Unit Policies on Advising, Counseling, and Other Student Services

Advising

All undergraduate and advanced students are assigned an advisor, who is a faculty member in the program. The Student Advising Center (SAC) provides academic advising for all first-year undergraduate students. SAC advisors assist students in their transition to Emporia State University; assist students in the process of choosing a major; help students discover and clarify their values, interests, and skills; review processes and requirements for changing and/or declaring a major; assist students with course selection; connect students with campus resources and real world learning opportunities; and serve as a guide to the university’s policies and procedures.

Elementary candidates are advised through the Elementary Education Advising Center. Secondary candidates are advised through their respective departments. Advanced students are advised through their respective departments.

The unit and the university place great emphasis on faculty advising. In the university’s strategic plan Engaging Excellence (see p. 8), Goal 1.5 is Assess and enhance the quality of academic advising.

The Objectives for this goal are:
1.5.1) Develop a university-wide advising mission statement, philosophy of advising, clearly articulated expectations for faculty advising, and a set of outcomes for the delivery of advising. [completed]
1.5.2) Develop and implement a process to continually assess the effectiveness of undergraduate advising. [ongoing]
1.5.3) Develop and implement a process to continually assess the effectiveness of graduate advising. [ongoing]
1.5.4) Develop and implement an advisor training program in coordination with the Director of the Student Advising Center, including information about CAPP (Curriculum Advising and Program Planning), which is an advising tool in Banner. [not yet started]

In addition, under Goal 3.1 Expand and diversity international opportunities, one of the objectives is “provide advising information and systematic training for faculty advising international students” is to be addressed this year.

Counseling

The university distinguishes between the services that on-campus students receive and the services available to distance and online students. The Campus Privilege Fee that on-campus students pay each semester includes fees for student counseling. Distance and online students do not pay the Campus Privilege Fee and thus do not have access to these services.

Counseling Center. Counseling services are provided to students by professionally trained staff and supervised interns. Counselors are available by appointment to help with
exploring and understanding one's self and life in matters of individual, marital, family and vocational concerns. All counseling discussions are treated confidentially and referrals for more comprehensive assistance are arranged when desirable.

The Counseling Center offers biofeedback service, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Program, sexual assault prevention, and case management services. There are no fees charged to currently-enrolled ESU students who have paid the Campus Privilege Fee for counseling or biofeedback appointments.

Community Counseling Services. Community Counseling Services provides affordable counseling for individuals, couples, families, and groups in a professional, quiet, and confidential setting for residents of Emporia and surrounding communities. Services are provided by advanced counseling graduate students in training under the supervision of experienced faculty with counseling, research, and supervisory expertise. Community Counseling Services offers a variety of counseling services that can assist individuals in improving the quality of their lives. Individual, couple, family, and group counseling is available. Some of the counseling services offered are: anger management, anxiety/stress, behavior problems, blended family issues, career/work-related issues, depression, grief and loss, parenting issues, personal growth, phobias, relationship conflicts, self-esteem issues, sexual orientation issues, and divorce.

Other Student Services

The university distinguishes between the services that on-campus students receive and the services available to distance and online students. The Campus Privilege Fee that on-campus students pay each semester includes fees for student health, student counseling, and recreational services. Distance and online students do not pay the Campus Privilege Fee and thus do not have access to these services.

Student Health Center. Any student currently enrolled for the semester at Emporia State University, who has paid full-time student fees (campus privilege fees), is eligible for basic health services. The Student Health Center offers the following: Treatment of acute illnesses and injuries (colds, flu, sprains, etc.); management of chronic illness such as hypertension; medical management of mental health issues such as depression, anxiety; physical exams to fulfill work or school requirements; laboratory tests (CBC, blood sugar, cholesterol, etc.); male or female sexual health exams (including pap smears) and treatment; TB skin tests for students in education and nursing; immunizations, including flu shots; cryotherapy (freezing of warts); blood pressure checks; HIV testing and counseling; and provision/exchange of sharps containers for students with diabetes or other conditions requiring self-injection of medications.

Student Recreation Center. Recreational facilities and programs are available to currently-enrolled ESU students who have paid the Campus Privilege Fee. The Student Recreation Center is located on the north end of the Emporia State University campus. Facilities include Basketball Courts, Volleyball Courts, Tennis Courts, Badminton Courts, Fitness Workout Room, Cardiovascular Exercise Machines, Variable Resistance Machines, Free Weight Room, Variable Resistance Machines, Dumbbells, Swimming Pool and Therapeutic Pool, Dance Studio with large rubber floor and mirrors on the north and south walls, 96 lockers for daily check out, and a Commons area with tables, chairs, ping pong tables, a pool table and big screen
televisions. Outside, there are four lighted tennis courts, two 100 Yard Flag Football Fields, two Soccer Fields, three Slow Pitch Softball Fields, Official Size Rugby Field, and a Par Course Fitness Trail.

Office of Disability Services. The Office of Disability Services coordinates accommodations for students with documented disabilities at Emporia State University. Students must register with the office to receive accommodations. Students with disabilities who do not require accommodation may choose to register with the office in order to be informed of scholarships, employment opportunities, and disability-related events. The office provides information and referrals to promote successful transitions to college and work. Students are encouraged to plan ahead to facilitate the timely provision of accommodations.