

2024-25 Student Affairs Annual Report

Brief Overview

The 2024-2025 academic year presented Student Affairs with several opportunities to enhance the success of our students through collaborative work across campus. This synergistic approach infuses student success university wide. We boldly embarked on restructuring first year student orientation by creating engaging June & July summer orientation sessions that focus on the students' academic life while maintaining the much-loved community-building excitement of move-in and orientation programming in August. In January we accelerated our strategic reorganization of student success offices, programming, and services to expand the reach of the Waino Wahtera Center for Student Success. With this reorganization, we aligned outreach, mentoring, and student success efforts to be available to all students while placing emphasis on first-generation and low-income students. An exciting new initiative which will unite all areas of Student Affairs is our curricular approach to programming and services. A core team within Student Affairs has worked diligently since July 2024 to create an educational priority and framework that will guide us in our delivery of student success initiatives and programs. This Student Affairs Framework is based on the University values of possibilities, scholarship, community, accountability, tenacity, and leadership. The Framework establishes the following as our educational priority: ***By participating in the Student Affairs Experience, students will develop self awareness through personal growth. They will thrive amid change and engage thoughtfully with others as lifelong learners.***

Highlights from each area not mentioned elsewhere in this annual report include the following (specific metrics can be found in Appendix A):

Academic & Community Conduct

- Successfully hired a coordinator of community conduct.
- Implemented new registered student organization conduct policy and procedures.
- Worked with the University Senate to approve updated academic integrity policy and procedures.
- Collaborated with Transportation Services to initiate Can the Citation, a program that raised 700 pounds of food for the HuskyFAN food pantry in exchange for \$2,395 worth of parking citations.

Career Services

- Successfully expanded team by hiring four new staff.
- Collaborated across campus to double the number of employers in the Career Services Partner Program, enhance accessibility at career events, increase programming for international students, and support events in other areas (GM Energy Day, Design Expo, CFRES Fair, Cultural Resources Management Fair).
- Established record number of employers at Fall 2024 Career Fair (386), realized a 3% YoY increase in student attendance, held over 700 individual student appointments, and announced Michigan Tech's highest placement rate ever (94.6%) while securing the highest knowledge rate (85.9%).
- Expanded social media presence to focus on student-facing content, leading to a significant boost in followers

Center for Student Mental Health & Well-being

- Secured triage position to cover initial assessment appointments and walk-in coverage.
- Successfully transitioned to a treatment model approach.
- Re-engaged with the JED Campus strategic plan and organized team to continue the environmental scan process.
- Created mental health/well-being courses to offer as part of the Essential Education curriculum.

Dean of Students - Student Development

- Successfully secured the 30x60 Barrier Removal Grant to help students in need
- Implemented CampusESP to improve Parent Communication
- Updated the attendance policy
- Supported more than 1600 students in crisis situations

International Programs & Services

- Created *The International Husky*, a weekly digest that features information on immigration and campus and community resources and events.
- Initiated visa services assistance to all international students that have been admitted to MTU to answer questions regarding visa interviews and admissions.
- Provided guidance for creating more robust and safe faculty-led study abroad programs.
- Partnered with Angel Mission and the Salvation Army to give away winter coats to over 100 students.

Student Leadership & Involvement

- Launched a new council structure to enhance communication and collaboration with student organizations.
- Integrated and streamlined support and resources for student organizations previously associated in other areas of Student Affairs
- Earned the achievement of a 2024 Most Engaged Campus for Student Voting, a two-year designation.

Wahtera Center for Student Success

- **Academic Success** — Addressed over 500 academic concerns, connecting with 59% of the students within 3-5 business of receiving a concern.
- **Student Support & Mentorship** — Successfully reorganized to focus on first-generation and low income students; supported 13 students through the MiCUP summer research program; mentored 20 first-year students in the Husky Connect program.

Top 5 Accomplishments

- First Year Student Retention rate—all time high of 88.7%
- Career Outcomes
 - 94.6% placement within 6 months
 - \$75,242 average starting salary
- Student Affairs Curriculum Approach (2023-24 goal) - ?? maybe continue this as a goal for next year
- Student Outreach & Support - AIT
 - While the number of incoming reports of concern almost tripled from 128 in fall to 372 in spring, AIT staff reduced the time of response significantly. 64% of spring concern reports were addressed within 3-5 business days, compared to only 43% being addressed within 3-5 days during fall semester.
- Living and Learning communities
 - Due to stronger connections and increased collaboration with academic units, the living learning communities in the residence hall are thriving.
 - The Pavlis community will expand to occupy more than 50% of West McNair.
 - The First-Gen STEM Living Community will be offered for the coming year.
 - Conversations have begun with the College of Business to discuss a LLC.
 - Computer Science Living Community was renamed Computing Living Community to better represent the College of Computing.

Goals & Initiatives for 2025-2026

- Launch Student Affairs Curriculum Approach
- Engage with parents as partners through CampusESP and evaluate user engagement to improve communications.
- Expand and streamline opportunities for employer-student engagement through boutique career fairs, initiatives focused on increasing student awareness of Michigan-based career opportunities, and leveraging Career Services expertise to enhance service delivery of career-focused events across campus.
- Identify and initiate conversations with 3-5 potential stakeholders regarding the health promoting campus (Okanagan Charter) initiative. This goal will carry over into future academic years.
- Explore the possibility of implementing a Student Disability Services Student Advisory Board by the spring semester.

Challenges/Obstacles to Success

Metrics

The Division of Student Affairs continues to support students in a number of ways through our individual departments.

Program/Initiative	2024-2025 Number of Students Served (unless otherwise indicated)	2023-2024 Number of Students Served (unless otherwise indicated)	2022-2023 Number of Students Served (unless otherwise indicated)
Dean of Students Office			
Student Support Cases	287	520	460
Absences	1157	1270	1378
Student Withdrawal	100	103	110
Late Drop Requests/Approvals	39	46/33	40/30
Emergency Fund Requests	25	52	53
Emergency Funds disbursed	15,000	\$10,388	\$6229
HuskyFAN Food Pantry	7676 pounds distributed	7162 pounds distributed	5887 pounds distributed
HuskyFAN Donations	\$6331	\$16,333	\$8710

Early Intervention Team Cases	52	94	58
Student of Concern Reports	252	252	141
General Concern/Complaint Reports	54	50	38
Center for Student Mental Health & Well-being			
In-person individual & group appointments	3824	3825	3609
In-person unique students	695	667	651
In-person emergency contacts	116	125	75
TELUS appointments	214	320	292
TELUS unique students	160	179	179
TELUS emergency contact	23	22	16
Health & Well-being programming attendees (not unique)	13391	14917	9097
Mental Health First Aid participants (includes faculty & staff)	77	94	—
Question/Persuade/Refer participants (includes faculty & staff)	288	283	—
Career Services			
Fall Career Fair	4042	3926	3335
Spring Career Fair	1162	1381	1202
Student Appointments	863	590	500

Summer Co-op	110	124	120
Fall Co-op	100	128	159
Spring Co-op	58	83	135
Academic & Community Conduct			
Academic Conduct Cases	119	108	289
Community Conduct Cases	345	399	258
Sexual Misconduct Cases	35	34 (supportive measures only, no formal or informal process cases)	12
International Programs & Services			
Undergraduate Students	34	55	46
Graduate Students	713	699	700
Alumni (through OPT program)	280	455	374
Scholars	29	57	28
Study Abroad (including faculty-led) participants	128	169	66
Student Leadership & Involvement			
Undergraduate students in an RSO	53%	49%	—
Graduate students in an RSO	38%	40%	—
Student Activity Fee funds spent	\$374,686	\$365,570	—
Afternoon on the Town participants	821	1024	—
Make a Difference Day participants	541	501	—

Community service volunteers	1136	966	830
Community service hours	16,736	14,920	14,098
Fraternity & Sorority participants	612	558	472
Fraternity & Sorority philanthropy dollars raised	\$33,923	\$54,775	\$50,995
Wahtera Center for Student Success			
Orientation Participants Fall, Total	1569	1806	1612
Orientation Participants Spring, Total	25	41	45
EXSEL Participants	92	77	84
Disability Services - New student cases	368	249	187
Success Coach Meetings, Fall	600	290	870
Success Coach Meetings, Spring	448	253	482
Midterm Outreach, Fall	103	94	132
Midterm Outreach, Spring	Not available	144	142