ADVISORY PERIOD AND RECONNECTING WITH ADVISEES

If you haven’t been in touch with your advisees recently, you can send an email even before Advising Period to all advisees, or by class year, from Advisee Summary on ISIS. This is a good time to encourage reconnection.

Suggested Questions for Meetings with New Advisees

1. Every new student undergoes a process of adjustment from high school to college or when transferring to a new school. What parts of this transition have been easiest and hardest for you? Why?

2. What are your goals for the remainder of this year?

3. What have you discovered about yourself as a student this year? What new academic or extra-curricular interests have you discovered that you plan to pursue? What has been most inspiring?

4. As you think about the courses you have taken and those you’re planning to take, what intellectual skills have you been developing? How might your next set of choices help you build on things you’ve already done?

5. What have been your greatest challenges so far and how have you addressed them?

6. Have you met with your professors during office hours? What new connections have you made with faculty?
**Mid-Semester Reports**

*Please fill out mid-semester reports for students who are doing borderline or failing work.*

To send a mid-semester report click on the student’s name in your class roster on MyMountHolyoke. Please send in reports for any students who appear on your class roster but have not been attending class. You may also get requests from our office asking you to submit mid-semester reports for particular students.

Once completed, mid-semester reports are sent electronically to the student and the student’s faculty advisor, and class dean. These reports are especially helpful for our office as multiple reports for a single student alert us that this is a student of particular concern.

**Department Teas**

Here is a list of [Department Teas](#). These events are helpful to students who are exploring possible majors. Most teas are taking place in early March to assist Sophomores in making their major declaration on March 10.

Please encourage advisees to attend teas with departments in which they are interested.

**Fellowships at Mount Holyoke**

*Recruiting Faculty Mentors for Fellowships*

In early February, National Fellowships Advisor Ryan Lewis sent direct emails to high-GPA students across campus, planting the seeds of fellowships dreams and inviting appointment requests. Since mid-February, Fellowships at Mount Holyoke (FMHC) has received over 50 meeting asks, including first-time advisees and students looking to follow-up. We’re especially encouraged with the number of juniors planning their summer activities to align with the fall award season, building momentum for top awards, such as the Fulbright, Marshall, and Mitchell to name a few.

On Tuesday, March 7th, Lora Seery, Senior Program Officer for the US Student Fulbright Program, will join Ryan for an exclusive conversation with students looking to apply for Fulbright fellowships in October. FMHC asks that faculty members interested in becoming Fulbright mentors for MHC students contact Ryan (rlewis@mtholyoke.edu) to join that conversation and gain valuable insight into what makes the most competitive applications.

We are also advising students to approach you in discussion about their fellowship applications. Students may seek study awards (such as the Marshall or Mitchell, and Fulbright one-year master’s programs in Europe or elsewhere), independent research projects, and English Teaching Assistantships (ETAs). Seeking advice from faculty on projects from the ground up, including establishing a feasible objective, rationale, methodology, and timeline is a sure way to sharpen a proposal. FMHC’s goal this year is to shrink the ratio of applicants to winners, increasing the breadth of support we provide to our students through a team-based approach (i.e., FMHC, faculty mentors, faculty/staff advisors, and the application cohort). It takes a campus to build a fellow, and we intend to make every application as competitive as possible.
CONVERSATION WITH STUDENTS WHO ARE CONSIDERING A TRANSFER

Some students are still learning about how to make the most of their time at Mount Holyoke. For most students, considering a transfer is part of the process of sorting out their college experience, questioning choices, exploring options. Faculty members can help a student find new and critical connections on campus. Kimberly Parent (kparent@), and Alison Roberts-Hopkins (ahopkins@), Class Deans, are also happy to follow up with first-year students or sophomores who may have come to you (or may yet come) to express an interest in transferring.

Some suggestions for transfer conversation:

1. Encourage students who are interested in a more challenging program to pursue independent study and research or internship opportunities. Faculty can help students shape a more stimulating academic experience. Guide students toward specific connections with other faculty or similarly strong students who are engaged in compelling projects.

2. Encourage students who are considering a coeducational institution to take Five College courses, attend Five-College events, or join Five-College organizations.

3. Some students appreciate help in planning for study abroad, Twelve-College Exchange or other domestic study-away programs (preferably in their junior year).

4. Some students may find it helpful to seek advice at the Office of Student Programs about finding their “place” at Mount Holyoke outside of classes by joining an organization or participating in an extracurricular activity.

5. Some students may wish to seek community service opportunities if they miss engaging with a broader community. They can also arrange to meet with Alan Bloomgarden, Director of Community Engagement or Angelica Castro, Assistant Director of Community Engagement and Advisor for C.A.U.S.E to discuss community-based learning opportunities within the Community-Based Learning Program.

6. Our Centers offer opportunities for student involvement in activities and events that may relate to their classroom experiences and enrich their time at Mount Holyoke.

7. The Residential Life Staff works with students who are struggling to adjust to the residence hall experience. You can refer students who are having an especially serious problem to the Office of Residential Life.

8. Students who do decide to transfer benefit from the reminder that readmission is not a complicated process. In order to be readmitted, a student should simply complete a Readmission Application and return it to the Office of Academic Deans.