

# Moooving Students Toward Success Through Academic Orientation Collaboration

NACADA Region V

Session C45

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# Michigan State University

- Nation's pioneer Land Grant institution
- Located in East Lansing, MI
- 17 colleges
- 200 programs of undergraduate, graduate, and professional study
- Fall 2013 student population: 49,343
  - 37,278 undergrads
    - 7,779 first time freshman
    - 1,479 new transfer

# Academic Orientation Program (AOP)

- Runs from early June to late July
- Regular sessions: 20 Freshman; 3 Transfer
- 400+ students per session
- Large, late international session  
(AOP Schedule – Freshman)

# Freshmen AOP Schedule

## Day One

8-10:30am Check in and Placement Testing, ID's

10:15-10:45am Welcome and Overview

11:00-12:15pm College Session

12:15-1:30pm Lunch (major change opportunity)

1:00-1:30pm Special Sessions, Testing

1:30-5:30pm Advising, Online Resources, Enrollment, Lab and Resource Fair

5:00-6:30pm Dinner

6:45-9:00pm Date with State

9:00-11:00pm Evening Activities (Karaoke/Games/Cards in Dining Hall)

## Day Two

7:00-7:50am Breakfast

8:00-8:45am Understanding Student Learning: Participation in Research

8:45-9:00am Student Panel

9:00-9:30am The College Experience: An MSU Professor Speaks

9:30-11:30am Bus Tour of Campus and Meeting in Engagement Centers



# Advising, Online Resources, Enrollment, Lab and Resource Fair

- Time during AOP process when Academic Advisors interact with students one on one.
- Average time of interaction was 7-10 minutes per student.
- Students often left AOP frustrated and confused.
- Advisors felt they were sprinting through each interaction.



# Collaboration was the key to our success!

- Registrar's Office was seeking a way to better monitor course enrollments.
- Advisor's were actively seeking a way to spend more time talking with students about their career aspirations and academic goals during AOP rather than racing to obtain seats in burgeoning classes.
- Solid working relationships had been built between the Registrar's Office and College advising offices across campus.
- With the support of the University Registrar and the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education time was allocated to develop the system.



# Pre-Enrollment Goal

- Enroll incoming students into major-specific recommended and required courses before AOP, leaving more time for academic advising and other important orientation activities



# Pre-Enrollment Timeline

- Late April: preliminary seat demand report
- Early May: academic units finalize the matrix
- Mid-May: re-run seat demand
- Late-May: run pre-enrollment





# Plans by Major (aka “The Matrix”)

- Online system
- Records recommended and required courses by major
- Basic or Advanced
  - Basic: One plan for all students in major
  - Advanced: Plan based on math placement score
- Specific Course vs. Group Options
  - Specific Course: student will be enrolled in exact course, one second choice allowed
  - Group Options: students will be enrolled in one course from a group of up to 6 choices



# Basic Matrix

- First and Second Choices Section
- Section specific options

## Other Core Classes

- Writing and Integrative Studies
- Term and course selection
- Section specific options

**5151 No Preference**

	<b>Math Score</b>	<b>First Choice</b>	<b>Second Choice</b>
<b>Math</b>			
	0-9	MTH 1825	
	10-11	MTH 103	
	12-14	MTH 116	
	15-18	MTH 124	
	19+	MTH 132	
<b>WRA</b>			
		Fall WRA *	
<b>IAH</b>			
		Spring IAH *	
<b>ISS</b>			
		Fall ISS *	

## Advanced Matrix- Based on Math Placement

- One plan per math score
- User selects default plan if no math score
- One math score, rest of form same as basic
- Most frequently used by majors that require specific levels of math for degree progression.

**3769 Microbiology** (Advanced Matrix)

	<b>Math Score</b>	<b>First Choice</b>	<b>Second Choice</b>
<b>0-9 Plan</b>			
<b>Math</b>	0-9	MTH 1825	
<b>WRA</b>		Fall WRA *	
<b>ISS</b>		Spring ISS *	
<b>Specific Course</b>		Spring MTH 103	
<b>10-11 Plan</b>			
<b>Math</b>	10-11	MTH 103	
<b>IAH</b>		Spring IAH *	
<b>ISS</b>		Fall ISS *	
<b>Specific Course</b>		Spring MTH 124 Spring CEM 141 Spring CEM 161	
<b>12-14 Plan</b>			
<b>Math</b>	12-14	MTH 116	MTH 103
<b>WRA</b>		Spring WRA *	
<b>ISS</b>		Fall ISS *	
<b>Specific Course</b>		Fall CEM 141 071-084 Fall CEM 161 Spring MTH 132 Spring CEM 142 015-028 Spring CEM 162	Fall CEM 141  Spring MTH 124 Spring CEM 142

# Benefits of Pre-enrollment

- Moved from a manual process to an automated process.
- Provide Course Demand Analysis throughout the process.
- Allows for better planning within high demand academic areas.
- Provides information for resource allocation if warranted.

# Advisor Feedback

...we gained time to engage in real and impactful conversations. . .

...ensures that students are not significantly disadvantaged by their AOP date. . .

...this gives a clearer picture for course demand. . .

...we *knew* where the [course demand] pressure was based on the pre-enrollment system. . .

...easier to advise students at AOP when major-related/university-required classes are already on their schedule. . .

...student has already engaged in making his/her own decisions. . .ready to start digging deeper. . .

Coming to AOP having at least a partial schedule set makes the experience a little less scary.

...faster, easier enrollment lab experience. .  
. Easier for students to make enrollment choices. . .less stressful. . .

# Questions???

- Special Thanks to Kristin Schuette, Associate Registrar, Michigan State University for making the Pre-enrollment Process possible!!!