



OFFICE OF GENERAL UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS
 大學核心課程事務處

### Introduction to Academic Advising Workshops I & II

## Workshop I: Introduction to Academic Advising at PolyU

25 Sep (Mon) TU 411



# The Importance of Having an Academic Advisor



## Group Sharing

## Time Tunnel.....



## Think about one of the most impressive advice you received from your teacher during school years.

"An excellent advisor does the same for the student's entire curriculum that the excellent teacher does for one course."

> Marc Lowenstein, 2005



.

- **About Academic Advising**
- Academic Advising in Hong Kong & PolyU
- **Roles of Academic Advisors**
- Tips & Support for Academic Advisors

### What do you see?

Lucas I (1986–1987), oil & pencil on canvas, seen on display at the Metropolitan Museum of Art



## What do you see?



Advising helps students make sense of their education as a whole, not as a series of isolated experiences or items on a checklist.

> START Making SENSE

### About Academic Advising

NACADA (National Academic Advising Association) was established in 1979.

Purpose: To promote the quality of Academic Advising in institutions of higher

education, and to this end, it is dedicated to the support and professional growth of

academic advising and advisors.

Effective academic advising is at the core of student success





## Definitions of Academic Advising

Academic advising, based in the teaching and learning mission of higher education, is a series of intentional interactions with a curriculum, a pedagogy, and a set of student learning outcomes.

Academic advising synthesizes and contextualizes students' educational experiences within the frameworks of their aspirations, abilities and lives to extend learning beyond campus boundaries and time frames.

NACADA (2006)

## Advising is Teaching

A Comparison of the *Knowledge, Skills, and Characteristics of Effective Teachers and Advisors* 

Effective Teachers	Effective Advisers
Master their subject matter	Possess accurate information about the policies, procedures, resources, and programs of their departments and institutions
Plan, organize, and prepare materials for classroom presentation	Are well prepared for advising sessions
Provide regular feedback, reinforcement, and encouragement to students	Provide timely feedback, reinforce learning that has taken place, and applaud student successes
Serve as a resource to students	Provide materials to advisees and refer them to others when referral is an appropriate response
Relate course content to students' experiences	Assist students in the consideration of their life goals by helping them relate their experiences, interests, skills, and values to career paths and the nature and purpose of higher education

Published in The Mentor on February 26, 2001, by Penn State's Division of Undergraduate Studies

## Goals of Academic Advising

Helping students clarify their values and goals Leading students to better understand the nature and purpose of higher education Providing accurate information about educational options, requirements, policies and procedures

## Academic Advising in Hong Kong



## Academic Advising in Hong Kong

### <u>University of Hong Kong(HKU) – Academic Advising Office</u>

Components of the University-wide Academic Advising System include:

- Faculty-based Academic Advising
- General Academic Advising
- Residence-based Academic Advising
- Web-based Academic Advising

#### <u>Hong Kong University of Science and Technology(HKUST)</u> <u>– Faculty-based</u>

## Academic Advising @ PolyU



## Introduction

Academic Advising was formally introduced in PolyU in 2012 to help students transit to their university life and make appropriate study plan under the new undergraduate curriculum.

## PolyU Academic Advising System

## A Dual System

### **Department-based**

## Institutional Level

**Academic Advisors** 



#### **OGUR Academic Counsellors**



#### Work closely together

## Introduction

'...the establishment of the two-tier Academic Advising system, which is supported by a variety of staff development initiates, and has been very well received by staff and students', '...the two-tier Academic Advising system which provides complementary support to students, particularly during their **transition to tertiary** education, as an important feature of student support.

Audit Report on PolyU by the Quality Assurance Council of UGC, February 2017

## PolyU Academic Advising System

### **Departmental Academic Advising**

Major Context

- Academic Advising Plan & Report
- Advising throughout the student's course of study, at least one face-to-face meeting (individual or group)
- Major context
- Undergraduate Secretary, UgS (administrative issue)

## PolyU Academic Advising System

Office of General University Requirements

- GUR Context
- <u>Academic Counsellors</u> + Administrative Team

The OGUR is committed to:

- General University Requirements (GUR)
- Students
- Academic Departments



## Goals of Academic Advising in PolyU



## OGUR Survey on Students Advising Expectation (2013)



## Roles and Responsibilities of Academic Advisor



## Roles of Academic Advisor

- contacting with students regularly and have at least one face-to-face meeting (individually or in small groups) during the academic year
- ✓ being accessible, available and responsive;
- helping students to clarify their intellectual, professional and personal goals;
- ✓ helping students to develop an appropriate study plan;
- alerting students to academic regulations and requirements, particularly those relating to one's Major; and
- providing early identification of students with special learning needs or signs of learning problems and making necessary referrals;

## Roles of Academic Advisor

#### Handling student on Academic Probation

- To identify the students assigned to you who are on academic probation via **eAcademic function (AADVICE > My Advisee)** within one week of overall assessment result announcement
- 2. To arrange meeting with the student and **provide academic advice**. (Students have been advised to fill in **Form AS150**)
- 3. (After the meeting) To return the completed Form AS150 to General Office as soon as possible for updating before the end of the add/drop.
- In case discussion cannot be arranged within one week, Academic Advisor has the full discretion to decide the credits/subjects to be taken by the student and return Form AS150 form to General Office for processing.

### How to get start doing Academic Advising?



## 1. Get the advising info

**Programme-specific information** 

- Definitive Programme Document (DPD)
- Departmental/School Support System (e.g. Programme Leader, UgS)
- A List of Common Resources for Students
- Other major information that you felt important





#### **Background of your advisees**

- Academic Background
- Admission route



- Admission performance (Strengths and potential weakness)
- Study load
- Academic performance (Strengths and potential weakness)

#### Useful Tool: eAcademic

## - Study Load, GPA, Reference Checklist\* (DSR & GUR completion progress)

> C 🔒 Secure   https://www38.polyu.ed	uhk/eAcademic/secure/aadvice0701/enquireAcadAdvisorAdviseeStudent.jsf
Apps 📢 Korn Ferry Leadership 📙 OGUR 📙 To	ols Other bookmarks
THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY <b>eAca</b> 香港理工大學	demic Histored by AS
Recently selected menu (1)	AADVICE > My Advisee
MDM ¥ CTT ¥ ETT ¥ ASSESS ¥ AADVICE A My Advise	Search Provision to support the new Academic Probation Advising Processing on eAcademic for Advisors (with effect from overall result finalisation in 2016/17 Semester 1):  I Identify your advisees on Academic Probation: Upon the overall result finalisation in each semester, advisors can search the latest Academic Probation cases for advising (Records with finalised results will be highlighted in RED when the cumulative GPA of your advisee is less than 2.0 in the semester) once being assigned to you by the general office of your department. Deferment cases: If your advisee is in "Deferred" student status, please read the deferment period by clicking the student's hyperlink and browsing the "Study" tab page. Advisor should give advice to advisee prior to his/her Resumption Year/Semester. Late finalisation cases: Only finalised probation cases will be filtered and highlighted in RED. Besides filtering by "All Probation cases", another filtering option "Late Finalised Probation cases only" is built to draw your attention to late cases. A new column "Year/Sem - Finalised" indicator is added for your information too. If the overall result in the current semester is not yet finalised, the probation case retrieved is referring to the record in the last semester. Download Study Load for Students on Academic Probation Form ASISO for completion: Blank form is available here. If your advisee has completed and uploaded his/her Form via eStudent, you can find it in the "Document" section of his/her "Advise" page. The completed Form (after your advisement to student) should be sent to the general office of your advisees by inputting, to a template file, the expected grades for their subjects registered/to be registered in the coming semester. Click <u>here</u> to download the template file.
	Student No.   Student Name   All Probation cases   Late Finalised Probation cases only   Simply leave BLANK and click 'Search' to access ALL of your assigned students.    Search Reset

#### Reference Checklist

		Th		ong Polytechni Reference Checklis (Confidential)			
	16	D WC		BSc (HONS)	Award ID D003		
(Starting fro Status	Fro	m 201	16 Semester 1	Active			
CHECKLI	ST FOR MAJOR/HD PRO	CRAMME					
16 D	W BSc (HONS)	Orowinic					
Set ID: 1	Set Description:	Set 1					
Subset Order/ID DSR	Subset Description	Subset Credit	Subject Code	Subject Title	Subject Subject Year/ Duplic: Credit Result Sem Indicat		
1/1	Compusiony	14 of 64	ABCT1102 ABCT	GENERAL BIOLOGY	3.0 C 2016/2		
			ABCT ABCT ABCT	JR			
			ABCT ABCT ABCT ABCT ABCT ABCT ABCT ABCT	9/16	Service Learning	3 of 3	IS
			ABCT ABCT ABCT ABCT ABCT AMA AMA APII CBS2				
2/2	Compusiony-FYP	0 of 6	ELC: ABCT ABCT	10/17	3 credits each from 2	6 of 6	AF
3/3	Elective-List 1	0 of 18	ABCT		different cluster areas		
			ABCT ABCT ABCT ABCT ABCT ABCT ABCT ABCT				CBS
			ABCT ABCT				GEO
			ABCT				
			ABCT ABCT				LSC
4/4	Elective-List 2	0 of 3	ABCT				
			ABCT				

ABCT4763 POLYMER LABORATORY ABCT4774 POLLUTION CONTROL AND ENVIRONMENTAL 1.0

**Be cautious:** 

- counting of double fulfilment
- specific programme requirements

### For e.g. GUR requirements

ISE2S02	COMPREHENDING AND OVERCOMING LEARNING HURDLES IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS FOR LOCAL	3.0	L	2016/2
			C+	2016/3
AP1D02	INTRODUCTION TO ASTRONOMY	3.0	Ζ	2016/1
CBS2C10P	AN EXPLORATION OF CHINESE CHARACTERS AND SCRIPTS	3.0	В	2016/2
GEC1C31P LSGI1D03	WAYS OF CHINESE WISDOM LIVING ON A DYNAMIC EARTH	3.0 3.0	Z D	2016/1 2016/2



### 

#### • Approach



### Timing



- Anytime
- Important Dates/Period:
  - Add/drop period
  - Subject registration period
- Critical moments for individuals
  - Exam reviewing period\*
  - Announcement of exam results



#### Persistence

- Don't give up after one trial
- Seek support from your administrative colleagues( for e.g. UgS)
- Collaborate with OGUR Liaison Counsellor


### 4. Advise after greetings

**Start** with the **casual and positive** experiences and get to know the advisees' focus of life. Show **interests** in your advisees.

1. Can you tell me something you felt good about University life?

2. What do you do in your **spare time**?

3. Tell me something **unique** about you.





### 4. Advise after greetings

You may assess the advisees' adjustment in university study

- 4. Is there anything that you are studying is different from what you expected?
- 5. Can you tell me the differences between University and Secondary school?
- 6. Which subject do you find most easy/difficult so far? Why?





### 4. Advise after greetings

**End** the advising session with a conversation that leads to an Action Plan/Expectation on your advisees. Hold them accountable.

- 7. What is your expected GPA? What will you do to achieve that GPA?
- 8. What do you want to achieve in this semester(or your first year or upon your graduation) and how to achieve that?
- 9. If you are not satisfied with what you have now, can you think of anything to change in your life that can help to improve?

### 4. Advisor can also.....

- Share stories of yourself
- Share stories of other students who may have had unique experiences that led to internships, jobs, study abroad experience
- Guide students to look back on their experience and help students develop a new roadmap based on their new worldview

### Commonly asked questions by students

- Major-changing
- Curriculum & Progression plan
- Career path
- Academic performance
- Others learning experience like exchange, minor study & WIE
- Other: Scholarships, personal issue

### 5. Follow up if any

#### You may follow up with...

- an email reminding your advisee(s) about a summary of your conversation, an action plan, an advice, or anything that could bring up a positive memory in the session so as to strengthen your bonding.
- a referral
- a further discussion with relevant parties related to your advisee's question(s)



### 6. Documentation

Keep a record with meaningful details:

- Preferred name
- Suggestions /committed action plan
- What impressed you (especially the positive things)
- A record is helpful because...

Check with your department to see if there is any guidelines/requirements on documentation for academic advising.



- save time for you to know your advisee from blank later and surprise your advisee as they seldom expect you to remember details of them
- remind you of the follow-ups that you or your advisee should do
- provide important documentation in case of special situations



#### **Tips for Academic Advisor**



#### Start where your students are .....



#### A good start with ...





you named me WHAT!?





## Advising Supports to Advisors/Advisees

### On Campus Support to Advisors

#### OGUR – Your liaison Academic Counsellor(s)

Met at least 90% of freshman at least once in their first year through individual or small group meetings





### On Campus Support to Advisors (OGUR)

#### OGUR – Community of Practice of Academic Advising (COP-AA)

- E-learning\*
- Workshops/Trainings
- Books/Online Resources
- Mini projects related to advising activities
- Oversea event scholarship (NACADA Summer Institute/ Conference)



### On Campus Support to Advisors (OGUR)

#### **E-learning**

- 2 -3 hours
- introduces the basic concepts of academic advising, including its values, goals, theories and practice, to academic staff members who act as academic advisors or are preparing to take up the role.
- Emphasis will be put on how skills learned from the online course can be applied to engage, interview, and provide support to our students.

#### Mini projects related to advising activities

Dept/School	Project
Accounting and Finance	E-book of AF
Applied Physics	Sharing with Graduates and welcome gathering for the freshmen
Biomedical Engineering	Orientation for Freshmen, Academic Advising topic workshops: Minor study, Overseas
	exchange and study concentration, Pun Choi Dinner, Team Building activity, Meeting
	with academic advisors and programme leader on subject registration
Building Service Engineering	Develop an e-platform for facilitating academic advising activities
Industrial and System Engineering	Workshop on career opportunities and professional development
Institute of Textiles and Clothing	Workshop on preparing for examination and academic advising orientation 2014/15
Institute of Textiles and Clothing	ITC Academic Advising Orientation for Senior Year Admitted Students 2015/16, and
	Training Pack for ITC Student Ambassadors 2015/16
Institute of Textiles and Clothing	Project: Outstanding Study Plan Competition
	Visit: Site / Factory Visit for Senior Year Admitted Students
Management and Marketing	Workshops for students on academic advising topics
School of Nursing	Student Ambassadors Scheme
School of Nursing	Video on academic advising session
School of Nursing	Publishing a booklet of student experiences
School of Hotel and Tourism	Workshop on Sharing and Reflection of Internship Experience: Implications for career
Management	development
School of Optometry	Workshop on Characteristics of a successful optometry practice and White Coat
	Ceremony

#### Promote Positive Image of Academic Advisors

- Thank Your Academic Advisor/Academic Counsellor
- Video of Advisng Stories (Coming Soon !!!)



#### Promote Positive Image of Academic Advisors

'Thank you for your advising not only on my study, but also on my future planning these years. You always encourage me and inspire me with amount of patience and kindness, I really appreciate your help.'

'Thank you for always sparing time to talk and share with us even if you were extremely busy. You are the most enthusiastic teaching member I first encountered in the PolyU. I am so grateful to have met you, as my positively inspiring academic advisor. From the way you talk and think, we all know how a good nurse should be like.'

'I would like to express my gratitude for your helpful advice. In the past year, you gave lots of tips on the minor course selection and improvement of academic performance. I greatly appreciate your valuable time and kind words'

#### On Campus Support to Advisees

- Student Guide to Academic Advising
- Advising Information from website of Department/OGUR



#### Student Guide to Academic Advising

2016/17



### Advising Tool Kit

- Academic Advising Handbook
- List of Campus Supportive Units
- Key dates for students
- Academic Counsellor List (OGUR)
- Note for Handling Student on Academic Probation
- OGUR Information Worksheet
- Conversation Starters







### Highlights of Workshop II

Common student advising needs Strategies for structuring advising sessions and establishing the advisor-student relationship Case study



OFFICE OF GENERAL UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS 大學學生課程事務辦事處

# Introduction to Academic Advising at PolyU (Workshop I)

#### Advising Tool Kit

- Academic Advising Handbook
- List of Campus Supportive Units
- Key dates for students
- Academic Counsellor List (OGUR)
- Note for Handling Student on Academic Probation
- OGUR Information Worksheet
- Conversation Starters

