

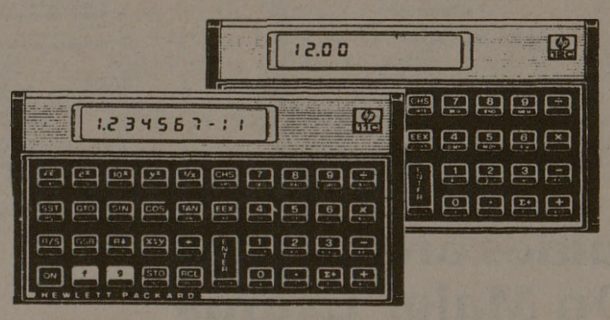
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**Peer advising**  
*Student advisers lending a hand in the counseling center*

By **ROBERT W. RIZZO**  
 Reporter

Students in the College of Business Administration are helping their peers by participating in new programs that they hope will improve study skills and get students off probation.

Through the Peer Advisor Program, a program designed to let students counsel students, juniors and seniors in the College of Business Administration are lending a hand in the counseling center.

Jackie Zander, coordinator of the peer adviser program, says "Budget restrictions have made the hiring of more administrative advisers cost preventive, so we decided to recruit students to help with the growing work load."

About 150 peer advisers participate in three programs: a prospective students program, a registration assistance program and a study skills workshop. All three were initiated in Fall 1985, but some will be tried for the first time this semester.

The prospective students program allows students who are considering entering the business college a chance to speak with students already enrolled.

Ralph Beasley, a peer adviser, says he thinks students get intimidated. "I've gotten a lot out of this school, and if possible, I'd like to give something back," he says.

In addition to helping prospective students, the peer advisers in the registration assistance program do some counseling under Zander's supervision.

Pat Hoffman, a peer adviser, says he really doesn't do much advising.

"The students usually know what



Photo by ANTHONY S. CASP...  
 Amy Dawson (left), a senior marketing major from La Marque and Jeff Zaruba, a senior accounting major from Sealy, conduct a workshop on how to survive BANA 217.

they want, all they really need is some support, he says."

Hoffman says the size of the business department often leaves students feeling like just another number.

And students who think they are just another number on probation can get help through the study skills program.

Peer advisers will be helping students on scholastic probation make their grades by giving them study hints. The program will get its first try at mid-term.

To create a better understanding between the peer advisers and students on probation, it's required that all the advisers must have been on probation themselves, Zander says.

"I feel that sometimes the best knowledge of a course is acquired through the mistakes a person has made in the past," Zander says.

She also said students often feel it's easier to relate to a person that didn't make an A in the class.

In the workshop, the peer advisers suggest ways to study for courses

they have already finished and falls to avoid.

Zander says many first-year students must learn new study or face scholastic probation.

Zander hopes to begin recruiting more students for the program at the end of April and send out letters asking for volunteers.

"The big picture is studying more and being less impersonal and people-oriented than just a number," Zander says.

**Business workshops helping students**

By **Steve Thomas**  
 Reporter

Students are finding hints on how to survive business classes through a series of workshops presented by the Peer Advisory Committee, a group of student counselors in the College of Business Administration.

The series, appropriately named "How To Survive In . . .," is designed to help students overcome fears of mathematics, accounting, economics, finance, management and business analysis classes.

Jackie Zander, a counselor in the business college and coordinator of the workshops, says the series will emphasize personal contact because

students feel more comfortable talking with other students than with professors.

This is the first time that workshops of this type have ever been implemented through the college of business, Zander says.

The series was planned to coincide with the first round of tests in the spring semester, she says.

At the Business Analysis and Research 217, Business Data Processing Concepts workshop Thursday night, students expressed their anxieties about the computer class, and Amy Dawson, Leslie Haskins, and Jeff Zaruba, survivors of Bana 217, were there answering questions.

Dawson said the first round of

tests can be intimidating, and students "don't have any idea what's going on right now."

She said most of the questions she heard before the meeting were about tests and general information. She feels the workshops will give students a better understanding of the classes that they are in.

In the Marketing 321, Marketing workshop, peer adviser Elizabeth Thompson, a senior marketing major, said, "It helps if you read the chapter before you go to class," and she urged students to take good notes.

She also advised against waiting until the last minute to study.

"Don't ever cram," she said. "You

might as well go to bed and get a good night's sleep."

Most students asked about tests and computer program in Bana 217, and the peer advisers brought old exams with them to explain.

Students who went to the workshops found them helpful.

Mary Ann Gaas, a marketing major, said she hoped to get some help on how to handle Bana 217. She has no experience with the class.

Jan Chvatal, a business administration major, said the workshops helped calm her nerves and gave her a better understanding of the tests will be like.

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