Walk-in Advising (Without an Appointment) for Current Enrolled Students – Monday thru Friday 9am – 3pm

We have made some changes to our advising process for Winter Quarter, and we think these improvements will make it easy to get your questions answered and to give you the time you need to work with your advisor.

Starting on January 20th, 2015 the Walk-In Advising for all international students, who are currently taking classes at Bellevue College, will come through the smaller building to your left as you approach the Office of International Education.

Many of you are familiar with coming to the front desk of the House 6 to talk to an advisor, but now you can come straight into the Portable building called the International Academic Success Center to the left of the House 6. When you come in, we will ask you whether you have an appointment or not. If you don't have an appointment, then you will be able to see the walk-in advisor which will change throughout the week. If you really want to see your own designated International Advisor (see below for who this is), then you would need to make an appointment with them for another day. We cannot guarantee same day appointments, but on occasion will be able to schedule an appointment with your designated advisor in the afternoon if you come by in the morning. If you come by in the afternoon, then it will be unlikely we will be able to schedule you an appointment until a later day. And to clarify, Walk-In Advising (without an appointment) is with the advisor on-duty at the time and is for quick questions (maybe about 10 minutes). A scheduled appointment is the best practice if you want to meet with your designated advisor or if you have questions or concerns that will take longer than ten minutes to discuss.

Welcome to new advisors and Who Is Your Advisor

Starting on January 20th 2015, all international students will be designated a specific International Advisor to support your adjustment to campus, registration process and to assist you with questions about travel, academics or anything else related to your student experience.

If you're a current student and you meet any new students who have just arrive for Winter Quarter, please say hello and help them with their adjustment during their first quarter at Bellevue College.

If you are a student enrolled in credit classes, then your advisor is designated by your last/family name. If you are in IBP or UP English language program then your advisor is also specified below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your International Advisor</th>
<th>Last name/family name:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carla Honkanen</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Carla.honkanen@bellevuecollege.edu">Carla.honkanen@bellevuecollege.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Megan Gurdine</td>
<td><a href="mailto:megan.gurdine@bellevuecollege.edu">megan.gurdine@bellevuecollege.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Becky Qiao</td>
<td><a href="mailto:qi.qiao@bellevuecollege.edu">qi.qiao@bellevuecollege.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jill Burrus</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jillian.burrus@bellevuecollege.edu">jillian.burrus@bellevuecollege.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
*Please note that IBP students’ designated advisor is Becky Qiao and UP and Bridge students designated advisor is Jill Burrus. Of course, any student can also talk to other advisors during Walk-In Advising hours.

**NEW Travel Signatures Guidelines**
Signatures are now valid for one year.

Though in the past travel signatures on your I-20 were considered to be valid for one quarter, they are now considered to be valid for an entire year, as long as you are also registered for classes and in-status with your F-1 visa.

So, to clarify, if your travel signature on page three of your I-20 will be less than one year old when you plan to re-enter into the U.S., then you will not require a new signature from an advisor.

**Turn in your I-20 and pick it up the next day:**
Starting on January 20th, 2015, the OIE will institute a new Travel Signature Policy. In the past, students could come in on Tuesdays and Thursdays to request a travel signature.

This past process often required students to sit and wait for long periods of time while advisors were busy meeting with other students and signing other I-20s for travel.

The New Policy will be very easy but will also require you to plan ahead.

Travel signatures will now be received by dropping off your I-20 and picking it up the very next day or later in the week.

You can simply drop-off your I-20 during our regular Walk-In Advising hours of 9am – 3pm, and then you will be able to pick-up your signed I-20 the next day during regular Walk-In hours.

Since this process requires only a one day turn-around it will be expected that students will plan ahead.

**Welcome New Students**
On Monday, January 2nd Bellevue College held the New International Student Orientation and Welcomed ___(Diem, you probably have this number....____ new students to our community.

Please take some time to get to know some of the new students whom you encounter on campus and in your classes and help them adjust to their first quarter.

**New Student Check-in with your Advisor**
As an opportunity to get to know your advisor and answer any questions you may have, we are requiring all new students to come in for a mandatory check-in.

You will receive an email from your designated International Advisor this week asking you to set an appointment with them and encouraging you to come in within the next couple of weeks.

We think you will enjoy coming in to meet with your advisor and having an opportunity to ask any questions about the school policies and anything else you’d like to discuss.
This quick check-in meeting is mandatory, and any students who do not attend by the middle of the quarter will have a hold placed on their registration, so please make your appointment today!

**Upcoming Events**

- **Office of International Meet & Greet** on **Friday, January 16th 11:30 – 1:30 in C-130**

  Come out to meet the Office of International Education Staff and New International Advisors. You can ask us questions about the new plans for the program or just come by to say hello and have a snack!

- **Winter 2015 International Student Transfer Fair January 30th 10am – 12noon in the Cafeteria**

  Come get transfer information and meet nearly representatives from nearly 80 schools across the United States!

- **TENTATIVE - University of Idaho School of Business Seminar** – **January 29th 1:30pm – 3pm, Location To Be Announced.**

  If you’re considering a business major then look for updates on this upcoming seminar.

- **Curricular Practical Training and Experiential Learning Workshop** – **February 24th 12:30 – 1:30pm in C-130**

  Come learn about Internship opportunities, Curricular Practical Training and other opportunities to make the most of your education. This workshop is a collaboration between the International Student Success Center & the Center for Career Connections.