

Sample Questions for Student-Advisor Conference

- **Academic Motivation**

Study Habits:

How did you study when you were in high school?

Do you prefer to study with someone or alone?

Do you like to study in a quiet place or do you prefer to have music or TV in the background?

Describe how you would normally prepare for a test?

Intellectual Interests:

Do you like to read?

What's the latest book you have read?

Do you enjoy surfing the Internet?

What kinds of information do you find most intriguing on the Internet?

Math/Science and Verbal Confidence:

What were your best/worst subjects (in high school)?

Was it easy to maintain your grades in high school?

What did you do in high school when you found areas that were more challenging than you had anticipated?

Are there any areas you anticipate will be challenging to you in college?

Desire to Finish College:

When did you decide that you wanted to go to college?

When did you start making applications to college?

Did you ever consider doing something other than going to college?

What do you hope to do when you finish college?

Attitude Toward Educators:

Who was your favorite teacher in high school? Why?

Did your teachers challenge you intellectually?

Did you get to know the administrators in your high school very well?

Would you say that, in general, the teachers and administrators were supportive of the students?

- **General Coping Skills:**

Sociability:

What are the social activities you enjoyed most in high school?
Are any of your friends from high school enrolled at SUNY Cortland?
What did you enjoy most about Orientation?
Are there clubs or organizations you want to become a part of this year?

Family Emotional Support:

We just talked about your transition to college; what kind of transition has it been for your parents to have a college student? Or did you have older brothers and sisters who have attended college?
What are the greatest challenges you think your parents will face with you in college –distance from home, different schedule, missing you, other?
Did they want you to go to college closer to home?
Do your parents want you to live on campus (if close enough to live at home?)

Opinion Tolerance:

Do you have the same political and/or religious views as your parents?
Does this ever cause a problem for you?
Do you have definitive thoughts about gun control (or other issues)?
Were there issues you encountered in your high school classes that challenged your own points of view?

Career Closure:

Have you thought about your academic major at this point?
How did you choose this major?
What do you hope to be able to do with this major when you graduate?
Are there other areas you have thought about exploring?

Sense of Financial Security:

Are you finding college to be more/less expensive than you thought?
Were there any expenses you had not anticipated in planning for your college education?
Have you and your parents been working with our financial aid office?
Are you working or do you plan to work while you are in college?

- **Receptivity Scales:**

Academic Assistance:

Have you ever encountered assignments that you found difficult or even “impossible” to complete?

Where did you go for help with these assignments in high school?

Did your high school offer tutoring services to students who had difficulty with their coursework? Did you use those services?

Would you seek tutoring if you encountered difficulty in your classes here or would you seek help from a classmate first?

Personal Counseling:

Have you encountered problems with your friends and classmates in high school, where did you go for help in resolving the problems?

Did your high school offer personal counseling services? And what did these services consist of?

Did you friends and classmates use the services?

Are you aware of the services we have available here should you or your friends ever need the services?

Social Enrichment:

Have you met a lot of people since you arrived?

Do you plan to stay in close contact with your friends from home?

Would you like to learn about ways to meet more students here?

Would you like someone to contact you about getting involved in more social activities here at the college?

Career Counseling:

Did your high school counselor meet with you to talk about your career choices?

Have you ever taken any aptitude tests to find out what careers you’re best suited for?

Are you aware of the career services we have here?

Would you like to have someone from that office contact you this semester?

Financial Guidance:

Do you have anxiety about issues concerning money?

Would you be interested in discussing financial concerns with a financial aid counselor?

Final Questions:

Does this profile describe you accurately?

Does it look like you?

Are the recommendations helpful?

Are there changes you would make in this profile?