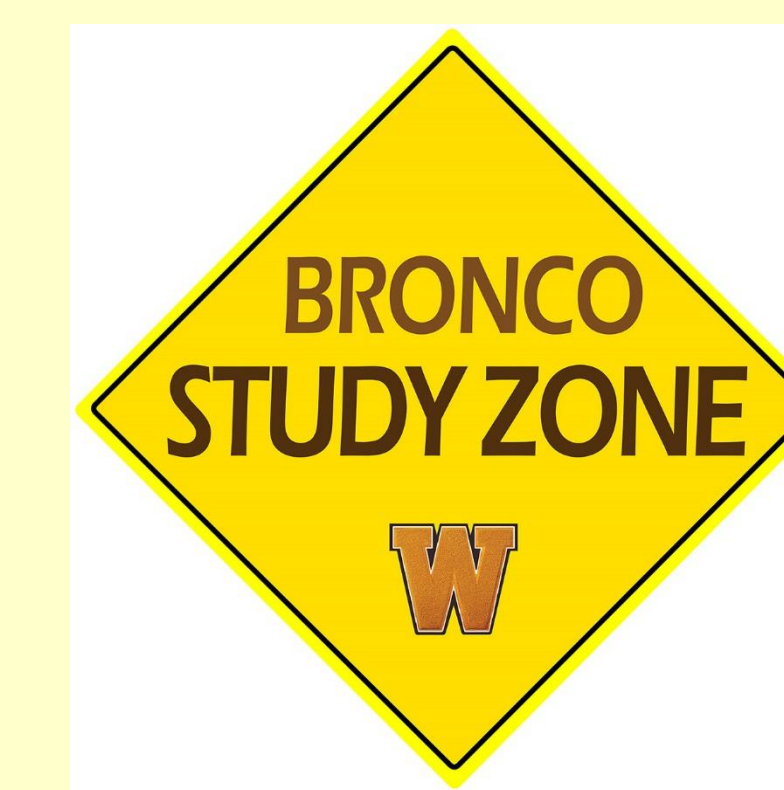


The Bronco Study Zone:

A Collaborative Initiative to Promote Positive Study Habits

Katie Easley, Director of Student Success Services, College of Arts and Sciences
Chris Robinson, Assistant Director of Haworth College of Business Advising
Kim Ballard, Director of Writing Center
Carol Adams-Shearer and Rosie Capps, Graduate Students



Introduction

- More support services and programs needed to reach university retention goals
- The Bronco Study Zone (BSZ) initially established to support dismissed/readmitted students and students on probation

Objectives

- Provide a comfortable learning environment
- Encourage development of positive study habits for at-risk students
- Support faculty through efficient management of mandatory study hours
- Provide drop-in tutoring in high-fail courses
- Improve graduation rates

First Steps

Presented idea at Provost Council Meeting

- Presented idea as last slide on a retention PowerPoint to gauge initial reaction
- Idea was positively received

Called together a first collaboration meeting

- Meeting was well-attended by advising directors, deans, Vice Provost, Director of Academic Success Programming and advisors

Space in Waldo Library was offered

- Dr. Joseph Reish, Dean of University Libraries, offered space in Waldo Library, the main library on campus

Collaboration

Library Staff

- Designed and donated artwork, brochures, signage and other printed material

College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

- Installed software for card-swipe to track usage

Provost's Office

- Provided small initial budget

Haworth College of Business and College of Arts and Sciences

- Moved furniture, decorated space and created operational framework



Diversity and Inclusion Grant

- Won grant to support academically underprepared students
- Hired and trained 6 tutors
- Incorporated CAS Peer Coaching Program into the space
- Created dedicated website
- Expanded open hours
 - Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.
 - Sunday 7 p.m. to midnight

Spring 2015 to End of Semester

- Will administer a faculty/staff survey
- Will run a focus group to gauge effectiveness
- Will hold college success seminars in area

Challenges

- Chris and Katie starting project while working full-time jobs
- Staffing space using volunteers-sometimes not dependable
- Creating belief in the sustainability of a grassroots effort
- Deciding on appropriate “ownership” for the space

Results and Developments

- Space designed initially for probation students but was used voluntarily by non-probation students
- Fall 2014: used over 2700 times by 615 students
- Positive anecdotal feedback and interest from faculty/students/staff
- College of Arts and Sciences decided to fund full-time manager of BSZ for 2015-16

Going Forward

- More colleges and programs requiring use of the space for structured study hours
- More collaboration is taking place across University
- Vision to expand the space with more services

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