

Cal State Polytechnic University, Pomona

Strong Practice to Assist Students to Choose Majors in a Timely Manner

POLICY: Students are required to select a major by the end of their third quarter after matriculation. In 2004-2005, there were 254 undeclared students at the beginning of the fall quarter, only 68 students still undeclared at the beginning of the spring quarter, and none of this cohort undeclared by the beginning of the fall 2005 quarter.

Undeclared Majors are advised through the Student Development & Undeclared Services (SDUS) sub-unit of Student Support and Equity Programs. Academic advisors work with undeclared students to assist them with their transition to college and exploration of majors and careers so that they successfully select a major by the deadline. Academic advisors guide students through the process of declaring, informing them of any requirements their major of interest may have in order for them to make the change.

The Career Center is also committed to assisting students to choose their major. The Center maintains both a physical and electronic Career Resource Library, and offer career counseling by counselors assigned to particular colleges. Finally, each department maintains printed and electronic information about careers attractive to students in their areas.

There are two courses to assist students to choose majors:

CPU 100: Career Planning Course (Offered by Career Center) Assess interests, abilities, skills, values and personal style and relate those to academic majors and occupational choices; identify and analyze internal and external factors that impact career and life decisions; locate and utilize a variety of occupational resources that can be used for career exploration.

CPU 102: Fundamental Principles Of Learning. (Offered by SDUS) Develop goals and objectives for college, work, relationships, and life; understand students' responsibility for their own experience in college; identify and utilize campus resources and programs.

Strong Advising Tool – BroncoCompass

BroncoCompass, an-online learning center for students, faculty and staff, provides information and guidance as students move through the different stages of their college experience from admission through graduation. The site has been developed cooperatively by the Divisions of Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Instructional and Information Technology.

BroncoCompass directs students and their advisors to on-line information about key university services, policies, procedures, calendars, curriculum sheets and roadmaps. It also links students to information and advising tools to support their academic and career goals.

Strong Campus Structure – Enrollment Management Advisory Council

The Enrollment Management Advisory Council (EMAC) reflects an institutional commitment to student success and provides a structure for campus-wide collaboration (among faculty, students, staff, and administrators) that is essential to effectively support student learning. The Council provides for the development and implementation of strategies, programs, and resources that contribute to successful recruitment, persistence, and graduation of students.

Outcomes from the Council include mandatory orientation, fall welcome activity (BroncoFusion), proposal for First Year Experience Program, proposal for centralized scholarship information; enhanced University websites, improved communication to remedial students.