



Community on Advising Graduate & Professional Students

Newsletter March 2020

WHO WE ARE

The community comprises professionals who advise post-baccalaureate students. We welcome all who work with traditional graduate students, professional degree seekers, adults returning for advanced degrees or certificates, and alternatively delivered and structured graduate and professional programs. Small in size but great in commitment, our community provides a mutually supportive context for discussion of issues particular to serving these student populations. Ongoing projects include encouraging discussion of pertinent topics on our listserv, providing resources to help advisors help students, and increasing our presence at national and regional meetings.

Welcome to the March issue of the GPS Newsletter! We are excited to share resources and information with you and welcome ideas on content to include in future issues. This is your newsletter and we want it to be helpful and informative.

PUBLICATION SPOTLIGHT

We have made it to March! While it seems far in the distance, orientation season will be upon us soon! This month's spotlight was published in *Academic Advising Today* by Almanzar, Hapes and Rowe (2018) from Texas A&M University entitled "Strategies for a Successful Graduate Student Orientation Program." The article discusses the importance of successfully transitioning graduate students into their programs. As Almanzar, Hapes, and Rowe (2018) indicate, "a successful orientation program should outline department expectations, start with the end in mind, provide relevant resources, and set the tone for professional relationship-building for the new students."

To learn more about the specifics of these objectives to assist in the planning of your orientation program, you can find the full article [here](#).

MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

My name is Ian Schonberg. I am a member on the Advising Graduate & Professional Student Community steering committee. I have worked in the Robinson College of Business at Georgia State University for 6.5 years. I started as an Academic Adviser and then became the Assistant Director of Graduate Advisement in 2014. In my current role, I oversee two amazing advisers who, along with myself, advise close to 1000 international and domestic graduate students in 19 specialized Masters programs. We assist students with a wide variety of issues from course registration to graduation clearance.

I have been a member of NACADA since 2014. I have served as a mentor and mentee in the Region 4 Mentoring program, a mentor in the Business Majors community, presented at both regional and national NACADA conferences, and have read proposals for both regional and national conferences.



Ian Schonberg, Georgia State University

I enjoy learning about and sharing best practices about graduate students. The amazing part about this community is that we all work with graduate student but the variables can be different from university size and location, the academic area to which you serve, online or face to face, private or public...the list goes on. I also learned that what you get out of this community is what you put into it, so involvement and sharing ideas is key to NACADA. That being said, I can be reached at ischonberg1@gsu.edu if you would like to chat about how we can support you in your role both in advising and this community!

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) Advising Graduate and Professional Students Community is excited to launch the **GPS (Graduate and Professional Students) Talks Series!** This online meeting series will be offered three times per year: March, June, and September.

Mark Your Calendar! Our inaugural GPS Talk online meeting is entitled *Nuances of Advising Graduate International Students*. This online meeting will be held on **Wednesday, March 18, 2020 from 1:00- 2:00 p.m. ET**. Jordan Wienke, Ian Schonberg, and Shabeer Hussain Amirali, Advising Graduate and Professional Students Community steering committee members, will be presenters for the March GPS Talk. We hope you will be able to attend! Please share this information with colleagues and encourage their virtual attendance.

Join via Zoom here: <https://ksu.zoom.us/j/428160351>

June 2020 GPS Talk: Planning is underway for the June 2020 GPS Talk. Further details, including date/time and topic, will be shared by the end of March 2020.

Region Conference Presentations

We want to recognize the below accepted region conference presentations focused on graduate and professional student advising. Thank you to the presenters for representing the Advising Graduate and Professional Student Community!

Region 1

Title: *Advising Education Students on Opportunities for Continuing Education and Pathways to Grad Degrees*

As an education advisor, are you aware of all the certification endorsements available to your students and the academic paths needed to obtain them? In this session we will share techniques to assist advisors in understanding department of education requirements and how teachers can create a plan to obtain additional endorsements that will not only help them provide better learning outcomes for their students, but also career advancement for themselves. Teachers need to continue their learning to maintain their certification endorsements. This session will also provide advising resources, tools, and effective strategies that help teachers obtain stackable credits which will lead to future graduate degrees, and the ability to achieve additional certification endorsements.

Christen Eaton, Southern Maine Community College

Michael Katz, Southern Maine Community College

Title: *It's Tricky: Strategies for Advising Graduate International Students*

Timing and topic matter! Struggling to acclimate to a new educational system and culture, graduate international students have unique needs. While some may be addressed with traditional advising approaches, universities can benefit from being more intentional in their practices where this population is concerned. This presentation will highlight common transition issues, and the advising approaches used to address them. The timing of group and individual advising, cross-campus collaboration, and assessment is critical to building the self-advocacy skills these students need to succeed.

Jessica Dilliner, Northeastern University

Lindsay Petrarca, Academic Advisor, Northeastern University

Region 2

Title: *Identifying and managing graduate student academic entitlement*

This topic presentation will focus on how academic entitlement impacts the educational experience and manifests itself in and outside of the classroom. Participants will have the opportunity to review and assess case studies and participate in group discussion about strategies for managing academically entitled students. Case studies will include such aspects as student complaints about grades, curriculum, program options, and consideration of a "consumer mentality." This workshop will focus particularly on graduate students and unique challenges the graduate student population bring to academic advising.

Rachel Schwartz, Rutgers University School of Social Work

Marian Diksies, Rutgers University School of Social Work

Region 5

Title: *Pivot: Transitioning liberal arts students to graduate business programs*

Life, and education, don't always go as expected. What is a student to do when the degree they've worked on or the career they've worked towards loses its luster? Students confronting this late in their undergraduate career may feel stuck. But, they are simply at a pivot point! This program will discuss working with students as they consider the pivot, as well as their successes in the program and as alumni of specialized master's degrees in business. Attendees will walk away with an understanding of the specific value-add that liberal arts and sciences majors bring to graduate business programs and the business world, as a whole, as well how to convey this to their advisees.

Emily Liverman, Indiana University Bloomington

Title: *Celebrating Graduate Students, Too: Distilling Environments for Student Success*

Graduate education is a fundamental component of higher education due to the increasing growth in graduate student enrollment. Institutions that instill a commitment to continued education of their undergraduate students owe it to them to create an environment of support equal to that of their undergraduate experience. The role of academic advising and student affairs to support the overall graduate and professional student experience requires further examination to meet that expectation. An overview of research previously conducted will be presented. We will explore how the involvement of advisors and access to campus support services can be enhanced in graduate education. Attendees will participate in an interactive discussion on creating and implementing initiatives to promote an inclusive environment for graduate and professional students.

Angie Cook, University of Cincinnati

Jamie Heck, University of Cincinnati

Region 8

Title: *Using Structured Advising to Prepare Students for Graduate and Professional Programs*

Undergraduate students constantly look for ways to make themselves more competitive in their applications to graduate and professional programs. Oregon State University's College of Pharmacy will showcase their innovative advising program with their pre-pharmacy students to help them gain the skills and experiences necessary to be competitive, not just for pharmacy, but for any graduate or professional programs they might choose to go into. Attendees will learn about OSU's advising syllabus, learning outcomes, co-curricular requirements, and advising structure focused on professional development meant to prepare students for application to competitive programs. Attendees will also see outcomes of these strategies, showing how students going through this structured advising compare to their peers applying to and admitted to OSU's Pharm.D. program.

Lauren Corwin, Oregon State University

Eliza Allison, Oregon State University

PROFESSIONAL OUTSIDE RESOURCE

To help our members connect with the broader community and get more acquainted with the different organizations out there, we are sharing information about other groups that have helpful resources.

This month we are highlighting NAGAP. NAGAP, The Association for Graduate Enrollment Management is the only professional organization devoted exclusively to the concerns of individuals working in the graduate enrollment management environment.

Membership in NAGAP provides an opportunity to network with professional colleagues at all sizes and types of institutions: large and small, public and private, secular and non-secular.

The annual conference, development institutes, membership directory, weekly NAGAP News, *Perspectives* newsmagazine, mentor program, and chapter affiliations all help facilitate communication among members.

Bookmark the NAGAP website: <http://nagap.org/>

Connect with NAGAP:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NAGAPorg>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/NAGAPorg>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/nagap-the-leader-in-graduate-enrollment-management/>

GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDENT APPRECIATION WEEK

The National Association of Graduate-Professional Students (NAGPS) and NAGPS member schools celebrate Graduate–Professional Student Appreciation Week during the first week of April each year. This year, Graduate–Professional Student Appreciation Week will be observed April 1, 2020-April 5, 2020.

You can obtain insight into the history behind Graduate–Professional Student Appreciation Week as well as review a listing of possible activities that could be organized in celebration of Graduate–Professional Student Appreciation Week via the NAGPS website at <http://nagps.org/about-us/gpsa-week/#>.

How has your institution/department celebrated your graduate and professional students? We would love to hear from our Advising Community on Graduate & Professional Students members and friends regarding activities and initiatives that are being implemented on your campus to demonstrate appreciation for your graduate and professional students.

Please share examples of how graduate and professional students are being celebrated on your campus by emailing Jamie Heck, NACADA Advising Community on Graduate & Professional Students Chair, at reynoji@uc.edu by Friday, April 3, 2020. We will include all feedback collected in the April 2020 Newsletter. We hope that the sharing of these ideas will both recognize ways your institution/department has celebrated graduate and professional students and inspire others in implementing future activities and initiatives.



UPCOMING EVENTS

February 2020-May 2020: 2020 Region Conferences were scheduled during this timeframe. Check NACADA's Region Conferences webpage (<https://nacada.ksu.edu/Community/Regions.aspx>) to obtain current information related to these events.

March 2020-NACADA National Conference registration and hotel reservations open this month! Read more about this conference: <https://nacada.ksu.edu/Events/Annual-Conference.aspx> .

May 28-30, 2020: The NACADA Research Institute will be held in Rosemont, Illinois. Learn more about this institute: <https://nacada.ksu.edu/Events/Research-Institute.aspx> .

Contact Us

Advising Community on Advising Graduate & Professional Students

Current Community Chair:

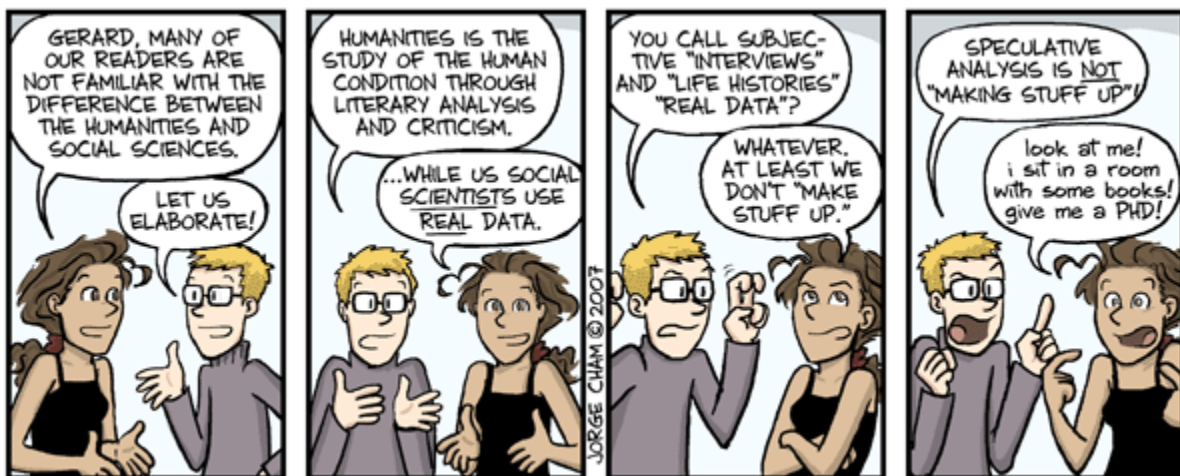
[Jamie Heck](#), University of Cincinnati

Newsletter Editors:

Courtney Lewellen, Indiana University
Dawn Loyola, University of California,
Riverside

June 2020: Next GPS Talk Online Meeting. Event details, including date/time and topic, will be provided by the end of March 2020.

June 22-25, 2020: The NACADA International Conference will be held in Athens, Greece. Learn more about this conference: <https://nacada.ksu.edu/Events/International-Conferences/Athens.aspx> .



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