

March 2017

PROVOST'S UPDATE

Greetings:

At an exciting and growing institution like Kennesaw State, we are constantly embarking on new initiatives, enjoying great academic success, and reacting to an ever-changing world of opportunities and pressures. We have, though, become so large and complex that we each may not have a grasp of all that is happening and what may be on the horizon. Accordingly, I am pleased to introduce a monthly update of news and announcements from Academic Affairs. I hope this information will keep you informed of the excitement here at KSU, but also will inspire conversations and collaborations as we maintain our journey toward academic excellence.



New Admissions Fixed-Seat Model

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia recently approved Kennesaw State's implementation of a fixed-seat model for freshmen admission, effective fall 2018. This new admissions model will allow the University to manage enrollment growth and facilitate students' timely degree progression.

KSU will utilize a Freshmen Index (FI) as the initial step in determining an applicant's admissibility under the fixed-seat model. This new FI will be calculated using the USG's Freshmen Index formula — a combination of the total SAT score *or* ACT composite score and the high school GPA. **Note:** Existing KSU SAT/ACT entrance scores and high school GPA requirements will not change under the new model. Applicants will have the choice of submitting their applications for early action (non-binding) or regular decision. An enrollment commitment deposit will be due by May 1, 2018. An admission

waitlist will also be established to help the University manage enrollment.

Students displaced by the new admissions fixed-seat model will be served through transfer enrollment pathways established with other University System of Georgia or Technical College System of Georgia institutions.

Standardized Advising Model

Undergraduate academic advising at KSU has moved from a highly **decentralized** model to a **standardized** (not centralized) model. Advising is still organizationally and geographically located within each college. Across the colleges, advising is moving from a faculty responsibility to a professional staff responsibility. Eight new advising lines were given to the colleges in 2016, and 25 new advising lines were requested for 2017-2018.

With standardized advising, all advisors are using the same tools and technologies in the same ways. Specifically, the adoption of [EAB's](#) Student Success Collaborative as the primary tool for advising activity provides advisors a more complete history of the student's interactions with advisors. Additionally, standardized advising tools will aid advisors in providing consistent and accountable messaging to students. The student experience of advising should be seamless across colleges. The Office of the Senior Vice Provost tracks all advisor productivity, advising outcomes and assessment of advising at the university level.

Dr. John Omachonu, senior vice provost, and Chris Hutt, assistant vice president for academic advising, are providing executive leadership for advising.

B.S. in Cybersecurity

The Board of Regents recently approved an online Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity at Kennesaw State. Set to begin this fall, the new cybersecurity degree is the first major initiative of Kennesaw State's Institute for Cybersecurity Workforce Development. The Institute is a combined effort of three of KSU's largest colleges — the Coles College of Business, College of Computing and Software Engineering, and College of Humanities and Social Sciences. Students pursuing the Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity will concentrate on one of three tracks — systems security, network security or cybercrime.

Since 2004, the National Security Agency and Department of Homeland Security have designated Kennesaw State a Center of Academic Excellence in Cybersecurity Education. The designation reflects the status of the University's online information technology and information security programs,

which have been ranked among the 10 best in the country, most recently in the 2017 America's Best Online Colleges rankings by BestColleges.com.

Cybersecurity is designated part of Georgia's High Demand Career Initiative (HDCI). It is believed the cybersecurity field may need as many as 1.5 million additional workers by the year 2020, according to the 2015 Cybersecurity Education Workforce Demand Report. We are happy to be able to offer a program targeting such an important need in the greater Atlanta area.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Alan Hines".

Academic Affairs

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