

2015-2016 Commission/Interest Group Report

Name of Chair: Dana Hebreard

Name of Commission/Interest Group: Small Colleges and Universities

Mission: NACADA promotes student success by advancing the field of academic advising globally. We provide opportunities for professional development, networking, and leadership for our diverse membership.

Executive Summary: It was a great week of learning, networking, and camaraderie in Las Vegas, Nevada. There was a record number of attendees at the national conference and the Small Colleges and Universities Commission did see an uptick in participation. Unfortunately, that participation has not resulted in an increase in participation outside of the conference. This will be a continued goal for 2016-2017 to increase activity for the commission.

The commission/interest group fair was great! We won for best display. The certificate that we received was given out at the group meeting to one of the members. The commission/interest group meeting for the small colleges & universities went well. It was helpful to have past commission chairs (Rob, Lizette, and Tracy) represented. It was also wonderful to have the new chair, Wiona, at the meeting. I think that seamless transition will help the group become stronger.

One colleague (Thanks, Kris!) said “Being from a small university, and in charge of the budget for my area, I struggle with deciding to spend the money to attend meetings. Within the first 15 minutes of the pre-conference session I attended, I knew that I NEEDED to be there. I can get stuck on the day-to-day demands of the job and do not always take the time for professional development. I have so many ideas of how to share with the 150 faculty advisors on my campus.” The general meetings (keynotes) were amazing!

The group has continued to maintain a Facebook page and Twitter. (Thanks, Wiona!) called NACADA Small Colleges and Universities Commission. There is also a growing steering committee. Please look for notes from these individuals sometime over the course of this year.

Bobby Detwiler- publications

Wiona Porath- incoming chairperson

Jaimie R Newby- social media

Future Implications:

The new conference proposal process was a bit of a challenge for SCUC since the group was placed in the “special populations category.” Many of the proposals reviewed by our team were not from small colleges and universities. Instead, the proposals were often from larger institutions. Wiona and I worked with Rhonda Baker and Farrah Turner on this issue. And, there are ideas for improvements moving forward. See email exchange:

From: Dana Hebreard [<mailto:dhebrear@calvin.edu>]
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2016 2:33 p.m.
To: Farrah Turner; Wiona Porath
Cc: Elisa Shaffer
Subject: SCUC proposal review - complete with exception

Hi Farrah (cc: Wiona),

I just wanted to let you know that I was finished with my proposal review with one exception. I did not select any proposal to be commission sponsored as I was not able to find a school that fit the small college and university criteria. We had talked last week about perhaps reviewing other proposals. Any luck?

The only two institutions that ***may*** fit in this category would be Johnson and Wales University (Proposal 346: Academic Services for College Athletes at Division I and III Institutions) and Lehman College-CUNY (Proposal 184: Rethinking Graduate Advising from the Ground Up - A Macro-Level Approach). I am not 100% confident that either of these institutions have ever been a part of SCUC, but they certainly fit the description better than Auburn University, Indiana University, Miami University, and other institutions that submitted proposals under special populations.

Any assistance that you might be able to provide us (or forward this note to appropriate NACADA folks) would be greatly appreciated. I know from my three years with SCUC that the commission-sponsored certificate is a huge deal for people working in small schools and might often be the only way that someone from one of those institutions might be even able to attend an annual conference. Being able to encourage diverse representation of institutions and bring voice to issues concerning small colleges and universities.

Take care,
Dana

NACADA Strategic Goal(s)	Specific Desired Outcome	Actions/Activities/Opportunities for Outcome to Occur	Outcome Measurements and Related Data Instrument(s)	Progress toward achieving outcome	Future Action(s) Based on Data
Expand and communicate the scholarship of academic advising	Increase SCUC member awareness of NACADA scholarly options.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Share “successful practices” amongst commission members. - Collaborate with other commissions. - Create Facebook page for increased communication. 	<p>Articles published in AAT</p> <p>SCUC Webinar by 2017</p> <p>Survey SCUC members</p>		
Create an inclusive environment that promotes diversity	Get members from various institutions actively involved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work with the Steering Committee to fine tune the new conference proposal process. 			
Develop and sustain effective association leadership	Active steering committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ask members to lead subcommittees for SCUC. - Put luncheon in NACADA booklet in 2016 conference. 			