IMPLEMENTATION OF STUDENT ADVISING FOR FRESHMEN YEAR IN RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE

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Implementation of Student Advising for Freshmen Year in Residential College

Synopsis:

In 2014, all students spend their freshman year in the Residential College of Yonsei university at International Campus. The Residential College consists of 12 houses with a total of 4,000 students. The college of freshmen performs the triple advising to support for all students and a widely emulated model of advising excellence, while students are planning their college life through e-portfolio system.
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I. Background

In 2014 of Academic year, all students spend their freshman year in the Residential College of Yonsei university at International Campus in Songdo. The Residential College consists of 12 houses with a total of 4,000 freshmen students. The Residential College complements the formal learning environment found in the classroom by offering a wide range of extra-curricular activities (informal learning) out of the classroom. The college of freshmen performs the triple advising to support for all students and a widely emulated model of advising excellence, while students are planning their college life through e-portfolio system.

Being the oldest private university in Korea, Yonsei University was first established in 1885. There are 18 graduate schools, 22 colleges and 133 subsidiary institutions. Since its founding in 1885 by American missionaries, Yonsei University has taken a leading role in Korean higher education. Yonsei’s educational philosophy emphasizes the nurturing of leaders who will contribute to their communities in the service of truth and freedom. Launched in the year 2000, the University College is the culmination of Yonsei University's persistent effort to leap forward with its new educational creed.

II. Freshmen Advising (Triple Advising)

Academic advisors in University College guide the first-year students through the transition to college life. Advisors play an important part in nearly all matters affecting first-year students. Keeping a record of any contact with students is very important to provide individualized advising. Launched in the year 2000, the University College set up an information system for academic advising and has been revised and modified for years. Thus, the system is becoming an essential tool in academic advising. The system is operated on internet-accessible systems. All freshman students are assigned to their academic advisor through the advising system, so once a student logs in the University information system they recognize who is his/her advisor. Students are advised to keep informed in bulletin board by their advisors and make an appointment with their advisors.

University College has shared the first-year experience assessment with Faculty Advisors for freshmen in department. A faculty advisor in major department and an academic advisor in University College towards a student, these advisors should collaborate to support a student during the whole college life to carrying out a student-centric developmental advising under the dual advising framework.

All freshmen stays in 12 Houses to live and learn together during their first year, so Residential Master should play an important part in this changing situation in first-year education. Each house has its own distinctive theme and is operated by a dedicated team of Residential Assistants and a Residential Master. The Residential College complements the formal learning environment found in the classroom by offering a wide range of extra-curricular activities. Through house-specific events, students build a sense of community within their house and. Through events in the common program, students can interact and share experiences across the different houses.

Student should take freshmen advising seminar (Yonsei RC 101) in their first semester of freshmen year. For this semester every student are participated in making a 4-year academic plan and their college life plan. Students are strongly recommended to have a review session with advisors, and advisors can give them motivation and encouragement to get better accomplishment.
III. Student Advising (Dual Advising)

Students have taken this advising services in first-year period belong to University College. While first-year students are in triple advising system, students taken in freshmen year with this advising system, they need and want this service to be 4-year long.

IV. A Future Implementation Plan for Student Advising

Through the whole process of implementation and operation of the student advising system, our experience shows that advising using infrastructure of IT is intended to enhance first-year student advising. Moreover, based our experience, technology can provide advisors to individualize services and give students assistance beyond in routine. Freshmen students input their vision and goals of college life into e-portfolio system. In advising students, this is very useful methods and tools for advisors to figure out the student’s placement, to provide an integrated advising experience. We are planning to expand this e-portfolio system throughout the whole 4-year college life long.