 110 College Composition I + ASC 88 Composition Lab
5-8	ENGL 110 College Composition

<b>Math</b>	
<b>Arithmetic Test</b>	<b>Course Placement</b>
0-120	ASC 94 Beginning Algebra
<b>Elementary Algebra Test Score</b>	<b>Course Placement</b>
0-59	ASC 94 Beginning Algebra
60-75	ASC 93 Intermediate Algebra
76-120	MATH 103 College Algebra MATH 104 Finite Math MATH 210 Elementary Statistics
<b>College Level Math Test Score</b>	<b>Course Placement</b>
50-85	MATH 103 College Algebra MATH 104 Finite Math MATH 210 Elementary Statistics
86-99	MATH 107 Precalculus MATH 146 Applied Calculus
100-120	MATH 165 Calculus I

There is a \$20 administration fee to take the Accuplacer exam at the MSU Academic Testing Center. An additional \$10 is charged if more than one test is being administered during the same testing session (i.e. Math and English). The fee is waived for MSU and DCB students for the first two attempts. After the first two attempts, regular fees will apply. Appointments are required for testing and can be made by calling the testing center at 701-858-3830. The testing center is located in the Center for Extended Learning on the 3rd floor of the Administration building.



## Meet the POWER Center Staff

We started 2017 after saying goodbye to our team member DeAna McAdory (who moved to Georgia with her husband Dr. Daniel Clayton), and welcoming a few new faces.

Kowan O'Keefe, Andrea Serafin & Johnna Torr have all been carefully selected to join us on our mission to help our students. POWER is funded by two TRiO Student Support Services grants from the Department of Education, and the POWER Center has been able to expand since adding their 2nd grant in the past year. Please meet the POWER Center Staff, in alphabetical order:

- **ANNETTE CLARK**, an academic coach, joined our team during the Summer of 2016. She is an Atlanta native and a University of Georgia Alumna (GO Dawgs! Sic' Em!) Her prior experience working as a Bilingual Intervention Specialist and a Special Education Paraprofessional has shaped her passion for helping others. Annette was a First-Generation student and understands the different obstacles faced by first-generation students. She is fluent in Spanish and proud of her Guatemalan heritage. In her free time, Annette enjoys spending time with her husband and dog. Her hobbies include traveling, working out, and watching movies.
- **ANDREA SERAFIN**, an academic coach, is from Wisconsin (Go Pack, go!), a graduate of UW-Madison (go Badgers!), and a former TRiO student of Upward Bound Math Science. During college she worked as a house fellow (aka resident assistant) in the dorms and the year after as an academic peer advisor. After graduating, she returned as full-time staff to work again for UW-Madison in the College of Ag and Life Sciences. What she enjoys most about working with students is being able to help them succeed, grow, and accomplish their goals. She loves dark chocolate and eating brownies and spends her free time scrapbooking, painting, biking, camping, traveling, baking, decorating, and doing anything on or near a lake.
- **HOLLY MAJOR**, program director, was a low-income, first-generation college student and could have been a POWER student if Minot State would have had a TRiO program at that time. She is originally from Minot, graduated from Minot State University (Go Beavers!) and then got a Master's degree in Administration from Central Michigan University. She's been married to Ron since 1998 and they have 4 kids, boy/girl twins who are teenagers, two kiddos still in elementary school and a dog named Mocha. Holly has a son with high-functioning autism and a daughter with Down syndrome and if she had free time she would like to scrapbook, go camping, and travel. She is fascinated with metacognition and learning how to help people learn. She has been at the POWER Center since 2010--even before there was an office in the Student Center, and had worked with UND's TRiO EOC program prior to coming to MSU.
- **JESSE WATSON**, an academic coach, is also a Minot native and a Minot State graduate in sociology with a master's degree in counseling from Adam's State University in Colorado. Jesse worked as a paraprofessional crisis counselor after the 2011 flood. He likes to sing, writes songs and plays guitar. Jesse would have met 2 of the 3 criteria to be a POWER student. He would not have been an 8th year senior if he had the POWER Center!
- **JOHNNA TORR**, an academic coach, is our 3rd Minot native and former MSU graduate. She graduated from Minot Public Schools and then went on to play basketball and volleyball at Dakota College of Bottineau (formerly MSU-Bottineau). After graduating from MSU-Bottineau with an AA in Liberal Arts, she went on to further her education at MSU and graduated in 2004 with a BSE in Physical Education and has additional graduate coursework. She is married to Aaron and together they have three children, Hudson (8), Beau (6), Elle (4) and another boy on the way in March. Johnna is excited to get to meet all of you and always has her door open! Her office is in the Learning Loft on the 3rd floor of the Student Center.
- **KOWAN O'KEEFE**, academic coach and Supplemental Instruction co-Coordinator, is a Canadian citizen from British Columbia and a Minot State graduate in chemistry and math. If Kowan were a U.S. citizen, he would have been eligible to be a POWER student as he was a first-generation college student. He also has a master's degree in chemistry from the University of

Toronto. He likes to play golf, travel, and read books, but most of all, Kowan enjoys talking with others about current events and learning about their life experiences. His door is always open for a cup of coffee and chat.

- **KERYL LESMANN**, program assistant, is married with four grown children and nine grandchildren. She went to college and became a registered medical assistant. After several years working in the medical field, she joined the POWER Center as the program assistant. Keryl enjoys helping people and working with the students in the POWER Center has been a real joy. In her free time, Keryl enjoys spending time with her dog, Dutchess. Her hobbies include sewing, crocheting and gardening. Keryl's favorite television shows include medical programs such as Grey's Anatomy and Chicago Med.

## What is Intrusive Advising?

The intrusive model of advising is action-oriented to involving and motivating students to seek help when needed. Utilizing the good qualities of prescriptive advising (expertise, awareness of student needs, structured programs) and of developmental advising (relationship to a student's total needs), intrusive advising is a direct response to identified academic crisis with a specific program of action. It is a process of identifying students at crisis points and giving them the message, 'You have this problem; here is a help-service.'

*Earl, W.R. (1987). Intrusive advising for freshmen [Electronic version]. Retrieved from the NACADA Clearinghouse of Academic Advising Resource Web site: <http://www.nacada.ksu.edu/Clearinghouse/AdvisingIssues/Intrusive-Freshmen.htm>*

## Are you using the correct advising forms?

Make sure you are using the most up-to-date advising form when working with your advisees! Summer and Fall semester graduation applications are due to advisors on Friday, March 3, so please double check that you are using the current Application for Graduation form. Updated forms are available on the Registrar's Office website, <http://www.minotstateu.edu/records/forms.shtml>.

## Supplemental Instruction (SI)

The POWER Center and the Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning (CETL), are once again offering sections of Supplemental Instruction (SI).

Unlike other forms of assistance, SI targets high risk courses rather than high risk students. ALL students are encouraged to attend SI sessions because the courses being targeted have shown to have historically high D/F/W rates for a large number of MSU students. The ultimate goal is to provide every individual in the targeted course the opportunity to develop proper study skills, learn material with and through peers, and go beyond the lectures to focus on content relevancy. SI will not replace classroom instruction. Students will still be expected to attend every class session, take notes, and actively participate in class discussions. SI teaches students how to learn while teaching them what to learn. Instead of teaching students study skills in isolation from content material, SI sessions are focused on using study strategies during sessions. Students are then able to transfer those learning capabilities to other disciplines.

The Spring 2017 SI schedule is included below and is also available at <http://www.minotstateu.edu/cetl/SupplementalInstruction.shtml>. Please encourage your advisees who are enrolled in Biology 150, Biology 221, and/or Chemistry 342 to attend the SI sessions and/or SI office hours. If you have questions, please contact Tammy Wolf, CETL, [tammy.wolf@minotstateu.edu](mailto:tammy.wolf@minotstateu.edu) or Kowan O'Keefe, POWER, [kowan.okeefe@minotstateu.edu](mailto:kowan.okeefe@minotstateu.edu).

## SPRING 2017 SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION (SI) SCHEDULE

### CHEMISTRY 342

Instructor: Dr. Bobylev

Leader: Breanne Hatfield

Monday and Wednesday • 1 – 2 P.M.

Location: Moore 210

*Office Hours: Tuesday 3 – 5 P.M. and*

*Thursday 3 – 4 P.M.*

### BIOLOGY 221

Instructor: Dr. Shabani

Leader: Ysabelle Mojica

Tuesday and Thursday • 12 – 1 P.M.

Location: Moore 136

*Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday*

*11 A.M. – 12 P.M.*

### BIOLOGY 150

Instructor: Dr. Keller

Leader: Bikalpa Ghimire

Tuesday 11 A.M. – 12 P.M. and

Friday 1 – 2 P.M.

Location: Moore 210

*Office Hours: Monday 1 – 2 P.M.,*

*Tuesday 10 – 11 A.M., and*

*Wednesday 1 – 2 P.M.*

## Quote of the Month

“Academic advising is an integral part of the educational process and affects students in numerous ways. As advisors enhance student learning and development, advisees have the opportunity to become participants in and contributors to their own education. In one of the most important potential outcomes of this process, academic advising fosters individual potential.”

*NACADA Statement of Core Values of Academic Advising NACADA. (2005). NACADA statement of core values of academic advising. Retrieved from the NACADA Clearinghouse of Academic Advising Resources Web site: <http://www.nacada.ksu.edu/Resources/Clearinghouse/View-Articles/Core-values-of-academic-advising.aspx>*

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## ACADEMIC ADVISING COUNCIL

### COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES:

Joseph Jastrzembski, Christopher Keller, and Melissa Spelchen

### COLLEGE OF BUSINESS:

James Ondracek, Eileen Solberg and Lori Willoughby

### COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH SCIENCES:

Kathy Hintz and Linda Schaefer

### ATHLETICS:

Steven Swenson

### CENTER FOR ENGAGED TEACHING AND LEARNING:

Heather Martin

### CENTER FOR EXTENDED LEARNING:

Trisha Nelson

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