

## EARN Meeting Notes

December 8, 2021

- I. **Retention Update** – Dr. Gill Hunter ([Gill.Hunter@EKU.edu](mailto:Gill.Hunter@EKU.edu)) provided the latest update to the 2021 Freshman Retention report. As of December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021, overall freshman retention from fall to spring is 73.6%, a 4.6% increase from last year. Retention of underrepresented minority students has increased by 9.1%, first generation student retention has increased by 6.9%, and retention of Pell eligible students has increased by 5.5%.

Of the freshman class, the retention rate of the first-time, full-time, baccalaureate cohort is at 82.1%, an increase of 2.7%. Within that cohort, retention of underrepresented minorities and low-income students has increased by 3.4% and 5.1%, respectively.

- II. **Recruit Back Efforts** – Tiffany Hampton ([Tiffany.Hampton@EKU.edu](mailto:Tiffany.Hampton@EKU.edu)) and Matt Schumacher ([Matt.Schumacher@EKU.edu](mailto:Matt.Schumacher@EKU.edu)) spoke about recruit back efforts. The first round of recruit back messages for each of the colleges has been sent out. Text messages will also be sent out to students who do not have holds and have not yet registered by early next week.

If you would like lists of unregistered students by college or by program, please contact Tiffany or Matt. If you have students who have already expressed to you personally that they will not be returning this spring, but have not indicated as such in EKU Direct, please send their names and ID numbers to Tiffany to have them removed from future communications.

- III. **Winter Recovery** – Bethany Warner ([Bethany.Warner@EKU.edu](mailto:Bethany.Warner@EKU.edu)) gave an update about academic standing as well as winter recovery. Students placed on academic probation or suspension have received an email regarding their academic standing.

Probation students received an email that contained some inconsistencies which have since been resolved. Probation Recovery is only for new freshman that are placed on probation for the first time. Although the Academic Recovery Workshop has previously been held in person, it is currently only offered virtually through Blackboard. There is no in person workshop for probation students to attend. If you have questions regarding student's academic probation, or Probation Recovery, please contact Becky Auman ([Becky.Auman@EKU.edu](mailto:Becky.Auman@EKU.edu)).

There were 329 new first-time freshman who were placed on academic suspension at the end of the fall term. Those students received an email with information about completing winter term and the Request for Late Withdrawal, as well as the Petition for Immediate Readmission, which is now an electronic form that is sent to the Registrar.

Every student who received a suspended academic standing was given the option to complete the Winter Recovery Opportunity. Winter term no longer requires pre-payments from students. If you have a student who was suspended and is choosing to participate in Winter Recovery, they must fill out the Winter Recovery Form that was listed in their standing email and register for winter term. After they fill out the recovery form, they will receive a notice from the Registrar's office, indicating that they are eligible to register. Because the student's standing is listed as suspended, they will not be able to register for courses until they fill out the recovery form and the Registrar has given the override to register. Students in Winter Recovery should register for a maximum of four credit hours. The deadline to register for Winter Recovery is December 8<sup>th</sup>.

- IV. **Advisor Assignment Updates** – Tiffany Hampton ([Tiffany.Hampton@EKU.edu](mailto:Tiffany.Hampton@EKU.edu)) provided an update regarding advisor assignments. Over the last few months, there have been some issues with auto-assignments that are still in the process of being cleared up on the back end. Colleges which rely on auto-assignments may still come across incorrectly assigned students, but those issues are currently being resolved.

Occasionally, there are also assignment problems with students who have stopped out and are returning to ECU. Once the student is readmitted, their previous advisor assignment automatically reactivated. This may lead to students who are assigned to advisors who are no longer with the University or who advise for the student's previous major and are no longer appropriate. To resolve this, students' advisor assignments will be ended as soon as the student is listed as inactive. If the student returns to ECU, they will no longer be able to view their previous advisor information, which may be incorrect.

Tiffany will be providing additional training in the spring semester for people who are involved in advisor assignments, as there are some standard operating procedures that will change moving forward. More information will be released soon.

- V. **Spring Orientation** – Allison Bullins ([Allison.Bullins@EKU.edu](mailto:Allison.Bullins@EKU.edu)) spoke about the upcoming Spring Orientation. There are currently 77 students registered for the orientation on January 13<sup>th</sup>. Students can still register for orientation here: <https://application.eku.edu/register/springor>. Orientation attendance is required for

any student who is a new first-time freshman, has fewer than 24 transfer credits, or is less than 21 years of age.

There is only one orientation session this spring, and it will be held virtually on Hopin. The Spring Orientation schedule looks different than it did in the fall. The student welcome will be from 10:00-10:55am, where students will receive information about financial aid, student accounting, and housing. Then, from 10:55-11:30am, there will be a “mini” showcase with booths for many of the offices on campus that students frequently have questions for, including Financial Aid, Housing & Residence Life, Center for Student Accessibility, Office of Military & Veteran’s Affairs, Student Outreach & Transition, etc. Finally, advising will take place from 11:30am-12:30pm.

Once a student has registered for orientation, the pre-advising survey is sent to them with their confirmation email, in order to encourage students to complete the survey sooner. Tickets for Hopin will not be sent out until we return from the holiday break. Any additional information will be released at that time.

- VI. **Orientation Registration** – Matt Schumacher ([Matt.Schumacher@EKU.edu](mailto:Matt.Schumacher@EKU.edu)) announced that, of the 77 students currently registered for orientation, 60 have completed the pre-advising survey. Students who have not completed the survey will be sent a reminder soon. Roughly 30 students have already had their course schedules created. Please keep up the good work and make sure to check back in January for any newly registered students who still need schedules. If you have any questions regarding the schedule building process or SLATE Applications, please reach out to Matt.
  
- VII. **Good of the Order** – Heather Davis ([Heather.Davis@EKU.edu](mailto:Heather.Davis@EKU.edu)) announced that ECU is expecting about 20 new international students to enroll this spring. Additionally, Zac Lewis ([Zac.Lewis@EKU.edu](mailto:Zac.Lewis@EKU.edu)) has been working to streamline the admissions processing for incoming international students. Zac is hoping to begin recording all incoming international transfer work as elective credit, so that each course will share a course title that reads “Petition required, contact advisor”. This will allow advisors to identify courses that they believe should be moved within the student’s audit, and petition that those courses be moved without the need for rearticulation. Furthermore, ECU will now recognize the international equivalence of a U.S. bachelor’s degree for full general education certification. Incoming international students who have received an evaluation stating that they have the equivalence of a U.S. bachelor’s degree will be awarded post-bacc status, the same as has been done for domestic students.

Libby Hannon ([Elizabeth.Hannon@EKU.edu](mailto:Elizabeth.Hannon@EKU.edu)) mentioned that the Housing Office has been reaching out to students who are currently still in campus housing and are not yet registered for spring. Students must be registered for a minimum of 9 credit hours to

be eligible for on-campus housing. There are approximately 309 students who have not checked out of housing and still need to register. The Housing Office has been reaching out to those students to remind them to register as soon as possible.

Julie Spease ([Julie.Spease@EKU.edu](mailto:Julie.Spease@EKU.edu)) announced that the College of Business advising office does not currently have appointments open in SLATE for students to schedule through their website. However, if students contact the office either by phone at (859)622-1086 or email [btadvising@EKU.edu](mailto:btadvising@EKU.edu), staff advisors will find a time available to meet with them.

VIII. **Meeting concluded at 10:28am**

**Next meeting on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022**