

Advising Notes: by Advisors, for Advisors

Spring/Summer 2018

WHAT'S UP WITH QE?

By Kim Morgan, Dept. of Mathematics, CLAS

As you all know, things have been changing at a rapid pace at Wayne State over the last year and it seems there is no end in sight. Much of that change, and the associated controversy, has been centered around the Quantitative Experience of the new general education requirements. I am here to clear it all up for you. OK, maybe make it a little clearer, ummm--with caveats.

The Quantitative Experience requirement can be met through 3 methods:

1. An approved statistics course
2. The equivalent of MAT 1050 or above
3. An approved Quantitative Reasoning course

Note: Students can test out of the requirement as well by placing into MAT 1800 or higher, getting an ACT math score of 25, an SAT math score of 580 or better on the old exam, an SAT math score of 600 or better on the new exam, an AP Statistics exam score of 3 or better, or an AP Calculus exam score of 2 or better. By the way, meeting the Quantitative Experience requirement never expires. Once a student attains it they never lose it.

What's staying the same?

1. MAT 0993 and MAT 1050 – The present system for MAT 0993 and MAT 1050 will remain the same for the Fall 2018-Summer 2019 academic year. The Math Department will investigate whether these courses will change in the future, but no decisions have been made yet.
2. Oops. There is no #2. Everything else is changing.

What's changing?

1. Statistics and Quantitative Reasoning - Presently, there are three courses that are approved - MAT 1000, BA 2300 and STA 1020. However, there are other courses that are in the process of being approved and may even be approved between the writing of this article and its publication. Regardless, those courses have no prerequisites, so a student can take them without any placement. Although it was initially intended that these courses have a co-requisite course that students with low ACT/SAT/MPE scores would take alongside the course, it has now been decided that each course will provide its own corequisite information without an extra course. Remediation for the course, termed "just in time remediation" will be determined by the department that is offering the course, and could take the form of supplemental instruction, additional tutoring, a math computer program, or it may be incorporated into the course, just to name a few possibilities. For example, STA 1020 may have the remediation of fractions, decimals,

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percents and equations taught within the course with an adaptive computer program to reinforce the content outside of class. This course is still being rewritten, so the method may change.

2. The Placement Exam – We have constructed a new placement exam based on the best parts of Accuplacer and our Wayne State homegrown placement exam. The new exam will be a computer-based program, and students will get immediate course placement printouts that they can use to get overrides into courses if they can't wait till the placement is input into the system. The exam will be shorter for many students depending on what they are trying to accomplish with testing, and there will be walk-in dates in our Math Computer Lab at times close to the beginning of the semester for those students who wait until the last second. There will also be a couple of walk-in dates close to or on orientation days, including testing on the 2-day freshmen orientation this July. Keep in mind that students who place out of MAT 1050 on the exam will have met the Quantitative Experience requirement.
3. Prerequisites – In the past, ACT and SAT scores were good for two years from the date taken or one year from the student's first day of classes at Wayne State, whichever expired first. A year or so ago, the Math Department decided to make it just two years for MAT 1000 and STA 1020, but keep it the same for our other courses. Now, the prerequisite has changed to just the 2 year expiration for all courses that have any sort of expiration for ACT/SAT scores. Remember, MAT 1000 and STA 1020 no longer have prerequisites.

What are the caveats?

1. The Provost appointed a Quantitative Experience Working Group, of which I am a part, to work on this requirement and what it means for Wayne State. As the group does its work, the types of courses that meet the requirement may change. Also, the courses that are approved may change to better meet our understanding of what a good Quantitative Experience course is as we assess them in an ongoing manner. We will keep you updated as to relevant changes for advisors and students. No student who takes a course that at the time meets QE will be penalized if there is a change in whether or not the course meets QE at a later point.
2. Everything is changing at such a breakneck speed that we never know when something else may come along. Please keep this in mind as you work with students.

So, I'm sure everything is completely clear now. Well, at least a little more clear. However, if there is any question on the requirement feel free to contact me, your friendly neighborhood math advisor, for help (eb4704). I am always at your service.

Introductions

By Avanti Herczeg, Dept. of Art and Art History, CFPCA



Gregory Sikora Mowers (Greg), is one of the newest members to join WSU family! Greg started in November 2017 and is an ASO II in the College of Nursing where he advises BSN Traditional and Direct Admit nursing students. Greg comes to us from Henry Ford College, where for two years he was the Program Manager for New Student Orientation and Engagement. Before that, he worked at Boston Architectural College as the Student Life Coordinator.

Originally from Michigan, Greg grew up in Utica, attended Lawrence Tech, and received his bachelor's degree in architecture. Greg went on to complete his master's degree in Higher Education Administration from Loyola University Chicago.

The architecture degree definitely came in handy when he purchased a home in the Boston-Edison area (built in 1922!) where he lives with his husband and dog, Weber, and is also involved in the neighborhood association. He has spent the past three years restoring the home and looks forward to having it finished by the end of this year. An avid runner, Greg has completed the Chicago marathon and is currently training for the 2018 Detroit marathon this October!

Greg serves on the WSU Academic Excellence Team. We welcome him to the WSU advising community and look forward to seeing him around campus!

Top 10 Things to Do in Summer to Prepare for the Fall 2018 Semester

By Cody Bailey-Crow, Dept. of Psychology, CLAS

Sure, the Spring/Summer semester is only just getting started, but before you know it we will be quickly approaching the start of the fall. As we all know, the fall semester is uniquely busy, so here are some things you can do now to make sure you're ready when the fall semester arrives:

1. Preview your list of incoming students, both freshmen and transfer, so you know with whom you will be working during New Student Orientation and into the fall semester.
2. Preview your list of students who may be eligible to graduate over the next academic year. Identify students among that group who may need a little additional attention and reach out to them early to develop a plan.
3. Design a new program for your major, one that might boost enrollment or retention. Use the summer to develop and test the program so you can roll it out in the fall with confidence.
4. Develop a presentation for a local, regional or national conference that will happen sometime during the upcoming academic year.
5. Reorganize your workspace to revitalize yourself and help students feel comfortable during advising appointments in your space.
6. Gain a credential (certificate, skills, knowledge, etc.) you can include on your professional record. Better yet, learn something that will improve your interactions with students.
7. Learn more about another campus office or resource you do not know very much about. This knowledge could be helpful when working with your students over the next year.
8. Explore potential new roles for yourself either on a WSU committee or with MIACADA, NACADA, ACPA | Michigan, or any other professional organization of your choosing.
9. Set a goal to read at least one book or article related to your work and use that to expand your knowledge of the field and to put into practice new ways of thinking and interacting with students.
10. Take some time to relax and recharge during the summer term so you feel refreshed at the start of another academic year.



Advisor Spotlight: Jessica Pfeiffer

By Stacie Moser, Dept. of Sociology, CLAS

Jessica's path to a career in higher education is a unique one. She earned her bachelor's degree in studio art with an emphasis in web design and video art from Oakland University. Her initial goal was to become a graphic designer, but she quickly learned that she loved the educational environmental and student affairs, so she attended Eastern Michigan University and earned her master of arts degree in educational leadership with an emphasis in student affairs. Jessica was hired by the College of Education as a part-time graduate admissions coordinator and then transitioned to the School of Business for a full-time undergraduate advisor position. She is currently an Academic Services Officer II in the Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (EACPHS) in the Student Affairs Office.



In her current role, Jessica certainly stays busy by serving students in the twelve professional programs that EACPHS offers in a variety of ways: answering prospective student emails, fielding phone calls, leading informational meetings, reviewing transcripts to verify course prerequisites have been completed, and staffing

college recruitment events. She also assists in the admissions process for the pharmacy and clinical lab science programs. Because her role is so multifaceted, Jessica enjoys a lot of autonomy and is grateful that she is part of a strong student affairs team. For professional development, Jessica recently attended the Great Lakes Student Success Conference as well as the Images and Perceptions Diversity Conference. She is also actively involved on campus and is part of the Career Development Committee and the Gender and Equity Committee for the COSW. She also recently agreed to co-chair the AAUP-AFT Parking Committee where they are addressing issues such as parking cost, availability of parking, and the condition of surface lots and structures.

On a personal note, Jessica enjoys traveling with her husband, Brandon, and often visits Tulsa, Oklahoma for Hanson Day. She is a huge fan of the group Hanson and has attended several concerts all over the country. She also has two dogs, which are like her children, and she enjoys spending time outside going on bike rides and taking walks, especially now that winter is over!

ATA Updates by Kate Bernas, ATA

With the recent renewal of the NACADA Core Competency framework, I am reminded of the importance of supporting all three (or four, if you ask me) major competency areas in the training and professional development opportunities provided to WSU advisors. The three competency areas, as outlined by NACADA, in which advisors should develop and maintain knowledge and skills include:

- **The Conceptual - theory, approaches, strategies**
- **The Informational - curricular, legal, institutional**
- **The Relational - rapport, communication, multicultural skills**

And to this, I would add:

- **Technological - systems, platforms, databases**

Looking back over the past term's trainings, I think we have certainly touched on each of these areas in a number of different ATA trainings. Certainly the new General Education training covered critical Informational content; the

Appreciative Advising and Supportive Communication sessions covered key conceptual and relational areas; and the Advising Works Support Indicator training, Degree Works Exceptions training, and Testing Office Placement Reports training all hit on the Informational and Technological competencies. And these are just a few examples from this term!

The Core Competency webinar series offered by NACADA was an excellent reminder of how these competencies support our work as effective advisors and must be continually assessed, individually and collectively, for training needs. The ATA will continue to offer opportunities for professional growth and development in each of these areas, and is always open to specific suggestions from advisors.

The final NACADA webinar on this topic is coming up on **May 9, 2-3pm** in the **Purdy Auditorium**, and is on "**Using the Academic Advising Core Competencies Model to Create an Action Plan for Professional Growth and Development.**" Contact Kate Bernas, ab9599@wayne.edu, for more information or to RSVP.

Student Services Insider: Transfer Student Learning Community

By Liz Gall, Dept. of Communications, CFPCA (for L2 Certification)

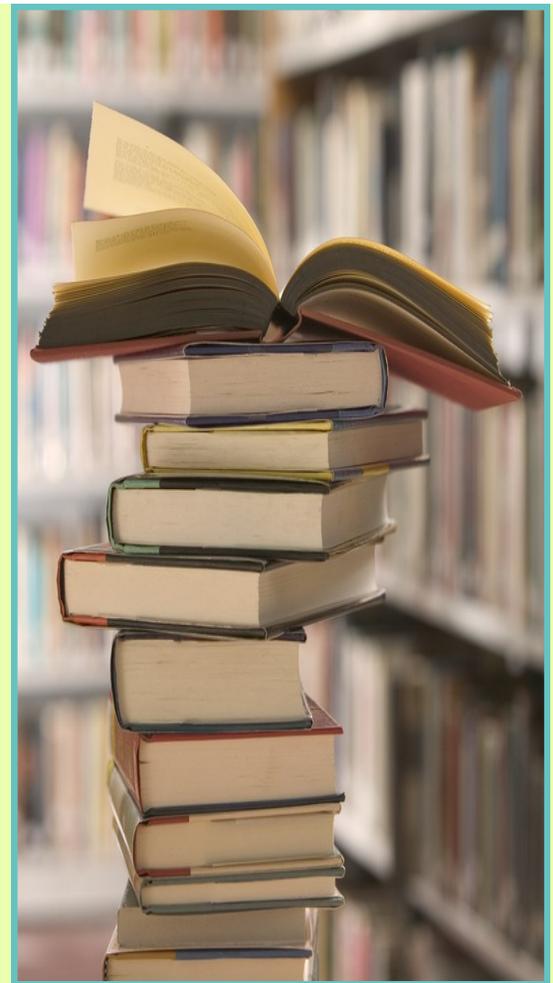
Are you familiar with the Transfer Student Learning Community? Headed by the Transfer Student Success Center (TSSC), this particular learning community is open to all transfer students at Wayne State. Launched in fall 2016, the community supports the first-semester transfer student's transition to WSU by providing opportunities to meet other transfer students and to connect to campus resources.

Unlike many of WSU's learning communities, this particular community is not tied to a class, and there is no need to officially register for it. In winter 2018, the Learning Community offered many events to connect transfer students to offices around campus, including the Office of Multicultural Student Engagement, the Dean of Student's Office and Career Services.

Doug Freed, Director of the TSSC, explains that since the Transfer Student Learning Community's inception, the community has been steadily evolving. Students can look forward to a new transfer lounge in the Undergraduate Library, scheduled to open in winter 2018. With this new space, the Learning Community plans to invite clubs and other organizations to regularly present to transfer students. And while the Transfer Student Learning Community was initially created to help transfer students acclimate to Wayne State in their first semester, it will likely evolve into the Transfer Warrior Community in future semesters. The name change will signify that the community can support transfer students throughout their entire academic journey at Wayne State, not just their first semester.

The community also provides a peer mentor for transfer students. The learning community only has one peer mentor on staff, but the TSSC is looking to grow its numbers. If you know of a transfer student looking to give back to WSU, consider referring them to the TSSC to be a peer mentor. All referrals for peer mentors can be made to Jo Bains, manager of the TSSC, at fb0250@wayne.edu. Students can apply to be a mentor through the website: <https://wayne.edu/transfer/warrior-ambassador-application/>.

Be sure to spread the word about this Learning Community to your transfer students. Achieving a sense of belonging at college can be difficult for transfers, and this community might just be the right fit for your student. New transfer students can learn about the learning community at the resource fair during Transfer Orientation, or they can visit the TSSC website at: <https://wayne.edu/transfer/learning->



Good News

MIACADA Award Winners

The MIACADA Advising Awards were announced and will be presented at their annual conference this coming May 18.

Congratulations to **Tamarie Willis**, School of Social Work, who won the **Academic Advisor—Primary Role**, award.

Also receiving an award for **Academic Advising Administrator** is **Kate Bernas**, for her work with the Advisor Training Academy.

Share more "Good News!" Please send along any personal or professional highlights (accomplishments, milestones, and other life events) from the past term to Kate Bernas at ab9599@wayne.edu.

AAC Update

By Stephanie Chastain, AAC President

We would like to welcome our newly appointed President-elect, **Elizabeth Hill**, who is an academic advisor for the Department of Civil Engineering. She will become AAC President in August 2018 and serve in Chelsea Smith's previous position. We look forward to seeing what innovative ideas and leadership Elizabeth will bring to the council!

Save the Date!

AAC Picnic and Business Meeting

When: May 16 from Noon to 4 pm

****Note the new time! Be sure to arrive hungry!****

Where: TBA

AAC Advising Summit

When: Sept. 27 and 28

Where: Student Center

Stay tuned for information about potential service opportunities.

AAC Nominations & Voting

It's that time again to nominate yourself or a colleague for a position on the AAC. If you are nominating someone else, that person will be contacted to confirm whether they are willing to run for the position. All council seat positions will begin on August 1, 2018. The nomination window will be open until **May 1, 2018 at 5pm**. **Please email all nominations to Rachel Pawlowski at fg6313@wayne.edu**. Voting information will be provided after the nomination process. Thank you to everyone who participates. The open positions are:

President-elect (2018-21): The President-elect shall assist the President as requested and shall serve as President in case of the vacancy, resignation, or removal of the President. The President-elect serves as the Elections Officer and be responsible for soliciting nominations and running the election process for the Board positions each year as well as to serve at the request of the President on committees or task force groups.

Secretary (2018-20): The Secretary shall keep records of all meetings of WSU-AAC and the Board of Directors and shall give notice of special and regular meetings to all members. The Secretary shall prepare all correspondence requested by the Board of Directors.

Member-At-Large Professional School (2018-20): Members-at-Large will represent the membership on the Board of Directors. The representatives will also work with the various committees to encourage advisors to participate in the activities and programs of WSU-AAC. This Member-At-Large position shall come from one of the following schools: Business, Engineering, Education, Nursing, or Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

Member-At-Large Non-Professional School (2018-2020): Members-at-Large will represent the membership on the Board of Directors. The representatives will also work with the various committees to encourage advisors to participate in the activities and programs of WSU-AAC. This Member-At-Large position shall come from a school outside of Business, Engineering, Education, Nursing or Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

Please continue to contact Ryan Ferrante, Chair of the Training Committee, prior to the start date when an advisor is hired in your department or unit to allow for a smooth transition into the WSU advising community.

On April 18, academic advisors participated in an enjoyable night of snacks, laughs, and euchre in the Honors College conference room. We had a smaller turn out than expected, but still had a great time! Also, the most recent **Advisor Meet Up** took place at the DIA. Keep a lookout for the next date and location of the next fun opportunity to be announced!