# Advising more than scheduling classes

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During Advising Week, Oct. 8-11, academic advisers used unconventional methods to convey the importance of students seeing an adviser before registering for classes. They rode a golf cart around campus and also set up mobile advising stations in an effort to create an awareness of advising services available to students.

"I think it helped build relationships with students," Hannah Wallace, academic adviser, said. "We're really pleased with the results."

Wallace said the idea for Advising Week came from a session at a National Academic Advising Association meeting in Indianapolis last October.

"That's where we got the theme," Wallace said.

Wallace said it's especially important for freshmen to see an adviser in order to plan ahead and ensure they are taking the proper prerequisite courses.

"We want to be sure they get advised before their registration," Wallace said. "Some freshman are even under the misperception they're in a class the entire year."

Wallace said she takes a developmental approach to advising that encompasses more than simply scheduling courses.

Other issues such as balancing work and classes are addressed during advising sessions, which last about 30 minutes.

"First off, I want to know how classes are going," Wallace said. "We usually talk about their major."

Wallace said students often want advice as to whether they should drop a class or not.

"Sometimes a student or instructor don't mix," she said.

She said she encourages students not to make quick decisions because dropping a class may affect scholarships or financial aid.

Wallace also said students often wait to schedule their advising appointments and this creates a jam around registration time.

This semester, three new professional advisers were added to the schools of Natural Sciences, Arts and Letters and Social Sciences.

In Social Sciences the new adviser is Dana Creamer, who has been in the position since the beginning of September.

Creamer said she also participated in Advising Week which included "Are you smarter than your adviser?" a trivia game which took place in The Commons.

"I was actually pleasantly surprised at how much information they did know," Creamer said. "It was nice to see a collaboration of advisers from different parts of campus."

Creamer said her job has been challenging because there was no precedent at IU Southeast for professional advisers within a school.

"One of the first things I did was have a meeting with each discipline to explain my role here," Creamer said. "The faculty has been very supportive of this new position."

Creamer said her role is to help students' transition between the Academic Success Center and their faculty advisers. She said she will look up a student's registration appointment when they meet with her so they are prepared when it's time to enroll.

"Sometimes students can't get classes they need because of timeliness," she said.

Creamer said it was important for students to meet with advisers not only to plan out their schedules or to drop a class, but also to check for any holds on their record which might delay class registration.

She also said she enjoys meeting with students and seeing how they are progressing.

"Advising isn't always about picking out classes, but making sure they're successful here," she said.

Creamer said one part of Advising Week she liked was making students aware of the availability of professional advisers in the three schools.

"We're here to work for the students," she said.

# Outdoor Adventure Club's first hike intense

*Courtesy Photo*

**Members of the Outdoor Adventure Club climb a tree while on a hike at the Jefferson Memorial Forest in Louisville, Ky. The OAC went on their first hike Oct. 13. The next hike will be at Hoosier National Forest.**

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The Outdoor Adventure Club went on their first hike Oct. 13 at the Jefferson Memorial Forest in Louisville, Ky. The OAC is one of IU Southeast's newest clubs to start this fall.

Erin Schroeder, biology senior, is president and founder of the club. Schroeder came up with the idea to start the club over the summer and applied for club status this fall. The club started with only five members and now there are 60 official members.

The first event was their hike to Jefferson Memorial Forest. Ten members attended the hike.

"It was just amazing out there," Schroeder said. "We had a really good time."

The Jefferson Memorial Forest has more than 30 miles of hiking trails ranging from easy to strenuous.

Many members did not attend this hike because of the level of intensity.

James Williams, associate professor of chemistry, attended the hike and is the OAC adviser.

"It was an interesting hike because it was a highly intense hike," Williams said. "The students had a great time and are looking forward to our next hike at Hoosier National Forest."

Schroeder said the members are from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines and that some join for the exercise and others for the natural adventures.

"We have a large variety of people and that's what makes it really fun; getting to talk to and meet new people," Schroeder said.

Not all of OAC's adventures will be as intense as the Jefferson Memorial hike.

Schroeder said they do plan to have less strenuous activities including caving and snowboarding.

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***'In love, one and one are one.'***

***– Jean-Paul Sartre***

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