

MY LEADERSHIP JOURNEY

Name:

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Institution:

Colorado State University

Institution Location:

Fort Collins, CO

Years Advising: **8**

Years in NACADA: **6**

Tell us about your journey to your first NACADA leadership position.

My journey to my first NACADA leadership position was a slow build over time. I was a NACADA member for four years prior to the election cycle in which I ran for an advising community chair position. First, I started out with small volunteer positions such as reading proposals for the Annual Conference and Global Awards. Next, I became involved in the activities of my advising community, such as their mentorship program, which became a springboard for joining the advising community steering committee. Finally, I ran for the chair position. Starting with small volunteer opportunities allowed me to learn more about NACADA and to get my feet wet before fulling diving in.

What advice do you have for someone considering running for an elected position?

Being an active participant in a community can help you get to know many people. Being connected to my advising community for a few years helped me feel more confident in running for an elected position. I also learned about the structure of NACADA and its three divisions by volunteering for a few different types of roles. Knowing about the organization has helped me to understand my role in the organization and where I can turn to others for ideas and assistance. Finally, if you are interested in running for an elected position, do it! There are many opportunities out there, and we need committed individuals to keep NACADA moving forward.

How has being a NACADA leader made a difference in your life?

I credit being a NACADA leader with being able to meet so many different members and build more community with other advisors who hold similar roles to my own. Getting to know other advising community members and meeting people at the Annual Conference is the best part of being a chair. I have been able to collaborate with other members on conference presentations and publications and lead networking sessions at the Region 10 Conference. Now I know a lot more people around NACADA as a whole and feel more comfortable getting involved with different projects too.

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS HELD:

- 2023** — 2023-2026, Chair of the Advising Community on Graduate and Professional Students
- 2022** — 2022-2024, Leader, Emerging Leaders Program
- 2021** — 2021-2023, Steering Committee Member for the Advising Community on Graduate and Professional Students, Co-Chair of the Mentoring Subcommittee
- 2020** — Reviewer for Annual Conference Proposals
- 2019** — Reviewer for Global Awards