

## **Academic Advisory Council Meeting**

**March 12, 2026**

**Thaxton Hall 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor & Teams**

**4:00 – 5:00 PM**

**Attendees:** Beibei Brantly, Wendy Butler, Linda dela Garza, Alicia Roberson, Michelle Ritter, Mary Beth Rousseau, Rozelle Slaymon, and Cypcyone Thomas.

**Absent:** Joseph Jones, Lori Sable, and Phillip Storey

### **Item # 1. What is going well?**

- Condensed to fewer faculty. Those who are currently advising are becoming experts and they are feeling confident. They seem to be doing well because they want to advise.
- They have not heard any negative feedback, only positive responses about Visual Schedule Builder. Faculty like Visual Schedule Builder, and they like to see the plans listed. It is a helpful tool to use.
- Faculty like the appointment feature on Slate.

### **Item # 2. What are you hearing from your colleagues?**

- CPOS
  - Dr. Roberson stated that after a report was run to check CPOS issues for Valdosta State, our university had less than 30 undergraduate issues which was unheard of in the University System of Georgia.
  - Faculty has an issue with the Dental Hygiene curriculum and CPOS. Dental Hygiene is getting flagged for CPOS because it is a 2-year program. Dr. Roberson suggests students add Health Science as a second major or program to add AAS (use credit from Wiregrass) to get a bachelor's degree. Dr. Roberson will pose the question at the next CPOS meeting for feedback.
  - CPOS errors show on some students because the curriculum change is made then the class is not taught anymore. Dr. Roberson suggests completing a course sub for what the class should be so it can get through CPOS. A standard sub needs:
    - Name-put blanket subs.
    - Add calendar year that you want to be affected.
    - Include what is going to change?

- Justification example: To meet the old requirement, this class meets the spirit of the requirement.
    - Submit a waiver to change in one place, not the other. For example, VSU Catalog says six hours of credit, but the curriculum dictates 3 hours.
- **DegreeWorks:** DegreeWorks is not up to date with the College of Science and Mathematics curriculum. DegreeWorks and the VSU Catalog needs to correlate on the Foreign Language.
- **Slate Advising Scheduler:** Need training on Slate Advising Scheduler to maximize its use and add notes.
- **Training Needs:**
  - Training for new faculty.
  - Training on filtering out online choices.
  - Training on compiling a faculty advisee list-there are several lists, but none are accurate. Which one is correct? How do they find a good list of advisees. Example-you can find or filter your advisees here.
  - Training on where to go for emailing advisees, and how to email all students at once in Slate.
- **Junior Group Transitions.** Dr. Roberson suggests that we create an event in the fall to hand off students who have become juniors, faculty advisors; for example, a Meet & Greet.

### **Item # 3 Where are we having challenges and what are possible solutions?**

- The Faculty Senate committee members (some) wish that they can advise the full four years; build a relationship and mentor the students.
- The Faculty Senate committee members (some) want to send all the advisees back to the advising centers.
  - There is an increase in their cognitive load and responsibilities.
  - Burdensome systems do not work or are not reliable.
  - Record keeping cumbersome open too many screens for advising.
  - So much paperwork; Graduation Applications/Forms, CPOS Audits, Online Forms, Course Substitutions (faculty complete them then approval comes from the department head and the dean of the college. Dr. Roberson suggests that graduate assistants could be embedded in colleges across the campus to help with paperwork demands.
  - The process of getting an in-person student added to an online course has too many steps. Several people must review and approve before finalizing the request. This process needs to be simpler. Dr. Roberson stated there

were fewer online request forms in Spring 26 than in Fall 25. The online form moved to Slate.

- Faculty cannot manage their own appointment schedules. The scheduler is being tweaked. Dr. Roberson stated hopefully, in Fall 26 faculty will be able to manage their own schedules. The Slate representatives are making sure the system allows the person to only change their own schedule and no others.
- There are classes that are only delivered online because there are no professors who can teach them.
- Long Term Plan. Parts of the university are in favor of the university advising teams taking advising back. We need resource requests if we are to do this. Or faculty advisors advise all 4 years. Dr. Roberson will take this back to the Enrollment Management Team. There are some shorter terms than long term options.