

# Implementation of an Early Alert System and Impact on Student Success

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# Overview

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- How Early Alert works at MU
- Early Alert Flags
- Faculty Interaction with Early Alert
- Communication to Students
- Response

# How Early Alert works at MU

## MU CONNECT

MU Connect is a student tracking, early alert, appointment scheduling and retention application that supports student success and engagement

Item Name	Status	C
 In Danger of Failing Context: SSC 1150: College Success Seminar (Lect/Stand) (FS2022.SSC.1150.07)	Resolved	1
 In Danger of Failing Context: PLNT_SCI 3270: Forage Crops (Lect/Stand) (FS2022.PLNT_SCI.3270.01)	Resolved	1
 In Danger of Failing Context: CHEM 2100: Organic Chemistry I (Lect/Stand) (FS2022.CHEM.2100.01)	Resolved	1
 Low Exam Score Context: HIST 1100: Survey of American History to 1865 (Discussion) (FS2022.HIST.1100.02E)	Resolved	1
 Missing Assignment Context: HIST 1100: Survey of American History to 1865 (Discussion) (FS2022.HIST.1100.02E)	Resolved	1
 In Danger of Failing Context: MATH 1100: College Algebra (Lect/Stand) (FS2022.MATH.1100.01)	Resolved	1
 In Danger of Failing Context: MATH 1100: College Algebra (Lect/Stand) (FS2022.MATH.1100.30)	Resolved	1
 In Danger of Failing Context: FINPLN 2183: Personal and Family Finance (Lect/Stand) (FS2022.FINPLN.2183.03)	Resolved	1
 Participation Concern Context: NAT_R 4110: Natural Resource Biometrics (Lect/Stand) (FS2022.NAT_R.4110.01)	Resolved	1
 In Danger of Failing Context: MATH 1100: College Algebra (Lect/Stand) (FS2022.MATH.1100.01)	Resolved	1



# How Early Alert works at MU

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1. Faculty raise flags based on academic information in Canvas
2. Students get notified of flags raised
3. Academic advisors reach out to students with flags
4. Faculty or advisors “resolve” flags based on student response




# Flag Types

- ▣ In Danger of Failing
- ▣ Low Exam Score
- ▣ Missing Assignment
- ▣ Participation/Attendance Concern
- ▣ **6 or More Academic Flags Raised**
  
- ▣ Kudos

 In Danger of Failing

Context: PLNT\_SCI 3270: Forage Crops (Lect/Stand) (FS2022.PLNT\_SCI.3270.01)

 Low Exam Score


Context: ABM 1041: Applied Microeconomics (Lect/Stand) (FS2022.ABM.1041.01)

 Missing Assignment

Context: NEP 1034: Introduction to Human Nutrition (Lect/Stand) (FS2022.NEP.1034.01)

 Attendance Concern

Context: ABM 1120: Population, Environment and Sustainability (Lect/Stand)  
(FS2022.ABM.1120.01)

 Keep up the Good Work

Context: FOREST 4320: Forest Ecology (Lect/Stand) (FS2022.FOREST.4320.01)

# Faculty Interaction

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- **Progress Reports – weeks 4 & 8**
- Ability to raise a flag at any time
- Use template or personalized comments with a flag
- Kudos



# CAFNR Advising Communication

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- Notify
  - 1) Automated Notification
  - 2) CAFNR Advising Email
- Academic Dates/Deadlines
- Prompt to Action

«First»,

Your instructor reported a concern with your current grade in (    ). How can I help you navigate this semester with any challenges you are facing?

The last day to drop a 16-week course without a grade is **Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>**. I hope you will visit with me or your advisor as soon as possible because there are more options available earlier in the semester.

To schedule an appointment with me, please [click here](#).

Sincerely,  
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# Response

Spring 22 FLAGS	# Flags*
Completed- Concern successfully addressed	79
Partially Completed- Contact made	13
No Reply From Student	447
Mistake- Flag raised by mistake	3
Auto-cleared based on data (6 or more flags)	13
Auto-cleared when enrollment ended	88
Closed in bulk by tenant admin (flags with no outreach – other academic units)	143
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>786</b>
*CAFNR students only; any course	





# Goals and Adaptations

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- Clarity on flag clearing process
- Tracking student follow-through
- Focus on urgent academic flags



Tier	Description	Flags Included	Action/Expectation
<b>Tier 1: Informational</b>	<p>Flags communicate concern to student and inform the student's network of low-level concerns.</p> <p>Students receive an automated email message when flags are raised.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attendance Concern</li> <li>• Missing Assignment</li> <li>• Participation Concern</li> </ul>	<p>No action required, but these flags inform conversations with the student.</p> <p>Flags are cleared on the first business day of each month.</p>
<b>Tier 2: Student at risk</b>	<p>Flags indicate that the student's performance puts them at risk.</p> <p>Students receive an automated email message when flags are raised.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low Exam Score</li> <li>• Poor Class Performance</li> <li>• New Student Check-In Academic Concern</li> </ul>	<p>Staff in Athletics, TRiO, CASE, and the Learning Center send an additional outreach message within 7 days.</p>
<b>Tier 3: Urgent</b>	<p>Flags indicate that the student is at severe risk and urgent intervention required.</p> <p>Students receive an automated email message when flags are raised.*</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Danger of Being Dropped</li> <li>• In Danger of Failing</li> <li>• Student Flagged 6 Times – Academic*</li> </ul>	<p>Staff in Academic Units reach out as soon as possible, ideally within 3-4 days.</p>



# Retention and Graduation Data

## GOAL 2: Student Success – Retention

<u>Term</u>	<u>CAFNR</u>	<u>MU</u>
Fall 2017	90.7%	87.3%
Fall 2018	89.0%	87.9%
Fall 2019	87.3%	89.4%
Fall 2020	89.6%	88.4%
Fall 2021	89.5%	88.6%

Retained at MU for second year

## First-time College (FTC) Graduation Rate (by cohort)

<u>FTC Cohort</u>	<u>4-yr</u>	<u>MU</u>	<u>6-yr</u>	<u>MU</u>
Fall 2012	52.4%	46.0%	74.4%	69.2%
Fall 2013	55.3%	48.3%	75.1%	71.3%
Fall 2014	60.8%	50.5%	77.6%	73.1%
Fall 2015	62.0%	51.5%	77.1%	72.5%
Fall 2016	62.8%	55.0%	77.3%	75.3%
Fall 2017	68.3%	56.4%		
Fall 2018	60.8%	55.7%		

MU SEM goal: 55% in 4-yrs | 74% in 6-yrs  
 NEP & PFP included starting with fall 2018 cohort

# Q&A

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