

MY LEADERSHIP JOURNEY

Name:

Thomas Shelly

Institution:

Oregon State University

Institution Location:

Corvallis, Oregon

Years Advising: **4**

Years in NACADA: **4**

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I got involved with NACADA while I was completing my internship hours at Linfield University in McMinnville, Oregon. So, technically, I was a NACADA member prior to becoming an advisor. I was encouraged by my supervisor at the time to submit a proposal for the 2020 Region 8 Conference "the best conference that never happened". The work of submitting the proposal was a lot of work, but very fulfilling and while it wasn't accepted and the conference didn't happen--it was my first formative experience with NACADA. I was brand new to the academic advising as a career and was looking for ways to network and become part of something bigger than myself.

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My advice for anyone who is considering running is to jump in! NACADA is a place where you can find a way to get involved. Even if it isn't as big as being on the ballot. I ran twice (unsuccessfully) for elected roles before I held a position! In the meantime, I found ways to assist with conference planning and attended virtual and in-person conferences to build my network. It can feel really intimidating to jump in and network or run for a seat that you're uncertain about. Ultimately, you need to do some introspection and see what aligns with your personal and professional goals!

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There have been innumerable memories in my time with NACADA that I look fondly on. I think a highlight is coordinating our Region 8 Learning Partnership Program. It reminds me of my time as a classroom teacher. The amount of reciprocal learning and growing that is done with participants and facilitators is what NACADA is at its core. We implemented monthly cohort meetings this past year and it was amazing to see so many Learning Partners join each month to discuss our monthly topics.

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS HELD:

2024

- 2024-2026: Region 8 Chair--first time winning an election for a seat!
- First time guest hosting the Adventures in Advising Podcast

2023

- 2023-2024: LGBTQIA+ Advising Community Steering Committee
- Region 8 Learning Partnership Program Coordinator
- Presented for the first time on a panel at the Region 8 & 9 Conference
- Attended first in-person Regional Conference in Las Vegas

2022

- Evaluations Co-Chair: National Conference
- Attended first in-person National Conference in Portland, Oregon
- Branding Committee Co-Chair: Region 8 Conference
- Presented my first "R8 Talk" webinar
- First time as a guest on the Adventures in Advising Podcast
- 2022-2023: Region 8 Learning Partnership Program Co-coordinator
- 2022-2024: Oregon Liaison -- appointed into role in 2022!

2021

- Attended first virtual Region 8 NACADA Conference
- Participated in the Region 8 Learning Partnership Program 2021-2022 Cohort

2019

- Submitted first region conference proposal