Team: Samantha Brockett, Nancy Finn, Melissa Ray, Tharaphi Than

Bold Futures Activity

Topic: ensure every student knows and is known by an academic advisor who is tracking their success.

Themes from Student Interviews

- Even within the same college, students have different experiences.
- Students who were successful felt they had more personal time and attention.
- Students with a negative view of academic advising had less personal time.
- Accuracy of information from advisors is a concern.
- Students do not feel that they can go anywhere for advice if their advising is inaccurate.
- It is unclear who is accountable for providing students with the correct information.
- Advisors do not take initiative to reach out to students.
- Accessibility of advisors may be an issue.

Insights from Student Interviews

- Level of satisfaction with advisors may be related to the amount of personal attention a student receives.
- Students who run into problems with academic advising (e.g. being told to take a class in the spring that is only offered in the fall semesters), particularly those affecting paths to graduation, may need an advocate.

Big Ideas

- **Advocates**- Each department has designated faculty/staff persons who serve as advocates/mentors for students. Advocates/mentors provide additional help for students on their path to a degree, which includes supporting students who are experiencing difficulties with academic advising.

- **Text messages** - Advisors can reach out to students via text message (using apps such as Remind101) to ensure they are meeting with them.

- **Revisions to faculty teaching, research, and service workloads**- Departments reevaluate faculty service commitments in order to (1) encourage faculty to dedicate more time towards advising/mentoring, (2) give students more opportunities for personal attention, and (3) remind them of expectations the faculty and the University have on them. The last point will help students feel more motivated and confident in themselves thereby improving their chances for graduation and career success.