The following briefly highlights CASA’s significant efforts and accomplishments from 2014-2015.

Advisement
All 2,000+ CASA advisees received individual, tailored advisement for the fall and spring registration periods. In addition to individualized course planning, advisement meetings address academic policies, degree exploration, and academic support services. Near the completion of their core curriculum coursework, approx. 800 second-year students formerly declared their major and transitioned to Faculty Advisors. CASA implemented three new significant advising efforts this year. First, CASA advised all incoming transfer students who had not declared a major. Second, CASA integrated and measured pre-established advising learning outcomes. Last, CASA held ten webinars for incoming first-year students and transfer students prior to the start of school. These webinars focused on academic support services, Bulletin policies and requirements, and scholastic best practices.

Academic Support Services + Programs
Approximately 465 students accounted for over 1,300 recorded tutoring instances (actual utilization higher than self-report recorded data). CASA’s Student-to-Tutor online matching system received 1,225 inquiries. In collaboration with the Arthur Lakes Library, CASA significantly expanded and further equipped the tutoring location with new furniture and computers. This expansion significantly supported CASA’s ability to adequately support large tutoring groups and further provide individual assistance. Core Supplemental Instruction (CSI) Workshops for Biology I, Chem I & II, Calc I & II and Physics I assisted approximately 1,100 students in 2014-2015 (actual utilization higher than self-reported recorded utilization). The CASA YouTube® video tutorials, as part of CSI, was further developed. 150+ videos on specific key subject competencies from the core curriculum are publicly available 24/7.

Similar to last year, 85+ students sought Academic Coaching with CASA, netting 250+ individual coaching meetings. Coaching typically necessitates individual ongoing work analogous to a clinical support model – hourly meetings held weekly for a period of three or more weeks. A variety of topics are covered including motivation, study skills, test preparation, and test anxiety.

Bounce Back
Bounce Back is an intensive academic coaching program for students working to raise their GPA. This national best practice is rooted in extant research focused on cognitive and non-cognitive skills. The program has more than doubled in enrollment. In 2014-2015, 40 students significantly raised their GPA from the previous semester; 34 raised their GPA by a full point (e.g. student went from a 1.5 GPA to a 2.5 GPA). Starting Fall 2015, Bounce Back will be a credit-bearing, free-elective course: CSM151 (1.0 credit).

Academic Programming & Collaboration
646 student participants attended our Fall & Spring Pre-Finals Workshop, netting our largest annual attendance ever. New this year, seven breakout recitations were held concurrent to the Pre-Finals Workshop; these netted 265 student attendees. In its second-year, CSM151, a credit-bearing spatial visualization course administered by CASA and taught in collaboration with AMS, saw continued success with all enrolled students demonstrating significantly improved spatial visualization and modeling ability.

CASA held numerous student academic programs with varied scope and size. 100+ students and 25 alumni attended Mines’ Connections, a successful collaborative retention program with CSM Alumni. In addition, 15+ evening workshops focused on academic success and skill-development were held in collaboration with representatives from Residence Life, Greek Life, and Student Activities.

Faculty in CASA & LAIS Writing Center
Faculty in CASA continues to successfully connect students with faculty in an alternative, student-friendly space. Faculty in CASA recorded 1166 instances of use, nearly double 2013-2014. CASA thanks Prof. Kuo (Physics), Prof. Falconer (Chemistry), Prof. Eklund (AMS), and Prof. Latici (LAIS) for their participation in the program. Thanks, as well, to Sarah Hitt for her continued partnership with the Writing Center. We are proud to announce that Faculty in CASA was awarded NACADA National Outstanding Advising Program Certificate of Merit, a national recognition from the international accrediting organization for post-secondary academic advising.

CSM101 & CSM198
CSM101 saw significant growth this year. Mentors were asked to select classes from an expansive list of choice lesson plans ranging in topic from financial literacy to digital identity and group development. These choice lesson plans were written in conjunction with 14 staff members and 14 academic faculty, making CSM101 a true university effort. All pre-established learning outcomes were met or significantly surpassed (fall course evaluation, n = 506). New next year, two inaugural sections will be offered Fall 2015 with a specialized curriculum that aims to further acclimate and support incoming transfer students (CSM198).

CASA in Numbers
21,747 (free printing requests) 927 (daytime CASA study hall use) 125+ (student employees) 22 (faculty appointments w/ CASA)

We thank Student Life, Academic Affairs, Arthur Lakes Library, Mines Writing Center, Registrars, and countless others for a great year!