

Student Success Collaborative (SSC)

Faculty Mentor Role

There are three distinct roles that faculty may have in the Student Success Collaborative (SSC). Each of these have different sorts of access and training:

1. *General faculty* role for any professor teaching undergraduate students with limited information on students in assigned course
2. *Faculty mentor* role for any faculty member designated by the chair to serve in this role with access to all students
3. *Deans, Chairs and UPD* role with access to all students and robust reporting features

This document will explain the Faculty mentor role in-depth.

One of the hallmarks of Baylor is the relationship between faculty and students. *Faculty mentors* will simply be singled out more publically as faculty members who are happy to meet with undergraduate students in your majors (or even students exploring your academic programs).

SSC and Faculty Mentors: Last fall, Baylor began an exciting venture to deepen its commitment to building out the coordinated care network on campus, thereby helping more students graduate in four years. SSC is a platform currently being used by professional advisors, NSE instructors, staff members in the Success Center and more to help students develop the best path to graduation. Now, we would like to bring *faculty mentors* into the platform in order to facilitate the wonderful work they do in providing intellectual mentorship and guidance in career/ graduate school goals. All of these efforts are designed to contribute to our ability to serve our students in increasingly efficient ways. In particular, we want to use SSC and the new *faculty mentor* role to help students find a best fit major as soon as possible so that each can graduate in four years. You can read more about the benefits of the SSC [here](#).

Professional Advisors and Faculty Mentors: Several years ago, a sub-committee of the Advising Leadership Council met to delineate what faculty mentoring looks like at Baylor and recommended that, “The effective partnering of faculty mentors with professional advisors will create a ‘circle of care’ for our students and increase the value of the interactions students have with both advisors and faculty mentors.” See the entire report [here](#).

Fall 2017: Beginning this fall, we are taking a step to provide a more formal designation for those faculty members in your department who are especially poised to work closely with undergraduate students as *faculty mentors*.

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There are several things to be aware of as departments consider the appropriate faculty who should serve in this role:

1. **From UAS to SSC:** Many of the features in the Unified Advising System (UAS) will no longer be available in the coming academic year. Instead, to access information on the student profile (overall GPA, major, hometown, high school, etc.), faculty will need to access this same information in SSC. In order to access this information, these faculty members need to be designated by you as a departmental *faculty mentor*.

2. **Benefit #1—Public Visibility:** Once the departmental faculty mentors are designated, it is important to note that your majors will see these names in their Bearweb account. *Faculty mentors* will also be designated on a website so that professional advisors will know where to send students who are interested in exploring your major(s). This will be very helpful in directing students to faculty who can guide them in your program(s).

3. **Benefit #2—Faculty Mentor Access:** Once your faculty are designated as *faculty mentors*, they will have access to see general information on all Baylor undergraduate students. Note that this is distinct from UAS access where a faculty member could only view majors who had been assigned to that individual faculty member. The information at faculty mentors' fingertips is robust. It will include test scores and other pre-matriculation information, an unofficial transcript, information on how "at risk" a student is, advising reports, progress reports, student participation in tutoring and other services, survey results, and more.

4. **Benefit #3—Fall Workshops:** Since these new faculty mentors will be entrusted with a lot of highly confidential information on all undergraduate students in a robust system, we strongly encourage them to take part in a workshop where they can learn what SSC does and how they can use it to support students. We will be offering two hands-on workshops presented by our SSC consultant at the following dates and times. Note that the second is a repeat session so faculty need attend only one session.

- Tuesday, September 12, 2:00-3:30 pm
- Wednesday, September 13, 3:30-5:00 pm

In addition to these workshops, we will provide a newsletter several times in the fall with ongoing resources and support. If you have any questions or would like to speak in more details about these changes in process contact **Dr. Sinda Vanderpool** (Sinda_vanderpool@baylor.edu) or **Carroll Crowson** (carroll_crowson@baylor.edu) if you need clarification on which faculty may be best suited to which roles.