Council of Directors of Student Academic Services
Minutes | February 18, 2026, | 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Building a Policy Proposal: No Late Admits – Shannon Baker

The group discussed implementing a policy to restrict late enrollment for new admits, with current retention data showing lower success rates for these students. They explored options including a complete ban on late enrollment within 7 days of classes starting, with an exception process, or moving the late enrollment fee deadline earlier. The discussion highlighted concerns about athletics being an exception, course availability for second 8-week classes, and the impact on various student populations. Larry agreed to analyze the effects of implementing such a policy on all student groups, while Shannon planned to reach out to Jeff about the current enrollment policy.

The group discussed the effectiveness of a $100 late enrollment fee and its potential to influence student behavior. They agreed that the fee might not be sufficient to deter students from enrolling late, as many students wait until the last minute to pay their bursar bills. The team considered adjusting the deadline for late enrollment to encourage earlier payments and discussed the need to gather more data on the impact of late enrollment on student retention. Shannon was tasked with reaching out to Jeff for the admissions perspective and exploring the possibility of moving the late enrollment fee deadline earlier.

The group discussed late-enrolled students, with approximately 100 students identified, though Larry clarified these students are not considered OSU-type students due to enrolling 7 days before term start. Shannon expressed concerns about the retention rate of these students and the potential impact on OSU's reputation, while Lindsey suggested comparing OSU's policies with other land-grant institutions. The team agreed to analyze data from land-grant institutions and investigate where the late enrollment fee money goes, as Amy noted the fee likely affects more students than the 107 identified.

The group discussed late fee policies for second 8-week enrollment periods, with Rita agreeing to investigate why students are being charged fees that are later waived.

The group agreed to revisit the conversation in the coming months.

Student Engagement Platform Rollout – Aleigha Mariott

Aleigha Mariott provided an update on the transition from Campus Link to a new student engagement platform, which is pending procurement and will include a mobile app among other improvements. Staff and students were encouraged to submit their input on a new name for the platform by the following Monday.

Federal Direct Loan Program Changes – Linda Millis

The discussion covered several key topics, including changes to loan eligibility for students starting in the 2026-27 academic year. Linda explained that the Parent PLUS loan program now has a maximum annual borrowing limit of $20,000 and an aggregate limit of $65,000, which will affect many undergraduate students. The Graduate Plus loan program is being phased out, with new aggregate limits for graduate students. Shannon suggested that she, Larry, and Linda develop a list of questions regarding retention to monitor the impact of these changes. The group also discussed upcoming changes to Pell Grant eligibility. The group advised that a plan for communication to students be developed.

Student Text Communications

Amanda Williams proposed a solution to correct a mistake in the Slate text feature that asks students to opt out of the university wide text subscription when canceling an advising appointment via text. The directors agreed to the proposed solution.

Meeting adjourned at 11:28am
Minutes recorded by Audrey Pinion