

Statement on Advising

Advising is more than just signing students up for classes.....

Advising at its best is often informal and essentially student-centered. Advisors must initially establish rapport with students and use the helping relationship to communicate empathy, facilitate problem-solving and promote empowerment in meeting their students' needs. Academic advisors must assist students in navigating the "college maze" and negotiating the complex college bureaucracy. Academic advisors must often take on the role of "troubleshooter" and "point man" in directing students to needed resources and key personnel in addressing their concerns or problems. Academic advisors should work with students in realizing their life goals, developing their full potential and building a professional network that will enhance their career. Academic advisors must sometimes be willing to serve as "surrogate parents" when students need either a pep talk, a good scolding or a shoulder to lean on.

Yes, advising is more than just signing students up for classes.

Jewrell Rivers