

# Academic Advising Newsletter

February/March 2016

## Why Should I See My Advisor?

- ✓ Explore goals, attitudes and interests
- ✓ Get connected to support services and resources at BTC and community
- ✓ Create a plan for course/program requirements
- ✓ Discuss any academic or personal problems that are preventing you from obtaining your goal

## Advising Hold

New Student Reminder: You have a hold on your account that prevents you from registering for summer/fall 2016 classes. See your advisor by April!

## Academic Warning

Did last semester not go as well as planned? Did you receive a letter stating you were on Academic Warning? If yes, you are required to complete one of the following options:

\*One Tools-4-Success Workshop

- [BTC and Community Resources](#)
- [Goal Setting](#)
- [Keys to Financial Success](#)
- [Stress Management](#)
- [Study Skills](#)
- [Test Taking Tips](#)
- [Time Management](#)

\*One Career & Professional Development Workshop

## Words of Advice from Students

We asked current students some questions about their experiences as a new student and this is what they shared.

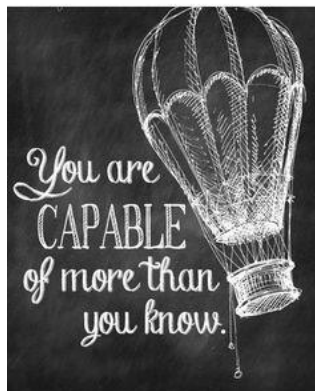
### What is one thing you wish you would have known when you first started at BTC?

*Wish I would have started using all the resources (Academic, Library, Mentor, Career & Professional Development, Math/Science and Communication Lab, etc.) sooner. ~Carissa Weigand*

*How much life would change...not only from the education aspect but also networking and the opportunities that I have had. My confidence has grown and I am now not afraid to try new things. ~Tisha West*

*All of the extracurricular activities offered and how to get involved helps to further a student's education. ~Jessica Crawford*

*Been more aware of the numerous ways to get involved on campus. ~Katie Bautista*



### Describe one of the most positive things you have experienced at BTC.

*Work study. What they are teaching me will definitely give me even more experience in my future careers. ~Carissa Weigand*

*The people – and by people I meant the lifelong friends I have met, the instructors that have encouraged me to be better and do more. Also all of the support staff and how everyone at BTC wants you to succeed and will do everything they can to help you. ~Tisha West*

*Participating in all of the required elements involved in receiving the Certificate of Professional Development. Students who take advantage of this free opportunity are getting extra insight into helping the community and learning about diversity in the workplace. ~Jessica Crawford*

*The internship I successfully completed with the Student Engagement department was one of the most positive experiences I have had here at BTC. ~Katie Bautista*

## Advising Hours

Location: Central Campus, Room 2104.

Phone: 608-757-7668

Email: [advising@blackhawk.edu](mailto:advising@blackhawk.edu)

### Hours of Operation:

Monday – Tuesday: 8:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday – Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

### Walk-In Hours:

Quick questions regarding courses, schedule changes and transfer credit may be addressed during walk-in times. Schedule varies.

### Monroe Campus and BTC Centers

Students are encouraged to call to schedule an appointment.

**Monroe Campus:** 608-328-1660 (Walk-ins available when schedule permits)

**Center for Transportation Studies:** 608-743-4471

**Beloit Center:** 608-757-7747

**Advanced Manufacturing Center:** 608-757-7668

## TRACEY CORDOVA

### HUMAN RESOURCES

#### "What would I tell new students entering BTC?"

My name is Tracey Cordova and I am a non-traditional student at Blackhawk Technical in the Human Resources Program. I am excited to be anticipating graduation in May 2016! It has been a memorable and life changing experience for me. I was excited when I was asked the question, "What would I tell new students entering Blackhawk Technical College?" I am honored to be able to pass on some advice from my experience at BTC to new students.

Don't look at college as preparation for a job, but rather as preparation for life. Choose programs of study that interest and inspire you. I believe that this is the time to hone in on what you want to do with your life. This is a time to explore, and question within yourselves. This is an opportunity to increase your knowledge and build upon your interests, while developing the talents and skills you already have.

I can start with the basics, study hard, go to class, do your homework and finish your assignments on time. Talk to your Instructors, introduce yourself, ask questions, and be sincere in the classroom. They are there to give you the knowledge you seek. Talk to your classmates, we are all students and have tales with helpful advice to give. Plus, you never know when you will need to reach out to someone for help, or perhaps they will need you one day. I have definitely discovered the importance and value of building and maintaining relationships with people.

A very important factor I have learned, is balancing an academic schedule, extracurricular activities, and a job, can be extremely demanding. Learn to balance school/work/and life by taking the number of classes you feel comfortable taking on. If you need help, I strongly believe that **your Advisor is an important resource**. If you need a little guidance, go to your advisor. They can help you with any scheduling or course selection questions you may have, or anything else that you may be struggling with. They are highly educated people and can guide you in the right direction. Your Advisor can be a strong ally for you. They are there for a reason and want to help you, utilize them.

Another vital part of the college experience is getting involved on campus. Join clubs and organizations, this will help you meet new people and develop lasting friendships and possible career leads. College is about the education you learn, the people you meet, the experiences you go through, and the memories you make. I cannot stress enough the importance of networking, socializing and getting involved. For my first year at BTC, I never involved myself, or really made friends. I did not even know where the cafeteria was until after my first year! Once I realized all that BTC had to offer, besides the courses, is when I began to appreciate and "bloom". Stepping outside of my isolation, helped me find my true self. BTC offers student engagements activities and trips, clubs, work study positions, luncheons, seminars, workshops, study labs, career counseling, a fabulous beneficial CPD Certificate one can achieve, and on and on to better yourself with. Say "YES" to opportunities that take you out of your comfort zone. You never know where that exploration will take you! BTC truly offers more than just higher education courses. BTC is designed to mold you into a career minded, educated, employable member of society. You just have to reach for it.

Remembering who and what helped me get to college is important to me. Remembering why I continued and stuck to my guns, is also important to me. When challenges come into my life, and they will come, I will utilize these memories of wisdom, strength, discipline, and perseverance to reach my future career and life goals. I know that Blackhawk Technical College has instilled a quest for knowledge, to arm myself with education, so that I may have a career to achieve a better life, as well as be a better person. I have found strength in myself, I never knew I had. I did the hard work, but the staff and students had a big hand in helping me along my path. Blackhawk Technical College has empowered me to reach for my stars. I am so grateful.

I will end with this: Focus on the "Big Picture", open your mind, work hard....and never give up!



# February

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
|        | 1      | 2       | 3         | 4        | 5      | 6        |
| 7      | 8      | 9       | 10        | 11       | 12     | 13       |
| 14     | 15     | 16      | 17        | 18       | 19     | 20       |
| 21     | 22     | 23      | 24        | 25       | 26     | 27       |
| 28     | 29     | 30      | 31        |          |        |          |

Callouts for February:

- Last day to drop 60% for 1<sup>st</sup> 8 week courses (Friday, Feb 5)
- Last day to drop 80% full semester courses (Wednesday, Feb 10)
- Last Day to use Financial Aid at bookstore (Friday, Feb 12)
- Last day to drop 60% for full semester courses (Monday, Feb 22)
- Graduation Fair (Wednesday, Feb 24)
- Graduation Fair (Thursday, Feb 25)

# March

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
|        |        | 1       | 2         | 3        | 4      | 5        |
| 6      | 7      | 8       | 9         | 10       | 11     | 12       |
| 13     | 14     | 15      | 16        | 17       | 18     | 19       |
| 20     | 21     | 22      | 23        | 24       | 25     | 26       |
| 27     | 28     | 29      | 30        | 31       |        |          |

Callouts for March:

- Spring 2016 Graduation Applications Due (Tuesday, March 1)
- Last day to withdraw from 1<sup>st</sup> 8 week courses (Tuesday, March 15)
- Classes begin after Spring Break (Monday, March 28)
- Transfer Fair (Thursday, March 31)
- Spring Break Week Begins (Friday, March 25)