March 8, 2012

Dear First-Year Student,

You have reached the end of your second quarter at UCSC! We hope that since arriving at UCSC, you have learned to find the information you need on the student portal, in the General Catalog, the Schedule of Classes and UCSC websites.

Frosh:
Next quarter, we will want you to let us know your proposed major if you have not already done so. If you have no idea what majors you’re interested in, don’t worry! We’ll be helping you with that more next quarter. (In the meantime, review the "researching majors" section of the checklist below.)

Transfers:
We hope you have declared your major by the winter major declaration deadline.

Declaring your major is only one part of your path to success at the university. To get the most out of your years at UCSC, you’ll want to be sure that you have built a strong foundation during your first year – learning about yourself, learning what you want, and learning how to get it.

Please use the checklist below to make sure you have knowledge of important tools and information you need for a strong start at UCSC. If you have questions about any of these checklist items, please see a Stevenson academic adviser.

Best, the Stevenson Advising team,

Marie, Connie, Mary & Gustavo

*****************************************************************************

Winter Quarter Advising Checklist

- Review essential academic management tools found in your student portal:
  - Academic Advisement Report on the Student Center page
  - Student Advising Summary on the Student Center page
  - Explanations of these reports can be found at [http://advising.ucsc.edu/student/index.html](http://advising.ucsc.edu/student/index.html) in the center links.

- Review essential academic publications & websites:
  - The Navigator, UCSC’s Undergraduate Handbook ([http://reg.ucsc.edu/navigator/index.html](http://reg.ucsc.edu/navigator/index.html))
  - Text pages of The Schedule of Classes ([http://reg.ucsc.edu/soc.htm](http://reg.ucsc.edu/soc.htm))
  - The Undergraduate Advising Center ([http://advising.ucsc.edu/student/index.html](http://advising.ucsc.edu/student/index.html))
  - The Registrar’s website ([http://reg.ucsc.edu/](http://reg.ucsc.edu/)) & FAQ’s
Review the First Year Advising pages of the Stevenson website (http://stevenson.ucsc.edu/advising/first-year-adv/index.html)

Review academic integrity policies and information to make sure you are not unwittingly committing plagiarism or cheating.

- Policies: http://undergraduate.ucsc.edu/acad_integrity/student.html
- Examples: http://undergraduate.ucsc.edu/acad_integrity/definitions.html
- Proper Citing: http://undergraduate.ucsc.edu/acad_integrity/resources.html
- UCLA’s informative and entertaining guide: http://unitproj.library.ucla.edu/col/bruinsuccess/03/01.cfm

Continue to research majors using The General Catalog or department websites. For all majors in which you are interested, make sure you can answer these questions:

- Are there required courses that must be completed before you can declare?
- Is there an admissions policy?
- Is there a required declaration workshop?
- Is there a disqualification policy?

Research out-of-classroom educational opportunities:

- EAP (http://ieo.ucsc.edu/programs-abroad/index.html)
- UCDC (http://politics.ucsc.edu/undergraduate/ucdc/)
- UC Sacramento (http://intern.ucsc.edu/uccs.html)
- Intercampus Visitor Program & more (http://reg.ucsc.edu/specialprograms.htm)

Understand Academic Progress and Academic Standing (http://reg.ucsc.edu/navigator/section4.html#Standing)

Review the grading process (http://reg.ucsc.edu/navigator/section4.html#Evaluating) – GPA, P/NP options and percentage allowed

Visit faculty during office hours to discuss course material, interest in major, academic goals, etc.

Review need for placement exams and assessments

- Math: http://undergrad.pbsci.ucsc.edu/advising/exams/mpe.html
- Languages: http://language.ucsc.edu/placement/index.html
- Chemistry: http://undergrad.pbsci.ucsc.edu/advising/exams/chemexam.html

Review General Education and University requirements
- Explore internship options (http://intern.ucsc.edu/student.html) and career goals (http://careers.ucsc.edu/student/index.html)
- Explore undergraduate research opportunities (http://www2.ucsc.edu/undergraduarereasearch/)
- Enroll for spring quarter during priority enrollment