

### **Undergraduate Council's Four Principles regarding Academic Advising of Undergraduates**

(1) Advising about academics is the responsibility of the Senate, and any unit offering academic advising is subject to the oversight of the Senate, not the Administration. (Academic advising encompasses selection and ordering of courses, selection of majors and minors, indeed, anything involving academic credit. Academic advising also encompasses internships and career advice not directly involving academic credit if there is an indirect effect on courses and majors selected. It is formal and systematic academic advising that is subject to oversight.)

(2) Advising about majors and course sequences is best done at the level of the department or program involved. Given the considerable range in the sizes of majors and the complexities of requirements, the organizational forms of advising should be expected to be quite different, and at the discretion of the department.

(3) Faculty will contribute to student advising by helping students to plot an academic trajectory in response to individual students' needs and interests. Faculty academic advising exists in collaboration with staff advisors' oversight of requirements and other technicalities. In all departments, designated faculty should be actively consulted in the academic advising by staff, even if notional reporting lines are through other staff. Faculty involvement in student advising should be recognized and valued.

(4) The effectiveness of advising and of the department's organizational form for advising will be examined through the existing system for reviewing majors, conducted through Undergraduate Council and its subcommittee, Undergraduate Instruction & Program Review. The effectiveness of academic advising by units other than those offering majors will be examined through the existing subcommittee of Undergraduate Council, Special Academic Programs. Undergraduate Council will require an annual report on Academic Advising at all levels from the Academic Advising Director.

Two action points for Undergraduate Council this year:

(a) Are the questions about advising asked of recent graduates sufficient to determine the effectiveness of academic advising and to identify any problem areas? Should faculty, in their anonymous survey for program reviews, be asked about advising?

(b) What is the effectiveness of advising, done at the college level, for those entering UCD with Undeclared as a major? Do Undeclareds take unusually long to graduate or leave disproportionately? Are there differences in outcomes for Undeclareds across colleges? Should there be a change in the procedures or time by which an Undeclared must declare a major?