Common Course Numbering

VCAA Platz asked, “How will UH Hilo align its foundational course numbers and content with the UH System?”

One argument voiced on the UH Hilo campus, against common course numbering is that UH Hilo incorporates more local culture, grounded-in-place curriculum, indigenous perspectives, and hands-on learning than other parts of the system. This truly does make UH Hilo courses fundamentally different from what UH Manoa offers (which we perceive to be more mainland-centric), in the minds of many UH Hilo faculty.

The UH Hilo Math Department apparently is already working on common course numbering and is making progress. For other departments, we propose that the department chairs/faculty of the respective campuses sit down together and work collegially to obtain system-wide uniformity.

It was suggested that UH Hilo commence by identifying the most popular courses we offer, and then map this to the courses that our transfer students bring to UH Hilo, and resolve these areas first.

There is still fear/anxiety among UH Hilo faculty that UH Manoa prefers to impose a solution on the rest of the system. It was suggested that a needed “first step” is for VCAA Platz to meet with Reed Dasenbrock, VCAA at UH Manoa, to ensure that Reed is willing to convey to his faculty the need to engage collegially in a discussion process; VCAA Platz will also seek support for this approach from Provost Linda Johnsrud; similarly our college deans may need to reach out to their counterparts across the system as well.

Advising

Starting February 1st, the Advising Center hired 2.0 FTE (full-time equivalent, casual hires) additional advising staff and reallocated 0.50 FTE of an existing staff person from Career Development Services: Lucas Moe, Holly Garriques (formerly Chang), and Lyssa Sakamoto. Student Affairs reallocated their budget to make this possible. The Advising Center is taking incremental steps to improve advising.

The Advising Center website is being revamped to be more user-friendly and be a central place for students to visit for info/guidance about moving towards graduation in a timely manner.

Advisors working with the first-time freshmen group: 1) collaborate with Jake Picus, Associate Director for New Student Programs, 2) conduct outreach prior to orientation, and 3) it will be mandatory to meet with students to fill the fifth class on pre-builts.