Using Process Mapping to Understand the Student Experience

Alex Aljets

Student Success Portfolio Manager, Oregon State University

University Innovation Alliance Fellow (former)









Why Redesign Processes?



Additions over Time



Changes in Technology

Changes in Student **Populations**

Student Success

Equity & Access

Process Mapping:

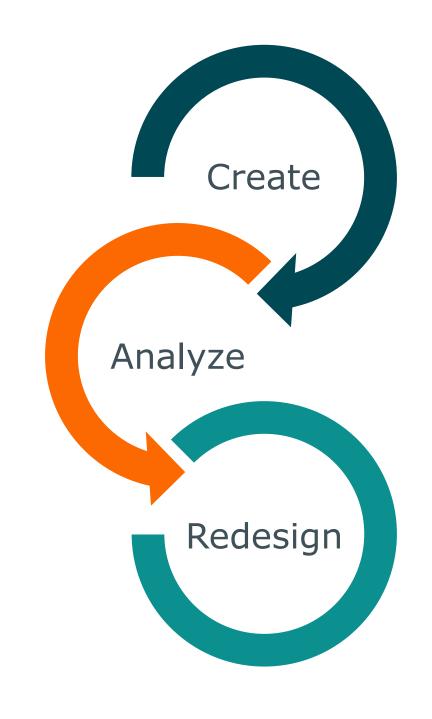
Visual Workflow Diagrams

Process Requirements: STEPS
ORDER
PURPOSE

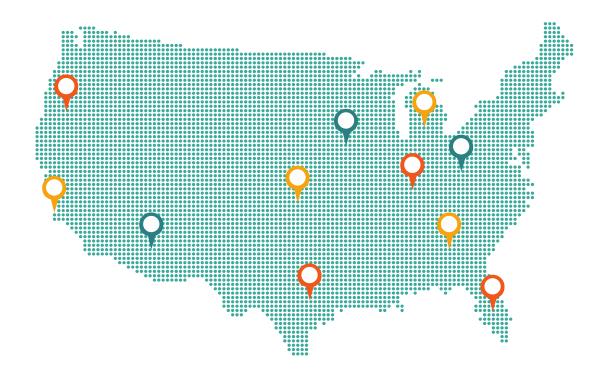
CREATE an "as is" process map to understand the current process.

ANALYZE the current process to identify and pinpoint issues.

REDESIGN the current process to address the identified issues, creating an improved process.







Arizona State University Georgia State University Iowa State University Michigan State University Oregon State University Purdue University The Ohio State University University of California-Riverside University of Central Florida University of Kansas University of Texas at Austin





April 2015 Two-day workshop 13 units participated

- Admissions
- Pre-Major Advising
- Undergraduate Education
- Information Technology Services
- Financial Aid
- Office for Inclusion & Intercultural Initiatives
- Office of the VP for Student Affairs & Services
- Office of the Provost

- Residence Education & Housing Services
- Academic Colleges, Advisors & Faculty
- Neighborhoods Engagement Centers & Student Success Programs
- Comptroller
- Registrar
- Bursar

Over a one-year period from a student commits to attend the university through their first-year, MSU discovered:

400+ Mass Emails

50+ Online Portals

90+ Account Holds

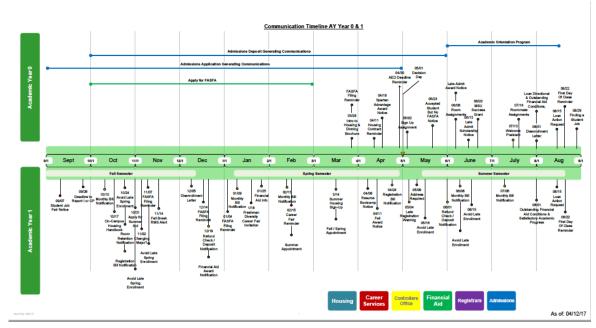


Next Steps:

 Deeper communications analysis with six key units

Housing Career Services Financial Aid Admissions Controller's Office Registrar

- Focus groups with students
- Playbook for Student Communications Continuous Improvement



1,284 Communications from Six Units

Too much communication about things that don't apply.

Important information should be shared by email

Collateral Outcomes:

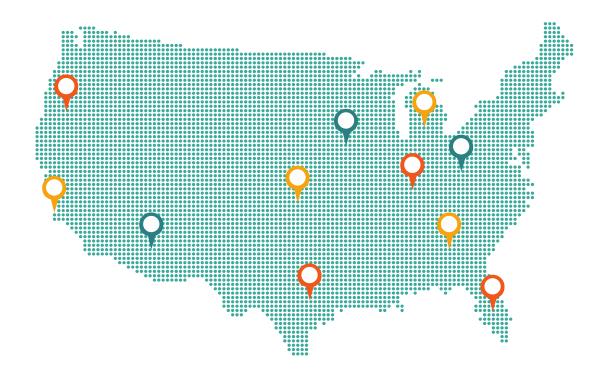
CAMPUS CULTURE

- Community building across silos
- Set groundwork for collaboration with colleges
- Shared commitment to student success
- Capacity-building among professionals & faculty

SPIN-OFF PROJECTS

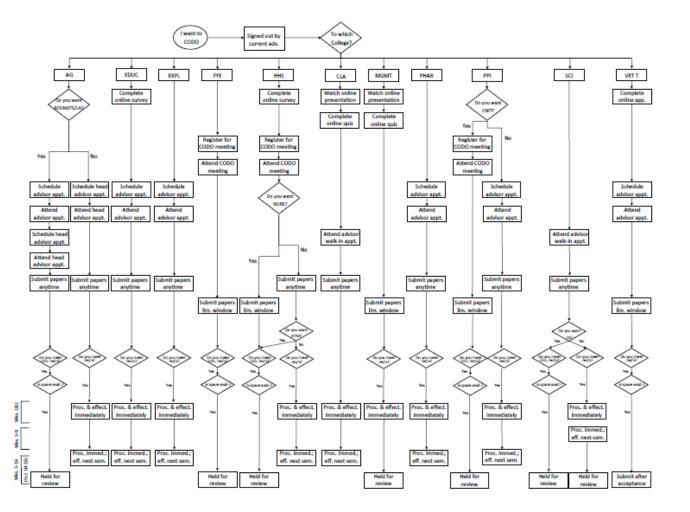
- Single portal for scholarships
- Retention micro-grant program
- Examination of holds

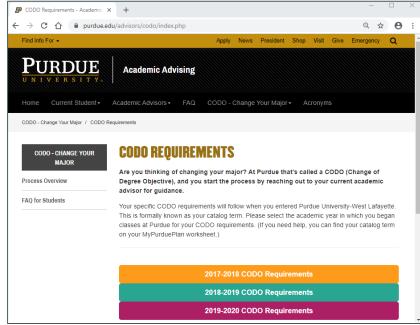




Arizona State University Georgia State University Iowa State University Michigan State University Oregon State University Purdue University The Ohio State University University of California-Riverside University of Central Florida University of Kansas University of Texas at Austin

Change of Major Process Purdue University

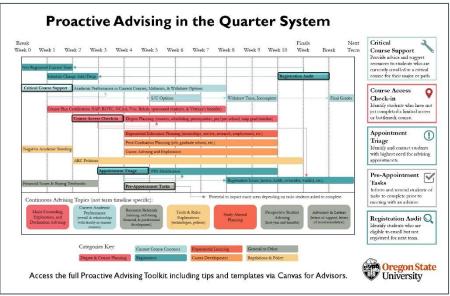






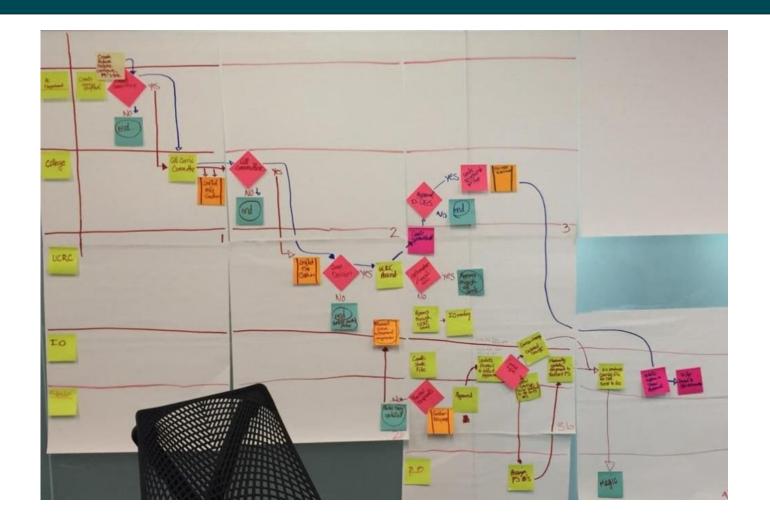
Proactive Advising Outreach Oregon State University







Curriculum Change Process University of Central Florida





Enrollment Management Workshop Iowa State University



- 1. Changing Majors
- 2. Accounts Receivable Holds
- 3. Reinstatement
- 4. Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)
- 5. Schedule Changes & Late Registration
- 6. In-State Residency Classification
- 7. Distance Education Course Set-Up



Other Processes for Redesign

Student Account Holds

Transfer Credit Articulation

Academic Probation & Reinstatement

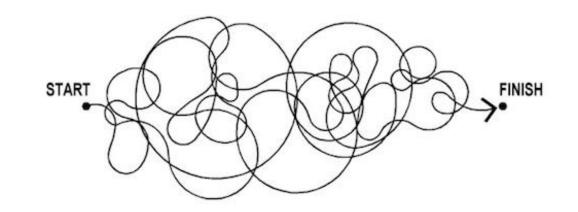
New Student Orientation Tasks

International Student Vacation Term Requests

Financial Communication to Students

FAFSA Tracking

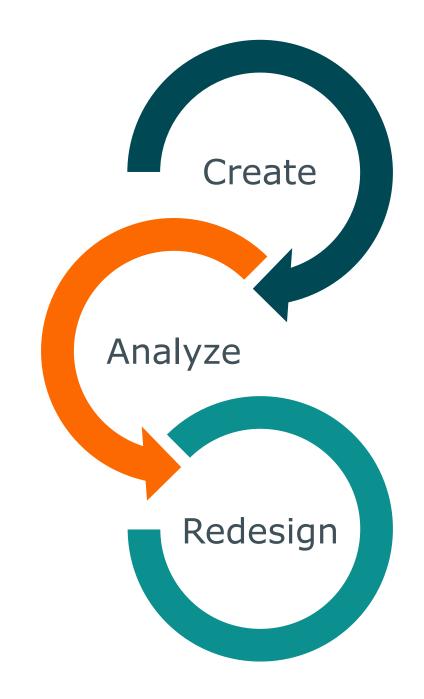
Approval to Access Student Data



PROCESS QUALITIES

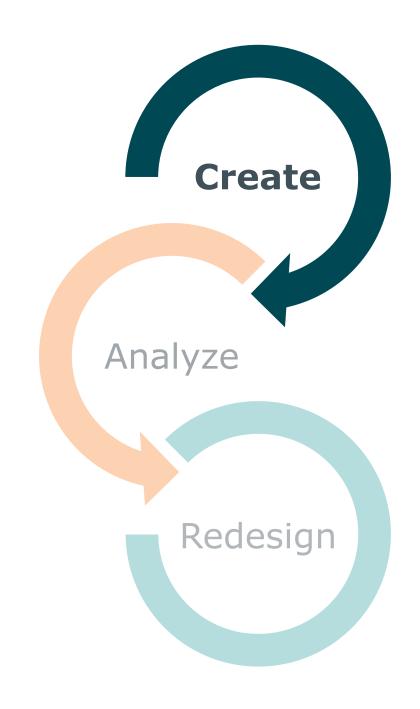
- Steps / Order / Purpose
- Start & stop points
- Clear process users
- Often multiple people or units involved

Process Mapping:



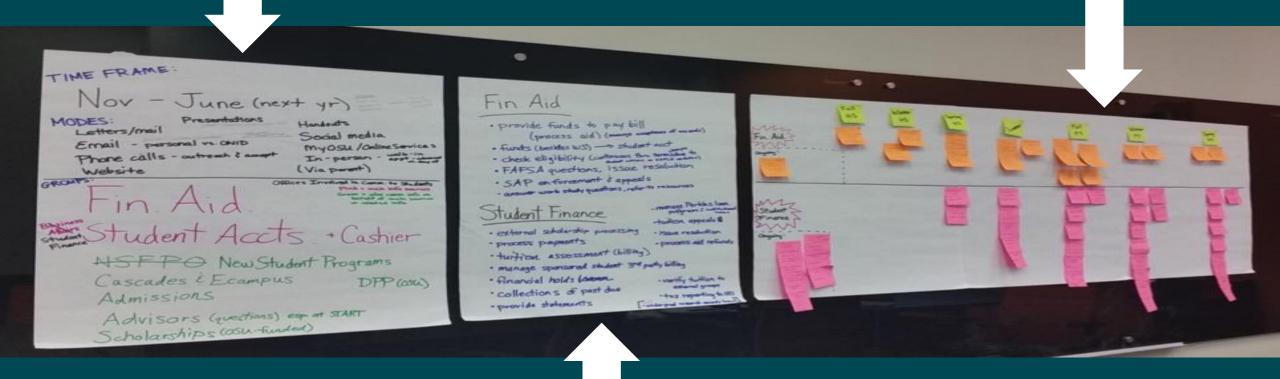
CREATE an "as is" process map to understand the current process.

- Set the scope: What are the start/stop points?
- Which units or people are involved?
- What level of detail is needed?
- What is the first step in the process? The second? Etc. (Map it.)



Scope (Start/Stop Points)

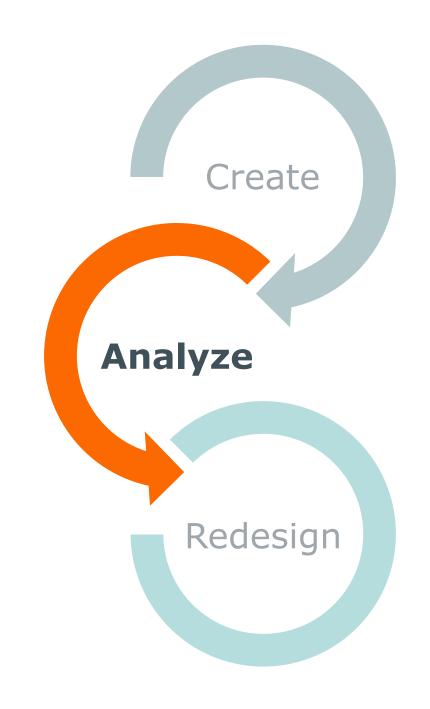
"As Is" Process



Units & People Involved

ANALYZE the current process to identify and pinpoint issues.

- Where in the process do issues often arise?
- Where do delays occur?
- Which steps do not add value?
- Who does most of the work?
- Which steps take the most time or labor?

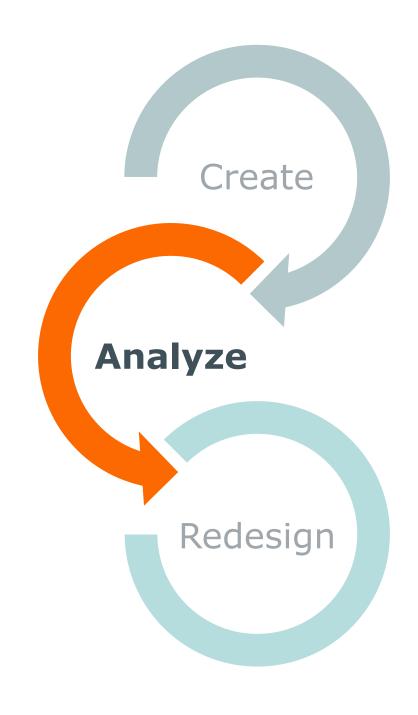


ANALYZE the current process to identify and pinpoint issues.

Empathy Focus: How might each person/unit feel in the current process?

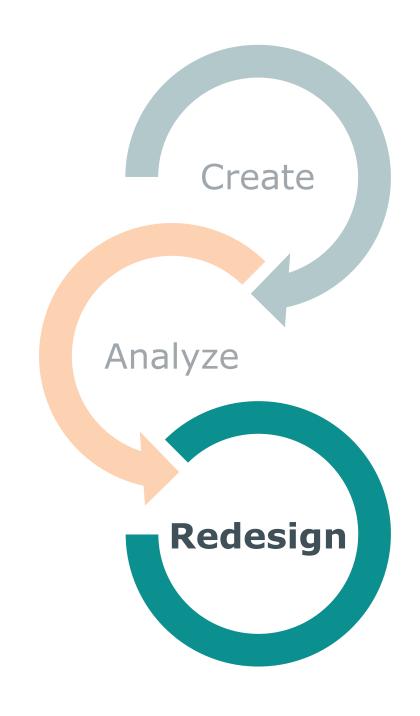
Equity Focus: How might a student experience the process differently as a . . .

- First-generation college student?
- Student with a physical disability?
- Student of color at a PWI?
- Single parent who works full-time and attends school part-time?
- Student with other identities or life circumstances?



REDESIGN the current process to address the identified issues, creating an improved process.

- What big ideas do you have to redesign the process?
- What small improvements would optimize the process?
- Which ideas are most likely to address the issues noted? Which are feasible in short- vs. long-term?
- What does the redesigned process look like with the selected improvements? (Map it.)

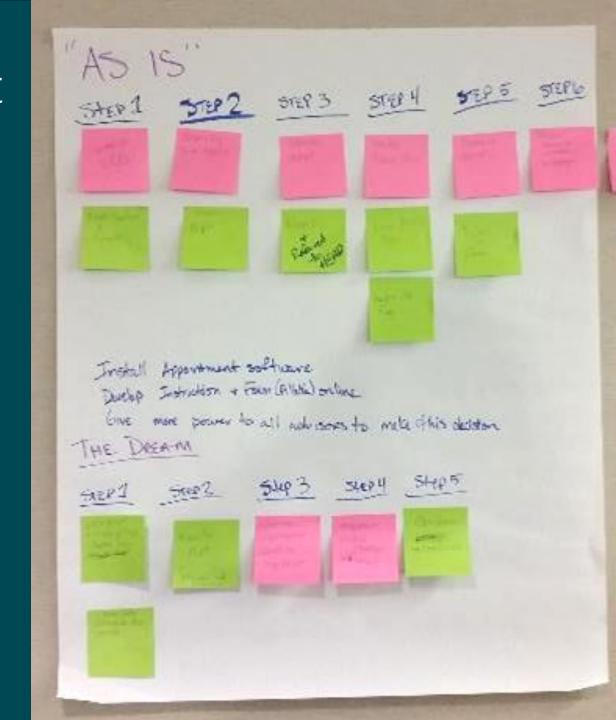


START: Student decides to change major.

STOP: Student information system lists new major.

People Involved:

- Student
- Advisor
- Head Advisor
- Registrar's Office Assistant



"As Is" Process

1. Make Advising Appointment

-

2. Meet with Advisor



3. Obtain Head Advisor Approval



4. Change Academic Record

- 1a. Searches website for advisor contact
- 1b. Emails advisor
- 1c. Replies with scheduling link
- 1d. Schedules appointment using link
- 2a. Attends advising appointment
- 2b. Describes Business major
- 2c. Fills out change or major form with help from advisor
- 2d. Explains how to get head advisor approval

- 3a. Walks form to college office
- 3b. Finds head advisor
- 3c. Reviews academic record for GPA
- 3d. Signs the form
- 3e. Explains to turn in form at Registrar's office

- 4a. Walks form to Registrar's Office
- 4b. Turns in form
- 4c. Scans form
- 4d. Uploads form
- 4e. Changes code in academic record









Registrar's Office Assistant

Analysis of Process

Delays if advisor behind on email

1. Make Advising Appointment

- **>**
- or 2
- 1a. Searches website for advisor contact
- 1b. Emails advisor
- 1c. Replies with scheduling link
- 1d. Schedules appointment using link

2. Meet with Advisor

- 2a. Attends advising appointment
- 2b. Describes Business major
- 2c. Fills out change or major form with help from advisor
- 2d. Explains how to get head advisor approval

3. Obtain Head Advisor Approval

- 3a. Walks form to college office
- 3b. Finds head advisor
- 3c. Reviews academic record for GPA
- 3d. Signs the form
- 3e. Explains to turn in form at Registrar's office

Extra approval not critical

4. Change Academic Record

- 4a. Walks form to Registrar's Office
- 4b. Turns in form
- 4c. Scans form
- 4d. Uploads form
- 4e. Changes code in academic record

Student must visit 3 offices









Registrar's Office Assistant

Redesigned Process

Make Advising Appointment



2. Meet with Advisor



3. Change Academic Record

- 1a. Searches website for advisor contact
- 1b. Schedules appointment using link
- 2a. Attends advising appointment
- 2b. Describes Business major
- 2c. Checks that GPA requirement met
- 2d. Fills out change or major form with help from advisor
- 2e. Scans completed form to Registrar's office

- 4a. Receives scanned form
- 4b. Uploads form
- 4c. Changes code in academic record

Student





How to Get Started:

1

Identify Problem Processes.

2

Align Goals with Broader Vision.

3

Build Support with Stakeholders.



Small or local wins add up to improve the student experience.



Topics where there is energy for improvement are more likely to progress.



It takes time to build buy-in for change & see results.

Start small & simple, then scale up.



Dinner Process Mapping Empty Fridge > Food on table Input Plan -schedule - what need to Meals for 20 min - taptes Week Select dinner - food for events from list of eveninger 5 min morning weeks meals Find, read recipe (8) Check party Food Shoppin Check fridge/freezer Defrastin 30 -60 Prepare Fridge Tours dinner Go Food Issues . .. D too much time, feel lazy on weekers any or 1 hr Shopping Serve 5min · @ many options & factors, hard to done dinner @ hate walmart, others too expension or distant @ many recipe surces y takes true Putaway 1 start now every time EATIL Edivide up @ forget to defrest - no options · 1 too late ... Paul cranky (Mextor) Food .. 1 Feel lazy, tempted by takeout 40-7 @ weit too long I change of plans -> food spoils .. Odlan's shop on weekend - no feed or incomplete inputs * btg 3 0 0 0 connected!!

Try it for yourself!

Alex Aljets

Student Success Portfolio Manager, Oregon State University

University Innovation Alliance Fellow (former)





Alex.Aljets@oregonstate.edu



