
University of Evansville Student Retention

April 17, 2009

Dr. Tom Bear, Vice President for
Enrollment Services

University of Evansville

- Private, liberal arts and sciences based university
- Total full-time enrollment is 2,600 students
- Average class size is 18 students
- Student to faculty ratio is 13:1
- Offers more than 80 different areas of study
- Selective admissions
 - 25th -75th SAT Percentile is 1010-1260

University of Evansville

- Three colleges and one school:
 - College of Arts and Sciences
 - College of Education and Health Sciences
 - College of Engineering and Computer Science
 - Schroeder Family School of Business Administration
- 60 percent of graduates studied abroad at Harlaxton College and other places around the world

University of Evansville

- 93 percent of full-time students receive financial aid and scholarships
- Average package of more than \$19,000 per year
- 25 percent of students are Pell eligible
- 10 percent are Twenty-first Century Scholars

University of Evansville

What we know...

University of Evansville

Retention Statistics

Freshman Cohort Years	Retention Rate	Six-year Graduation Rate
Fall 1998 to Fall 1999	79.7%	60%
Fall 1999 to Fall 2000	82.2%	60%
Fall 2000 to Fall 2001	79.1%	58%
Fall 2001 to Fall 2002	76.5%	62%
Fall 2002 to Fall 2003	77.9%	62%
Fall 2003 to Fall 2004	79.5%	
Fall 2004 to Fall 2005	80.8%	
Fall 2005 to Fall 2006	78.2%	
Fall 2006 to Fall 2007	83.5%	
Fall 2007 to Fall 2008	80.5%	

Retention Profiling

- One-year Retention Rates by:
 - Academic Quintiles
 - Financial Deciles
 - In-State and Out-of-State
 - Academic Programs and College
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For example:

Out-of-State

Lowest Economic Decile

Lowest Academic Quintile

Arts & Sciences Major



55 percent retention rate

Qualitative Research Study

- Academic challenge was number one reason for student attrition
- Concern over loss of academic scholarship facilitated decision to leave

Supported by Spring 2008 and 2009 studies on UE's At-Risk Students

National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) 2008

Level of Academic Challenge	UE
Freshmen	56.6
Senior	58.3
Active and Collaborative Learning	
Freshmen	42.2
Senior	51.3
Student-Faculty Interaction	
Freshmen	33.8
Senior	49.6
Enriching Educational Experiences	
Freshmen	32.2
Senior	56.9
Supportive Campus Environment	
Freshmen	64.0
Senior	64.2

University of Evansville

What we do...

Freshman Edge Program

- 11-day summer program for incoming freshman participants
 - Take “The American Corporation”
 - Learn time management, study skills, and volunteer opportunities
 - Complete team and confidence building exercises
 - Build friendships
 - 94 percent retention rates



Twenty-first Century Scholar Mentors

- 10-15 mentors
- Each mentor is specifically trained
- Mentors meet weekly with mentees
- Group activities are scheduled on a regular basis
- Tutoring and supplemental instruction are offered
- Mentors report weekly on activities



Major Discovery

- 10 percent of freshmen have not declared a major
- Over half of freshmen change or add a major
- Students complete a structured “step-by-step” process to select a major
- Selected faculty serve as advisors for undeclared students
- Journeys in Discovery – one-credit hour course
- A Major Affair



Amazing Ace Challenge

- Co-sponsored with Office of Career Services and Cooperative Education
- For all floors in each residence hall
- 3-tiered program so students get to know themselves, their campus, and their community
- Final aspect of program is self-reflection
- “Do What You Are”
- Career services staff located in residence halls



UNIVERSITY OF EVANSVILLE
THE AMAZING
ACE
CHALLENGE

Student Success Team Membership

- Nine members (Academic Advising, Academic Affairs, Student Counseling, Financial Aid, Student Engagement, Student Diversity Initiatives, Athletics, Enrollment Services, and Residence Life)
- Members were appointed by their respective vice presidents and are highly interactive with students

Student Success Team Responsibilities

- Oversee Fall Freshman Call Campaign
- Oversee Spring “At-Risk” Call Campaign
- Monitor Electronic Alert System

Fall Freshman Call Campaign

Staff and faculty volunteer callers:

- Go through training
- Are linked to appropriate freshmen
- Approached freshmen in relationship to quintiles
- Received additional information on freshmen (Twenty-first Century Scholars, athletes, housing, etc.)
- Asked questions related to Academic Integration, Social Integration, In-coming Expectations and Experience at UE
- Were trained on MAP-Works (red alerts in low quintiles were approached first)
- Were trained on the Electronic Alert System

Spring “At-Risk” Call Campaign

Staff and faculty volunteer callers:

- Reached out to students with cumulative grade point averages below 2.0
- Attempted to identify reasons why students were in academic risk
 - Not prepared for academic challenge was most often heard
- Attempted to determine students’ response to lack of preparedness
 - “I need help – seeking and engaging help”
 - “I need help – but not effectively seeking or engaging help”
 - “I need help – can’t do it – just dropping out”

Electronic Alert System

- Allows faculty and staff to issue an alert or monitor previously-issued alerts
- Interactive tool
- Identifies students who are having academic or personal difficulty
- Initiates a process meant to provide assistance to enable success

Electronic Alert System

Student Early Alert System

Thank you for your interest in student success. By submitting an alert on a student, we as an institution can follow up and provide the services necessary to enable his/her success (both as a student and person). To begin the alert process, please enter the student's name, Acenet user name or Colleague ID in the search field below.

 Cancel new alert

Step 1: Search for a student

Examples:

Debbie Kassenbrock Debbie Kassenbrock Kassenbrock, Debbie dk26 0000094

Step 2: Select a student

Below is the student who matched your search criteria. To continue the process, please select the student to issue an alert. Once you have selected the student and identified the issue he/she is facing, you may determine who will view this alert.



 Select this student

Electronic Alert System

Concerns may be related to:

- Academics
- Employment
- Finances
- Personal Behaviors

Examples include excessive course absences, drop in work productivity, loss of financial assistance, or lack of social connection

Electronic Alert System

Alerts may go to:

- Academic Advising Staff Member
- Faculty Member
- Coach
- Student

Electronic Alert System

Student Early Alert System

Overview

The Student Early Alert System allows you to submit an alert on a student as well as monitor previously-issued alerts. This is an interactive tool that is supported by Academic Advising and the Student Success Team. By issuing an alert and identifying a student who is having academic or personal difficulty, you are initiating a process meant to provide assistance to that individual to enable his/her success.

[+ Create New Alert](#)

[Active Alerts](#)

[Hot Alerts](#)

[Archived Alerts](#)

 Hot Alerts are listed for students who receive more than one alert within seven days.

8 Hot Alerts – 0 Unread

View Alert	Student	Author	Sport	Created	Updated	Replies
View Alert 505		Brown, Gifford		Fri, Feb 13, 2009, 5:19 PM		0
View Alert 483		Allen, James		Wed, Feb 11, 2009, 10:39 AM		0
View Alert 363		Hughes, Vicky		Thu, Jan 22, 2009, 4:09 PM		0
View Alert 498		Bailey, Suzanne		Fri, Feb 13, 2009, 3:04 PM	Mon, Feb 16, 2009, 7:42 AM	2
View Alert 476		Baker, Ann		Tue, Feb 10, 2009, 1:29 PM		0
View Alert 510		Thomas, Patrick		Mon, Feb 16, 2009, 12:09 PM		0
View Alert 484		Bellamy, Davies		Wed, Feb 11, 2009, 10:50 AM	Thu, Feb 12, 2009, 3:38 PM	2
View Alert 449		Blalock, M.		Mon, Feb 9, 2009, 12:57 PM		0

Electronic Alert System

Recent Student Entry Alert System

Advisors
Dr. William Stroube

Participants

Name	Last Viewed This Alert
Mrs. Linda Bathon	Never
Dr. Thomas Bear	Wed, Mar 25, 2009, 1:25 PM
Mrs. Frances Enzler	Never
Mrs. Deborah Kassenbrock	Never
Ms. Catherine Taylor	Wed, Mar 25, 2009, 1:21 PM

5 replies to this alert

Ms. Catherine Taylor
Wed, Mar 25, 2009, 12:39 PM **1**
Who should I contact in order to discuss my assignments?

Dr. Thomas Bear
Wed, Mar 25, 2009, 12:47 PM **2**
Catie, you can contact me directly by email or phone. I will be in the office the rest of the day and would be pleased to have you stop by to discuss these assignments.

Ms. Catherine Taylor
Wed, Mar 25, 2009, 1:09 PM **3**
Thank you for bringing this to my attention. Would Friday at noon work?

Dr. Thomas Bear
Wed, Mar 25, 2009, 1:20 PM **4**
That time would work for me. Will you be able to bring at least one of your assignments with you? If that is possible, we can go over your writing together and correct any mistakes.

Ms. Catherine Taylor **5**

Int

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Tom Bear – tb53@evansville.edu