General registration for fall courses begins Monday, April 3rd. Your meeting with your advisee is the perfect opportunity to see how things are going in his or her classes, especially classes that are prerequisites for other courses. Whether you rely on your advisee's judgment or check his or her midterm grades,* it's important to make sure your advisee understands he or she must pass the current prerequisite class (or earn the required grade) needed for the next course in the sequence, and that, if the advisee fails to successfully complete the prereq, he or she should adjust his or her fall schedule and re-take the course before moving on.

*If you haven't submitted your midterm grades, here's a gentle reminder to do so.

Students may have excellent reasons for withdrawing from courses, but they often do not realize that too many Ws squander tuition, delay progress toward graduation, and just plain look bad. Perhaps more importantly, too many Ws can cause students to lose financial aid. "(F)ederal regulations require that student financial aid eligibility be terminated once a student has attempted 150 percent of the credit hours needed to complete a degree program" (RIC 2016-17 Catalog, p. 19). Additionally, student veterans who receive tuition benefits must repay the VA if they withdraw from a course, and student athletes may be affected by withdrawing from courses as well.

When meeting with an advisee who has several Ws and/or is considering withdrawing from a course, you might want to remind the student of these concerns.

Questions? Want screenshots? Please contact Michelle Brophy-Baermann at facultyadvisingdirector@ric.edu.

Advising Tip of the Week - #3

It's Not Too Late: First Year Writing and First Year Seminar

General registration for fall began bright and early this morning, so it's a little late for tips. Still, if you have a first-year advisee who has not successfully completed the FYW or FYS course, make sure they have registered for the course for fall semester.

- FYW must be successfully completed with a C or above (B or better for FSHED majors) within 30 credits or the student will be placed on Academic Probation-Writing.

- FYS must be taken within 30 credits or the student will have a hold placed on registration and will have to contact Dr. Julie Urda, FYS Coordinator, to have it lifted.

For a list of Fall 2017 First Year Seminars, see: www.ric.edu/fys/pdf/FYSF17descriptions.pdf.

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