Supporting Student Success

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Board of Trustees AASAP Committee
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Supporting Student Success

- Recruitment and Admissions
- Student Experience
- Graduation and Transition to Career
Student Financial Advising Services

• Goal
  – Help students understand how to reduce expenses and maximize resources
  – Support student financial planning
  – Provide guidance from a more holistic and integrated approach

• Organization
  – Director
  – Three full-time financial advisors
Initiatives underway

• Advising appointments for students/family members
  – Over 500 student appointments to date
  – Evening and weekends available; English or Spanish; virtual or in-person
• Created a Financial Task Checklist
• Proactive outreach using multiple modalities
  – Students with balances/holds preventing registration
  – Recruitment events, Orientation and Week of Welcome
• Campus presentations
  – Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) and Appeals
  – Scholarship, Financial Aid and Student Account Basics
Emerging Initiatives

- Multi-year financial planning tools
- Additional presentation topics and outreach
  - Financial literacy and budgeting
  - Understanding loans and loan repayment
  - Understanding the financial aid notification (especially new first-gen students)
  - Students with SAP or scholarship warnings
- Training for campus partners
Student Academic Advising

• Goal: provide students the academic support they need to persist and graduate

• Objectives:
  – Provide consistent, seamless and comprehensive advising to all undergraduates
  – Maintain a student-focused and holistic approach
  – Provide the right information to the right student at the right time
Initiatives underway

• Leverage a high-tech, high-touch model for advising
• Hire sufficient advisors to meet national standards for caseloads
• Train advisors to work across departments and colleges to support students along their individual pathway to a degree
Emerging initiatives

• Integrate financial, career and academic advising

• Ensure every advisor receives the same training and professional development to support this approach

• Leverage high tech solutions and high touch solutions
Final comments

• Empower students with the knowledge that they will be successful at NIU
• Create a culture of belonging
• Develop the resources necessary to execute on this mission