Peer Advising Program

The Peer Advising Program was established in 1984 for the purpose of introducing first-year students to the college experience and Paul College. The program has grown over the years and forms the foundation of two 1-credit required courses, ADMN 405/406, Freshman Academic Experience I/II. While the professional and faculty portion of our advising programs are very important, the student advisors play a key role in student development. Peer Advisors are trained upper-class students who provide a positive resource to guide first year students during this transitional period.

Incoming students are assigned a peer advisor who they meet with on a regular basis. These meetings are held in small groups, where students can get to know others in their major, and discuss concerns that are shared by all students in their freshman year. Discussions of business and economic topics, via articles in the business press, provide a linkage back to students’ other courses. Various assignments and quizzes are provided to help reinforce the material.

The specific goals of these two courses are:
- to familiarize students with their major, college, and the university
- to introduce and discuss the nature of academic knowledge and standards
- to learn personal management skills essential for success
- to support students in their personal growth
- to develop personal responsibility
- to encourage first year students to use the advising and other support services on campus
- to encourage students to focus on their “academic career” in choosing a major, minor and other opportunities for enrichment
- to encourage students to think strategically about their future career

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