



Advising Community on Graduate & Professional Students

Newsletter July 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 July issue of the GPS Newsletter! Higher education in general is in a period of flux and uncertainty, and our profession is no exception. We made it through an unprecedented spring term successfully, and we can all be proud of what we accomplished!

PUBLICATION SPOTLIGHT

Summer is a great time to take a moment to breathe and enjoy the present. We encourage you to take time to reflect back on spring's successes and challenges, and set the tone for the upcoming academic year. This month, we are sharing an article on the importance of reflective practice in education (reflecting before acting, while acting, and after acting):

Tannebaum, R. P., Hall, A. H., & Deaton, C. M. (2013). The development of reflective practice in American education. *American Educational History Journal*, 40(1/2), 241–259.

[Learn more about the importance of reflective practice in education](#) by reading the article its entirety.

MEMBER HIGHLIGHT



Shabeer Amirali
University of Louisville

My name is Shabeer Amirali and I am a member of the Advising Community on Graduate & Professional Students steering committee and also a member of the International student advising steering committee in NACADA. I currently work at the University of Louisville, where I have been leading the graduate enrollment management. I have over 18 plus years of experience, which includes higher education and professional commercial leadership roles. In my current role, I advise the graduate students from inquiry to

graduation and beyond. I have been a member of other professional organizations and presented at national and international conferences. I have been mentoring new members in graduate education and international students advising. I have published several scholarly works and peer-reviewed

articles for journals and I have served as a conference proposal reviewer. The Advising Community on Graduate & Professional Students committee has allowed me to learn from other institutions and at the same time given me an opportunity to share the best practices. My areas of interest are exploring the challenges of graduate student advising and building a strong community of advising experts. Also, another area of interest to me is learning about refugee graduate

student challenges. I would request all my fellow colleagues of graduate advising across the globe to join us, inspire us, and motivate us to build a strong community. Please feel free to contact me at shabeer.amirali@louisville.edu. I am enthusiastic to see what we can achieve together.

WRITING FOR NACADA PUBLICATION

This is a friendly reminder that signup for NACADA's Writing Support Groups for the 2020-21 academic year is now open through August 15, 2020. [Sign up to participate in a Writing Support Group](#). After signup, group participants will be contacted to organize a time that works for you and your colleagues who are at a similar place in the research and writing process. Meetings will be held virtually via Zoom. Groups will be autonomous and can plan subsequent meetings and regularity based on the group's needs. [Learn more about Writing Support Groups](#).

CALL FOR CHAPTER PROPOSAL WRITING OPPORTUNITY

The Administrators in Graduate and Professional Student Services (AGAPSS) Knowledge Community within NASPA recently shared the below information about an upcoming writing opportunity focused on graduate and professional student services.

CALL FOR CHAPTER PROPOSALS: A NEW BOOK PROJECT LED BY AGAPSS KC COLLEAGUES

Dr. Valerie Shepard (UCLA) and Dr. April Perry (Western Carolina University) are under contract with Routledge Publishing for a new edited book, tentatively titled *A Practitioner's Guide to Supporting Graduate and Professional School Students*.

This book aims to be an introductory, broad, quick-start practical guide and training manual for student affairs practitioners—as well as faculty who serve in student affairs roles—who work with graduate and professional school students. The idea for this book has been a project of the Administrators in Graduate and Professional Student Services (AGAPSS) NASPA Knowledge Community over the past several years. It will include a chapter that discusses the ongoing AGAPSS curriculum project, which is led by Dr. April Perry and Dr. Katherine Hall-Hertel.

While we intend that the chapters in *A Practitioner's Guide to Supporting Graduate and Professional Students* will be based in research, we want to emphasize that the book is not primarily a research text. The book will: 1.) serve as a training manual, give an overview of current issues in graduate education, and make resources for practitioners and faculty easily accessible and applicable; 2.) help practitioners and faculty identify and connect with their professional development communities; and 3.) make a clear case for the growing need for professional training in graduate and professional student services.

Though we have some sections listed in our detailed call for chapter proposals (see attached) that are specifically on equity and inclusion, we expect discussions of equity and inclusion to be infused throughout the book; we encourage discussions of the needs of graduate students with disabilities, undocumented students, international students, first generation students, pregnant and parenting students, LGBTQ+ students, and student veterans. We plan to decenter whiteness and heteronormativity throughout the work. We would especially like to see proposals that discuss data, programs, and promising practices that address structural racism in graduate education. We also encourage discussions that respond to institutional changes due to COVID-19.

[Learn more by reviewing the official Call for Proposals](#), which also includes the full project timeline. The deadline for chapter proposals is August 15. Please reach out to us if you have any questions.

Dr. Valerie Shepard, vshepard@saonet.ucla.edu

Dr. April Perry, alperry@wcu.edu

2020 ASSESSMENT INSTITUTE (VIRTUAL) HOSTED BY IUPUI

The Assessment Institute, hosted by Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI), is the nation's oldest and largest higher education event of its type.

You are invited to join the 2020 Assessment Institute to be held virtually, October 25-28, 2020. For 2020, complimentary registration will be offered to attend the virtual Assessment Institute, including the Pre-Institute workshops on Sunday, October 25, to *all members of the higher education community*. [Learn more about the Assessment Institute.](#)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Advising Community on Graduate & Professional Students offers the **GPS (Graduate and Professional Students) Talks Series!** This online meeting series is offered three times per year: March, June, and September.

September 2020 GPS Talk: Planning is underway for the September 2020 GPS Talk. Further details, including date/time and topic, will be shared in the near future.

SURVEY PARTICIPATION REQUESTED

As mentioned in the June 2020 newsletter, Shelley Price-Williams, NACADA Advising Communities Division (ACD) Cluster 2 Representative, and Jamie Heck, NACADA Advising Community on Graduate & Professional Students Chair, were approved to disseminate a survey to all NACADA members and non-members. Inspired by the NACADA Graduate Student Advising Commission Membership Survey conducted in 2006, Shelley and Jamie seek to add to the research and literature focused on non-faculty, full-time professionals who academically advise graduate and professional students. The research question is: What are the roles and functions of non-faculty, full-time professionals who academically advise graduate and professional students in postsecondary education and strategies employed by these individuals to combat student attrition?

Many thanks to those who have already completed the survey. Your time and feedback are greatly appreciated. If you have not already completed the survey, please [access the survey link](#) to submit your survey feedback by Sunday, July 26, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. ET. Once again, please feel free to send this same sharable link to advising colleagues encouraging them to complete the survey by Sunday, July 26, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. ET.

GET ONLINE WITH ACADEMIC ADVISING

The [Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance](#) (Great Plains IDEA) has launched a three-part series that is part of its "[Get Online...](#)" podcast. The podcast series includes the following three episodes:

Episode 1: Academic Advising: Removing Barriers for Online Graduate Students (Guest Expert: Holli Fergus, Director of Academic Advising at American Public University System)

Episode 2: Academic Advising: Building Community for Online Graduate Students (Guest Expert: Jamie Heck, Director of Academic Affairs at the University of Cincinnati College of Nursing)

Episode 3: Academic Advising: Incorporating Career Advising (Guest Expert: Kimberly Smith, Assistant Provost of Academic Advising Initiatives at Virginia Tech University)

The podcasts are available at www.gpidea.org/podcast. Listeners can also find "Get Online..." at most podcast directories.

ADVENTURES IN ADVISING PODCAST

Episode 15 of Adventures in Advising is all about graduate students and how best to encourage them, amplify their voices, and advocate on their behalf. Colum Cronin and Matt Markin speak with three experienced advisors and support staff across two continents to gather ideas and insights relevant to working with this unique student population. You will hear interviews with (in order of appearance):

Jamie Heck - Director of Academic Affairs at the University of Cincinnati College of Nursing

Niamh Nestor – Academic Adviser, School of Veterinary Medicine at University College Dublin

Martin John McAndrew – Postgraduate Student Support Officer at Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin

[Listen to the podcast.](#)

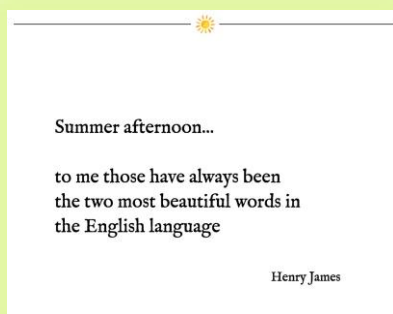
UPCOMING EVENTS

Through August 2020: NACADA is offering eTutorials that provide participants short-term, readily-available, introductory online learning about the field of academic advising. [Learn more and Register.](#)

Through August 15, 2020: Sign up for the 2020-21 academic year to participate in a NACADA Writing Support Group. [Learn more about and sign up.](#)

October 4-7, 2020: NACADA Annual Conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico! [Register](#) early to take advantage of the early rate, and make your [hotel reservation](#) as soon as possible for the best rates and availability! Check the [conference website](#) often for the latest updates.

June 21-24, 2021: NACADA International Conference in Athens, Greece. The International Conference is scheduled to be held from June 21-24, 2021 in Athens, Greece. [Learn more.](#)



Contact Us

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