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April 11th at 1600 is the last opportunity for cadets to withdraw from a class and obtain an automatic W.

Forms received after April 11th are subject to a grade of "W" or "WF" at the discretion of the instructor. The last day to withdraw with a grade of "W or WF" is 7 days prior to the last class meeting

The 2012-2013 Faculty Advisor Manual is available on the Faculty Advisor Resources webpage

Academics ⇨ Advising ⇨ Faculty Advisor Resources

The Advisor Professional Development Site is available on Angel

<https://angel.vmi.edu/default.asp>

The Advisor

Advisor Appreciation

As a token of appreciation for the time and energy that faculty advisors put into working with cadets, a Faculty Advisor Appreciation Luncheon is scheduled for Friday, March 22nd 1100-1300 in Moody Hall. As part of the Dean's Speakers Program, Dr. Susan Ohrablo has been invited to speak with those who attend. "Just Tell Me What I Should Do: How to Deliver Developmental Advising to Students in an On-Demand World" will be the topic of discussion. Advisors are asked to RSVP to their Outlook invitation, if they have not already done so.

ROTC Enrollment

The policy on ROTC Enrollment has been revised and is outlined in G.O. 83. It can be found at <http://www.vmi.edu/content.aspx?id=36119>

Preparing for Pre-registration

In response to an advisor's request, the Pre-Registration meeting period has been increased. Cadets will begin visiting with advisors regarding fall 2013 classes on March 4th. Pre-Registration begins

on April 1st. Cadets will select classes based on the following schedule:

Priority Group: Monday, April 1 at 1930 – Tuesday, April 2 at 1915

Class of 2014: Tuesday, April 2 at 1930 – Wednesday, April 3 at 1915

Class of 2015: Wednesday, April 3 at 1930 – Thursday, April 4 at 1915

Class of 2016: Thursday, April 4 at 1930 – Saturday, April 6 at 1915

Open to All: Saturday, April 6 at 1930 – Sunday, April 14 at 2000

Cadets should review their Program Evaluation report and bring a proposed schedule to the advisor meeting.

A 15 minute video tutorial on Interpreting the Program Evaluation is available on Angel under both the E-Advising Community Group as well as the Advisor Professional Development Community Group.

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November 13th at 1600 is the last opportunity for cadets to withdraw from a class and obtain an automatic W.

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The “In Between” Cadet

Simone McKelvey

Switching majors during the undergraduate program is typical but what happens when the new major will not accept you.

Although this is rare, there are times when a cadet wishes to change majors but his or her current GPA is so low that the student is rejected by the desired department. These “in between” cadets are still in the original major but are trying to prepare for the future.

Many current advisors use the What-if Program Evaluation to steer them in the right direction. Others are uncomfortable and concerned about mis-advising these students in a program that is not their own.

After seeing this a number of times during the spring 2012 semester, I had several conversations with BG Schneiter. It was decided that, from this point forward, I will assist the cadets who find themselves in this situation.

This temporary assistance will include:

- Review of the What-if Program Evaluation for the desired major
- Formulation of a plan to meet new major admittance standards
- Discussion of courses which should be taken for the upcoming semester
- Release of pre-registration advising hold if the current advisor has not/will not release it

Once these cadets are admitted into the new program, the new advisor and department head will be their sole contact regarding course advice and mentorship.

Cadet Athlete Success at VMI

Stephen Ross and Elizabeth LeRose

What is our role in advising and how does it fit with departmental advisors?

The answer to that question is quite simple! Our job is very much the same as yours when it comes to advising, we just have the NCAA rules as more of a focus.

The NCAA academic standards are different (and higher) than the VMI standards. In addition, hours can be counted differently when NCAA rules are applied. One example is that to return to VMI as a 3rd classmen, a cadet must earn a 1.5 cumulative GPA, but to compete athletically in an NCAA sport they must have a 1.8 cumulative GPA. However our role is much broader than meeting GPAs and hours passed.

We realize that at VMI there is never a simple reason when a student is not succeeding. One key part of our job is to assist with the adjustment process to life at VMI in all three areas; academics, athletics and military. Many loyal VMI people make financial investments in our cadets in the way of athletic scholarships. Part of our job is to safeguard that investment by developing their academic skills to meet the demands of VMI when they have come from a high school environment that may not have challenged them off the fields as much as on.

NCAA athletes generally have far less time available due to the demands of their sports, so we work hard to improve many of their student skills as fast as we can after classes begin in September. This is not an easy process and sometimes it simply takes a while before some of our cadet athletes realize how much work is truly expected to be successful. We share the responsibilities with you in working to make these changes with our cadet athletes.

If you have followed college sports in recent years, you have heard the term Academic Progress Rate or APR. This is a team score based upon retention and eligibility standards. It is the standard set by the NCAA that helps to evaluate academic performance for NCAA Athletics. That score drives the increased need for athletic academic advisor. If teams do not meet APR goals, the NCAA can and does reduce scholarship levels that colleges are allowed to offer. For example, a basketball team with an acceptable APR score can offer up to 13 full men’s scholarships. If that score is not acceptable, it is not uncommon for the NCAA to reduce the number of scholarships a team can offer as well as to reduce allowable practice time. With so much at risk, for a team, and a school’s reputation, the role of the athletic academic advisor has grown considerably in recent years. Here is a bit more about what we do:

Among other things.....We assist with and perform the following:

- 1) Tracking academic performance (grades and hours passed)
- 2) Schedule planning, coordination with advisor in major
- 3) Tutoring (primarily for 100-level or Introductory courses)
- 4) Balancing demands and priorities of academic, athletic and military life
- 5) Involve and keep coaches informed of academic issues
- 6) Evaluate and apply all NCAA and VMI rules for eligibility (6/18/24%/GPA)
- 7) Assist with team study halls
- 8) Daily monitoring of Demerits and PTs

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The Advisor

Missing X and W Requirements

According to a report compiled by COL Bush, over 150 first class cadets have yet to complete their Civilizations & Cultures and/or Writing Intensive requirements. These cadets will not graduate on time unless the courses are successfully completed by May 2013. A reminder given during pre-registration meetings will help these cadets take stock of what is needed.

Voluntary Planning

Training for the electronic planning tool available in Post View known as e-Advising will now be offered to Rats on a voluntary basis. Over 200 individuals have already expressed interest in learning to use it. Lunch time trainings will take place between September 20th and October 16th. Interested Rats have been sent electronic invitations with the date, time and location. Those who plan to attend must watch the "Interpreting the Program Evaluation" video on Angel prior to attending. Rats should bring the following to their scheduled training:
Laptop
Program Evaluation (Registered/Pre-Registered version)

Upcoming Opportunities

Teaching Cadets to Understand the Program Evaluation
September 26, 2012 1100 Shell Hall 302

E-Advising Training for **New Advisors (Veteran Advisors are welcome)**: Assisting Cadets through the use of the Student Educational Planning Module in Post View
October 10, 2012 1100 Shell Hall 302

New Advisor Mid-Semester Lunch
October 11, 2012 1215 Shell Hall 301

PE and ROTC

Pre-Registration is almost upon us. Advisees will begin coming to see you regarding spring 2013 coursework on or after October 15th. Please remind them of the following:

PE courses must be taken each semester until the required hours are completed. Due to faculty and room capacity limitations, doubling up in the future may not be possible. Cadets who fail to follow instructions and attempt to do this, may jeopardize their ability to graduate on time.

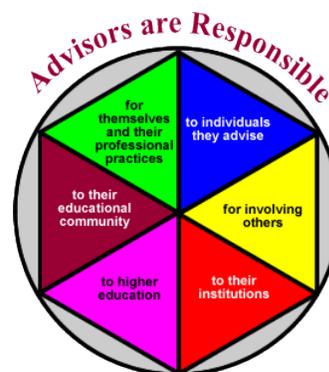
ROTC labs are required of all second and first class cadets. LS labs are taken in place of ROTC labs by cadets who do not plan to commission. Cadets who decide to drop the LS lab or fail to enroll will automatically fail the ROTC course.

Parent's Weekend

VMI's annual Parent's Weekend will take place October 19-21st. Parents who wish to speak with their cadet's advisor should make an appointment in advance. October 19th 1300-1600 as well as October 20th 0800-0945 have been set aside for this purpose. Please consult with me or the Registrar's Office to ensure that parents who request a meeting have been placed on the cadet's FERPA release form. Without the release, advisors are legally barred from sharing cadet academic information.

The Advising Field

The National Academic Advising Association Core Values



For details, go to

[www.nacada.ksu.edu/Clearinghouse/AdvisingIssues/Core-Values-](http://www.nacada.ksu.edu/Clearinghouse/AdvisingIssues/Core-Values-Declaration.htm)

[Declaration.htm](http://www.nacada.ksu.edu/Clearinghouse/AdvisingIssues/Core-Values-Declaration.htm)