

# Advising for Major Qualification and Declaration

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# Today's Plan

- Overview: major declaration policy and procedure
- Panel presentation: a variety of advising approaches
- Questions, brainstorm and idea-generation: what can we do to improve our approaches?

Please hold your questions until the final part of the session.



# UC Santa Cruz Academic Advising Mission

The primary purpose of undergraduate academic advising is to assist students in clarifying their educational goals and in developing academic plans to achieve them at UCSC.

As part of the educational mission of the university, the academic advising program should enable students to become self-directed learners and responsible decision-makers and encourage them to take advantage of available educational opportunities both within the formal curriculum and beyond it.



# UC Santa Cruz Academic Advising Goals

The ultimate responsibility for making decisions about educational plans and life goals rests with individual students. The university should assist them by:

1. Providing opportunities to clarify their career and life goals and assess their academic strengths and challenges.
2. Providing accurate and relevant information about academic programs and other educational experiences available to them.
3. Informing them of institutional requirements and interpreting institutional policies and procedures relevant to their success.
4. Monitoring their progress toward completion of their academic plans and compliance with institutional expectations of academic standing and progress.
5. Encouraging use of institutional and community services in support of academic success.

# Senate Regulation 10.4.1

- Students must formally declare their major field before enrolling for their third year (or equivalent). Students admitted to the University of California with upper-division standing must formally declare their major field during their second term of residency, if they have not done so earlier.



# Graduation Rates by Declared Major at Third Year: 2005 – 2009 Cohorts Aggregated

Division/School	Graduated in Major within 4 years	Graduated in Another Major within 4 years	Did not graduate
Arts	72.4%	16.4%	11.3%
Engineering	52.5%	28.7%	18.9%
Humanities	80.9%	11.5%	7.7%
Phys & Biol Sci	57.4%	30.7%	11.9%
Social Sciences	77.3%	14.7%	8.0%
Undeclared	0%	76.8%	23.2%

# Process for Enforcement of Deadline

- First quarter of second year: email message notifies students of the deadline and encourages them to complete qualifying courses, seek advising.
- The following quarter: another message reminds them of the deadline next quarter.
- In their deadline quarter: a final message tells them their enrollment for the next quarter will be blocked unless they declare. Holds are placed centrally.
- Colleges identify and remove holds for students who received message but are not actually at their deadline.
- Students who are at their deadline but are unable to declare that quarter talk with their college adviser, who may give them an additional quarter to declare if they show promise of success in the declaration process.





# Panel Question #1

What advising strategies are you using to assist students in getting declared in a major that's a good fit for them prior to the third-year deadline (or second-quarter deadline, for transfer students)?





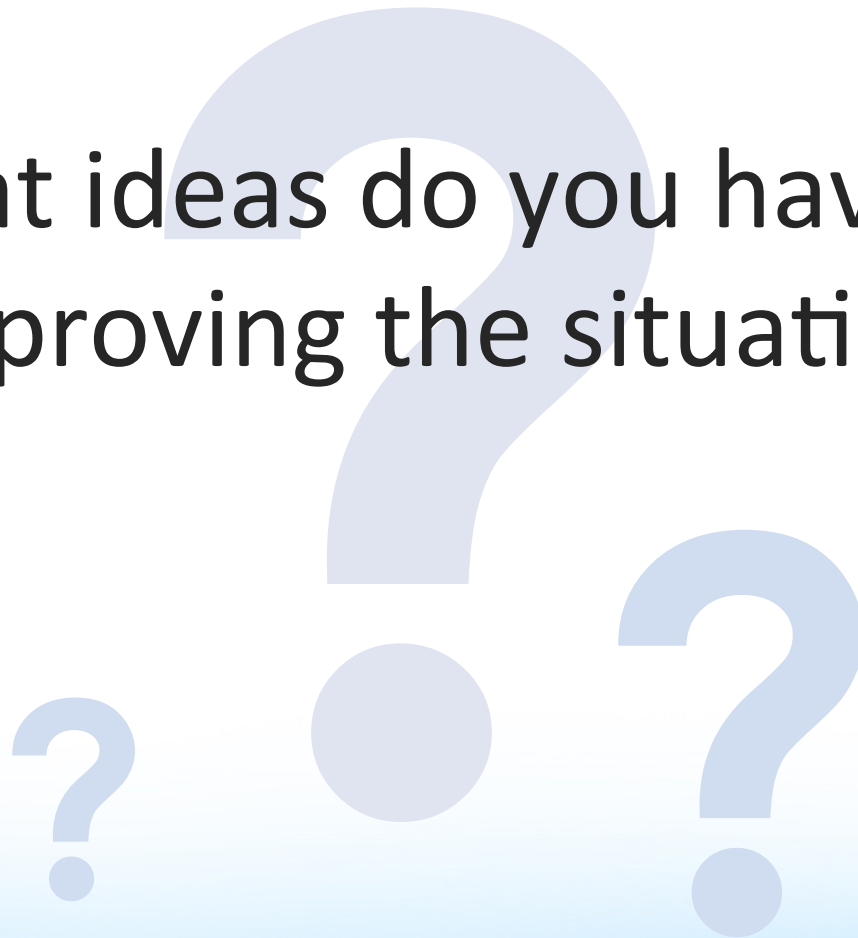
## Panel Question #2

What are the biggest challenges you see in getting students declared by the deadline?



# Panel Question #3

What ideas do you have for  
improving the situation?



# Questions, Brainstorm, and Idea-Generation

Share your thoughts and  
ideas!

