Student Personal Profile Page

Kurt Collins  
*CSUSB*, kcollins@csusb.edu

Sharon Pierce  
*CSUSB*, sharon.pierce@csusb.edu

Lynn Diaz-Rico  
*CSUSB*, diazrico@csusb.edu

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High Impact Practices in Student Advising using Student-created Profile page

1. **Student-created Profile Page Purpose:**

Students are getting lost in the Higher Education Advising structure, students with special or unusual challenges are dropping out at a much higher rate. To rectify this issue, we propose to give voice to important student backstory issues by:

1. Encouraging students to create a personal profile web page
2. Modify and enhance the page to best create a “Statement of Me” history, goals, aspirations
3. Make students aware of campus clubs and organizations that support their goals
4. Create legacy documents mapping the path to graduation

Each student will create a web page that is a “Statement of Me” upon their first touch with the University generally the summer SOAR program. The thing that makes this approach different is the student will do most of the work with photographs and videos. The page will have a predetermined format so that it is easy to explain and easy to use. We want the student to begin
with a simple exercise, upload a selfie taken at that moment, upload to the page their three most important images from their phone. The rationale, every student has a phone and on that phone are their most-treasured images, these images could be their family, their pet, their car, their friends; whatever it is, the faculty or advisor will instantly know this student better. In the next section we want short succinct statement “What is unique about my family” (character limited) Here we would hope to learn that the student has a single parent, or younger siblings the student cares for, that they work two jobs or that they haven’t enough to eat. The next section will allow the student to show their personal aspirations. The section “What are your aspirations?” will request the student do a quick internet search selecting four images showing what they want for their future. This we expect to be more difficult to understand but being so will allow the Advisor to ask, “How do these images show what you want for your future?” Maybe the images are of a small village and the student says, “this is the place I was born, and I want to go back there after I graduate to show what I have made of myself”. Maybe the image is of the supreme court of the US and the student says I want to be a lawyer and argue a case at the Supreme Court”. Maybe the image is of a sand beach and the student says “ I want to be a successful business person that will never have to worry about money” The point is that the student has set goals for themselves here and they are sharing those goals with their advisor or faculty member.

The last section is probably not something they are going to populate the first time on their page, this section named “Pivotal Moments” will have images from important points in their life, some may be in the past, but many more hopefully are over the course of their education. Maybe a speaker that was on campus that changed the direction of their beliefs or studies. Maybe it is a photo of a test from a particularly challenging course, we see this as mileposts on their academic journey. We thought we would like the Pivotal Moments to be archival, the student could continue to add images to the section that show new directions or refinement of a vision.

The student will know that the profile page will not be publicly disseminated, it is a page only viewable by them and their faculty and/or advisor. The page is a living document marking their progress through the University.

2. **Student Profile’s Impact:**

Students will know their Profile Page will be part of all advising documentation:

1. Ease discussions of personal nature that impact the student’s education, goals and performance.
2. Create a living document that maps the student’s progress for them and the faculty/advisor.

3. **Process of Student Profile Page Development:**

1. The project was conceived originally as an e-portfolio project, it was quickly discovered that vendor-imposed cost and limitation made the e-portfolio a less-than-ideal platform for this project.
2. A web prototype of the idea for the page was created and presented to Digital Transformation section of Information Technology. The project was considered for several weeks then declined.
The reason cited for the decline was the fear that the project would duplicate similar efforts being conducted by the office of undergraduate studies.

3. The team set up and a meeting with the team from Undergraduate studies. The idea was to get input to find if the project was redundant to projects being undertaken by Undergraduate studies, specifically EAP (Early Assessment Program). The meeting went forward and it was determined that the Student Profile Page Project was very different than the EAP project and would complement efforts to make advising more effective. The Undergraduate Studies office would discuss how to proceed.

4. The Office of Undergraduate Studies determined the project “too big a lift” for their office, suggested that we go back to Digital Transformation to proceed.

5. Met with Director of Digital Transformation to determine next steps to go forward with Student Profile Page Project. We had originally met with Digital Transformation and after initial steps designing and developing the page we were sent to Undergraduate Studies Office. Now that the project was determined to be outside the scope of the Undergraduate Studies Office scope of abilities we were sent back to Digital Transformation. The director of Digital Transformation said that he would meet with the director of Peoplesoft to determine how permissions would be handled. These permissions would allow the Student Profile Page to be seen by faculty and professional advisors and faculty directly instructing the student.

6. Project awaiting Peoplesoft approval.

4. **Student Profile Contents:**
   1. Professor Sharon Pierce will discuss the “Statement of Me” discussing the idea that the student would use three pictures on their phone to show who they are.
   2. Professor Lynne Diaz-Rico will discuss the “Aspirational section” Discussing how using images found on the internet or their phone helps them visualize where their future lies.
   3. Professor Kurt Collins will discuss the section of the Student Personal Web Page where the student identifies different campus groups they may be interested in and creates a path by which they can become involved with the campus community.

5. **Storage of Student Profile:**
   1. Stored in Campus database
   2. Accessed via MyCoyote, University Portal with credential authentication provided via PeopleSoft
   3. Projected page storage needs/student) Currently the storage requirements indicate a storage need of less than 50 MB per student.
   4. Projected institutional storage requirements. University would need approximately 150 GB of additional storage per academic year cohort.

2. **Assessment of Student Profile Page**
   1. Survey of faculty/advisors
      - Assessing ease of use and effectiveness
   2. Survey of students
      - Assessing ease of use and effectiveness
   3. Survey of ITS/Web staff
      - Assessing storage requirements and call desk problems related to the page.