

9-24-09

## Teaching and Advisement

### Facebook, Faculty and Friending:

- Interestingly, all present had Facebook accounts
- Seems students and faculty view Facebook (electronic social networking) differently.
- Question arose as to how to handle parents of students asking to “friend” you
- Facebook has its origins in mass networking. Need to ask if that is suitable for you as faculty.
- Risk of information being spread/shared to the masses
- Consider Facebook account for only your class, students, advisees, etc. Open accounts with different email addresses so professional and personal can be separate.
- We have a responsibility to teach students about professionalism and the adult working world. Conduct of teen or college student is not necessarily appropriate for adult working world.
- Story from faculty who went on to Facebook and found someone had created a fictitious account. Had to contact Facebook to have account canceled
- Key is to create separate accounts but know that Facebook’s operating agreement states each individual will only have one account/page.
- Several Adelphi groups have Facebook pages, some are sanctioned some are not. Adelphi is moving toward sanctioning Facebook pages
- Privacy settings are not that intuitive to understand. For example, when sharing images with friends, you have to go elsewhere to “check” that your friends cannot share images with others.
- Facebook has a default policy that any images you post can be used in their advertising. Stories reported that their Facebook image appeared on the Facebook page of another organization’s Facebook page.
- Freshman orientation included a session on social networking, but nothing cautionary
- Suggested that the FORE (1 credit) orientation include or revise an electronic social networking piece through Derner sessions.
- Suggested there is a generational difference regarding privacy and what to share. Also wondered if willingness to share such intimacies on an electronic social network might be developmental
- Keep in mind that what appears on Facebook, Twitter, etc. is put there by choice. It may not be true and the person who posts is posting what he/she wants you to read. Not everything is necessarily true!
- Regardless of generational perspective, we need to caution students that it will be a person from another generation who is likely to hire you.

- Today's generation is in a unique position of being an authority on technology to older generations.
- You can put limits on your Facebook page and control the content and images, but others may use technology to capture your image or comments and put them on the site.
- Was a lawsuit that Facebook lost where Facebook wanted to use any images and content for their Facebook promotions.

Submitted by Jean Harris

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