



Volume 3 Issue 4

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Student Success Center

Supplemental Instruction	2480 student visits (fall)
Small Group Math & Science Tutoring	512 student visits (fall)
Living Learning Tutoring	28 student visits (fall)
New Distance Learning Tutors to Centers	12 student visits (fall)

Department Sponsored Labs

Hortense Parrish Writing Center	2606 student visits (fall)
Mathematics Learning Center	1480 student visits (fall)
Reading Center (Ed Studies)	38 student visits (fall)

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Success Counselors

Thanks for the feedback! We are learning as we go, and we have weathered a few storms. Thanks to your feedback, we'll be making adjustments in our processes, and this will allow us to do much better next year.

Proactive Advising is about teaching the student accountability and helping them to gain the skills necessary to monitor their own academic progress. We are teaching *academic literacy* in our advising sessions. This includes showing the student how to look at an academic program critically so that they can understand what it means when they “must complete a sequence,” must have a “minimum grade of C or better,” what prerequisites and co-requisites are, what a degree, a major, and a concentration or emphasis really entails.

We want the student to understand the difference between the general education and the coursework that defines the content area. It is important that a student learn to be accountable for his/her own academic progress. We want the student to be able to look at a degree program and make some decisions about the next semester and the completion of the degree. It is our expectation that the student will be more prepared for academic advising having these tools in their tool chest.

We are aware that many academic advisors also include this detail in their advising sessions, and we aren't trying to replace that component, but to emphasize it. With repetition, the student will become more aware of what they must accomplish to be successful in their degree program and at UT Martin.

It is our intention to have Shawn, Tammy and Dana meet with the departments to better understand the intricacies of the academic programs. This will help them when they talk to the students. We will not be discussing “next classes” or making suggestions about academic programs with the students (we learned that lesson!).

Thanks for working with us!

Service Hours

Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

By Phone: (731) 881-7744

By Email: success@utm.edu



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Starfish

Lions and tigers and starfish, oh my!

Starfish is a retention and advising product from Hobsons that will allow the campus to communicate more effectively about our students. Expected launch date is Spring 2017 semester.

This is the Starfish YouTube channel where you can watch some short videos on the product features.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/starfishretention>

We will be using the Early Alert and Advising/Retention components of Starfish to provide better support for all students.

The beauty of this product is that the Student Success Center can post notes that the academic advisor can see. Or financial aid can post information that the SSC or academic advisor can use. Notes can be made confidential or left as open access, which will help departments communicate more efficiently.

Additionally, Starfish will be used as our Early Alert program. A faculty member can post alerts via a course listing of all students in a class being taught or can post an alert on a single advisee. With the click of a button the advisor can send the alert to the proper resource. The student can even post an alert, requesting help.

The dashboard feature on each student will allow users to have an “at a glance” overview of the current status of the student. This will include academic progress, GPA, alerts, engagement and much more.

Accessible Technology Committee

The Accessible Technology Committee is still deeply embedded in the trenches of accessibility. We have:

1. Reviewed the top 10 visited UT Martin websites and made them accessible.
2. Committee members have written two grants (awaiting decision) that will bring new technology and training to UT Martin if funded.
3. Have pushed to have all syllabi accessible.
4. Have looked for new training on accessibility.
5. Have attended conferences.

Accessibility is an important initiative but it is also one that is very time consuming. It requires personnel in order to keep the process moving. *Here is where the faculty and staff across campus come in.* Be cognizant of your processes for creating academic and departmental documents, videos and marketing materials. Make them accessible from the beginning. Learn to create accessible materials so that when they are placed on the web or in Blackboard or Canvas they are already accessible.

If we all begin with the visually or hearing impaired student in mind, creating accessible documents will become the norm.

Let us know what your department or unit is doing to improve accessibility. We are all in this together, no one group can “fix” accessibility for everyone.

Accessible means accessible to all.