FINAL PRESENTATIONS

Team: The Track Team

Problem:

Many students struggle with matching interests and passions with an academic program and have little knowledge of the long-term consequences of their decisions.

Solutions:

Centralized Degree Tracking Software

The software would be a web based super tool. It would be similar to DegreeWorks in that it would be accessed through the school account, and it would include the functions of DegreeWorks. However we are thinking much bigger. We want a program that provides access too, and correlates, all of the tracking tools we have identified.The idea behind this solution is to create a single/central location where students can go to find all the tools that are available for tracking progress, and find answers to basic questions. This centralization will greatly reduce the effort involved in tracking progress, which should increase student motivation. We also wanted a way to connect the student to the advisor more readily, and facilitate the growth of a working relationship. We decided that it wouldn't be practical to have all of this be in a physical location, so the idea to turn to software was born.

System of Rewards

This solution is much smaller and easier to implement. It would be aimed at students who do not regularly visit their advisor and/or track their degree progress. What we would like to see is a system of requirements and rewards connected to registering for classes and visiting academic advisors. Rewards that could be used might be school apparel, priority placement into classes, etc. The impact of this system is fairly obvious; students would be forced to meet with their advisor at least once a semester, and the incentive to use tracking tools would be increased.

Low-Tech Information Packet

This solution is for the students that are not comfortable using technology. We want to create a singe packet containing all the needed information, and tools necessary for the student to efficiently track their progress. This packet would be individualized to the separate advising offices, and be available at those offices. It would serve as a comprehensive guide to navigating the systems and requirements of the university.