Leveraging the Student Success Collaborative to Promote Advising as Teaching Jeannie Brown Leonard \| jleonarc@gmu.edu and Liz Bartles \| ebartles@gmu.edu

## INTRODUCTION

Academic advising reform was the top priority of the Student Success and Retention Action Council. A committee with representation from all the schools/colleges examined advising reports and data and developed a set of recommendations in June 2014. Leveraging technology to improve academic advisor workflow and improve our understanding of which students most needed our help was a cornerstone of these recommendations.


## ACADEMIC ADVISING MISSION

The academic advising community at George Mason University commits to creating on-going, personal and purposeful educational partnerships with students and colleagues. Advisors contribute to student success by providing resources and by teaching students to develop the skills required to become life-long learners capable of effective self-advocacy. Dedicated to putting students first and to being responsive, academic advisors:

- Support students in setting and reaching educational goals.
- Teach students to engage in a process of self-reflection and self-discovery, guiding them to find degree pathways that match their interests, skills, and abilities.
- Connect students to campus resources and cocurricular opportunities to integrate learning and experience.


## What is the Student Success Collaborative?

SSC is a technology platform that offers academic advisors clear and easy access to student academic performance data. Undergraduate, graduate, and non-degree students are in this Platform that receives nightly data updates from Banner. This tool helps academic advisors manage advising caseloads, reach out to students who may need support, and generate reports of advising activity. The product also supports online student appointment scheduling that synchs with Outlook.


## INSTITUTIONAL REPORTS

Based on an analysis of 10-years of Mason data, we can identify courses and grade thresholds that are predictive of graduation in each undergraduate major. These reports also provide graduation rates for majors, schools/colleges, and the university as a whole along various attributes (i.e., the number of credits earned in the first year, first term GPA, and second year GPA). Finally, a major change analysis is included in the institutional reports tracking the top 10 programs (by academic major) that students change to and change from.


Advising Analytics

## FACULTY ENGAGEMENT

By leveraging the SSC-Campus technology, academic advisors are able to shift from a transactional style of advising to one aligned with Mason's Academic Advising Mission statement. Faculty and professional advisors accessing SSC-Campus are better prepared to deliver on the advising as teaching model.

## ASSESSMENT

Advisors using SSC-Campus have access to reports and analytics to help assess their advising practice and capture their advising activity. By engaging in targeted campaigns via the Platform, they can track easily the response to intervention.

## iPASS

Mason is one of 26 universities to receive an iPASS grant. iPASS stands for integrated planning and advising for student success. This grant is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and managed by EDUCAUSE.

## NEXT STEPS

Come to training: advising.gmu.edu/ssc/training/ Ask questions: SSCHelp@gmu.edu

