











Heather French

Associate Vice Chancellor and Dean of Students

Brenda Ortiz

Assistant Dean for Student Advocacy and Retention

Justin Vacca

Case Manager

Sara Miller

Business Manager



DEAN OF STUDENTS

INCREASED ACCESS AND RETENTION:

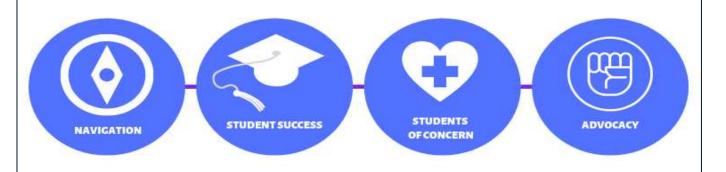
Intentional efforts to increase student access, persistence, engagement, and success.

BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS:

Developing comprehensive strategies to sustain high touch practices.

INNOVATION AND INTEGRATIVE EDUCATION:

University-wide collaboration to reach and engage all levels of students.



WE ADVOCATE. WE CONNECT. WE CARE.

Navigation:

Connect stakeholders to appropriate campus and community resources while promoting a safe, equitable, diverse, healthy, and inclusive campus community.

Student Success:

Work collaboratively to serve, support, and empower students and other members of the UC Merced community to support student success through intentional and holistic programs and initiatives. Address barriers that may impact student success.

Students of Concern:

Offers wide-ranging support to all students in times of challenge/crises or when faced with academic or socioemotional concerns.

Advocacy:

Serves as an advocate to students and their support networks in times of personal, academic, or community crisis. Provides support services and manages critical incidents and challenges impacting students and the campus community.

Dean of Students Portfolio

- Bright Success Center (Equity/Access and Transition Programs)
- Student Rights and Responsibilities (Behavioral and Academic Misconduct)
- Basic Needs (Food and Housing Insecurity Resources)
- Social Justice Initiatives (Identity Based Spaces and Programming)
- Student Accessibility Services (Academic and Housing Accommodations)
- Case Management Services (Student Response Team and Self-Referrals)



Students of Concern

The Office of the Associate Vice Chancellor and Dean of Students works with the Student Response Team (SRT) to address issues related to address academic, physical, psychological, and safety risk indicators experienced by students.

Our goal is to intervene before the student reaches a crisis level.



What to look for:

Behavioral Concerns

Interpersonal Concerns

Academic Concerns



Behavioral Concerns

- Excessive tearfulness or panic reactions
- Irritability or unusual apathy
- Verbal abuse
- Unprovoked anger or hostility
- Physical violence

Interpersonal Concerns

- + (
- Withdrawing from social situations
- Inability to get along with others
- Complaints from others
- Self-disclosure of personal distress such as family problems, financial difficulties, contemplating suicide, grief

Academic Concerns



- Sudden decline in quality of work and grades
- Repeated absences
- Disorganized performance
- Multiple requests for extensions
- Overly demanding of faculty and staff time and attention
- Written references to death, dying, or suicide
- Marked changes in physical appearance: deterioration in grooming, hygiene, or weight loss/gain
- Excessive fatigue/sleep disturbance

Filing a Student of Concern Report

If you are concerned about the welfare of a student, please submit a Students of Concern Report by going to the <u>UC Merced DOS website</u>



If the student you are creating a report for poses a threat of harm to self or others, please call the UC Merced Police Department immediately at (209) 228-2677/911.

Once a SOC/CARE Report is submitted...

DOS staff receives a notification that a new Care Report has been submitted to the Dean of Students Office.



DOS staff will send the individual who filed the report an email confirmation.



DOS staff may contact the individual who filed the report to discuss the concern and/or to request additional information.



DOS staff will send DOS outreach to the student of concern and offer support and a meeting.



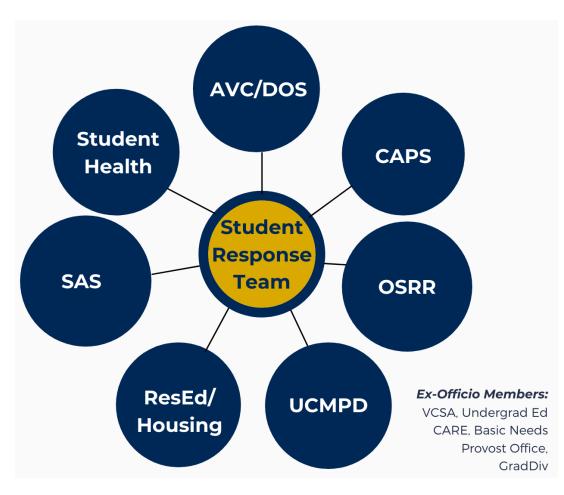
When meeting with the student, DOS staff assess need of support and develop an action plan.



CARE Report will be reviewed during Students Response Team meeting.



Student Response Team (SRT)



The Student Response Team (SRT) is a cross-functional team that assesses, refers, and/or responds to students' concerns to help them succeed academically, socially, and emotionally.



SRT Meeting Case Process

Once a concern is reported, individualized intervention strategies are developed and employed by the SRT to ensure that the student is successful.

During SRT
meetings, each case
is discussed,
allowing a space for
SRT members to
work together in
creating a plan of
action for each
student

Gather information to assess situations involving students who display at-risk or disruptive behavior

Evaluate ongoing behaviors of students who have displayed disruptive or concerning behaviors

Recommend appropriate intervention strategies or student conduct actions

Respond to a crisis situation or emergency in which there is an immediate threat of danger

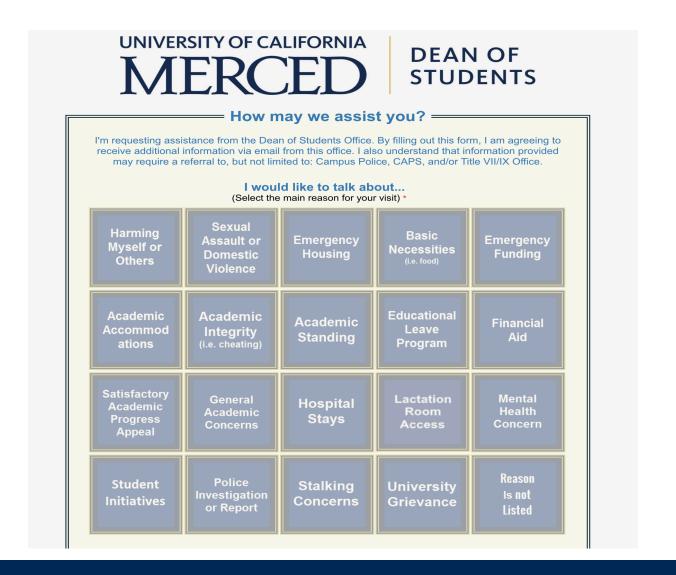
Refer students to the appropriate resource(s)

Student Self-Referrals

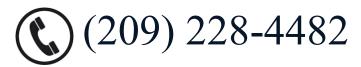
Students can submit a self-referral by going to the Dean of Students website and clicking on the icon:



Student Appointment Options



How to connect with DOS







studentaffairs.ucmerced.edu/dean-students



For student self-referrals



For all UCM and non-UCM community members



