

P2 Integrating Career and Academic Advising: From Theory to Practice

According to national surveys, one of the major reasons students attend college is the hope of getting a better job. However, when asked to describe that “better job” students are often not able to articulate what they are seeking and are not clear about the best place to get assistance. To assist students in clarifying career goals and developing academic plans to support these goals, many colleges and universities are integrating academic and career advising. There is no one size fits all model for integrating academic and career advising, and the mission and culture of the institution must be considered in determining the most effective approach. However, there are some basic underlying concepts that need to be considered for any individual or institution considering this integration.

The goal of the workshop is to provide participants with these underlying concepts and specific examples of how career advising can be integrated into their work with students. Through mini lectures, activities, and discussions participants will review the need for integration, examine the definitions and conceptual foundations for career and academic advising, and review the similarities and differences between the two. In addition, programmatic components and strategies for both individual and collaborative informal approaches to integrating academic and career advising will be described. Formal integration options will also be presented as well as challenges and recommendations for the integration of academic and career advising. Participants will then begin the development of a personal action plan to integrate career and academic advising.