



Advising Community on Graduate & Professional Students

Newsletter October 2020

WHO WE ARE

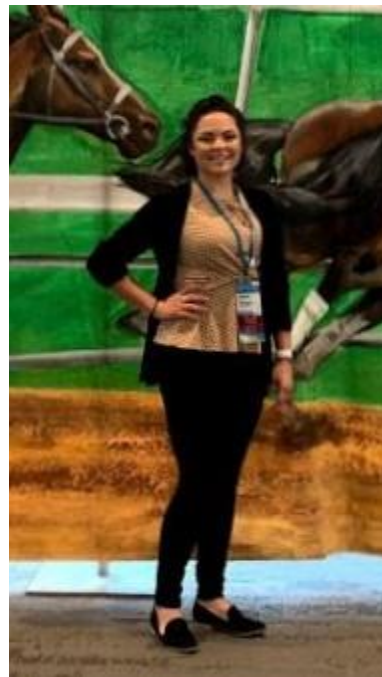
The community comprises professionals who advise post-baccalaureate students. We welcome all who work with traditional graduate students, professional degree seekers, adults returning for advanced degrees or certificates, and alternatively delivered and structured graduate and professional programs. 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 October issue of the GPS Newsletter!

PUBLICATION SPOTLIGHT

Coming off a fantastic virtual version of NACADA's annual conference, this month's article focuses on how we can continue "Maximizing Professional Development in the Zoomiverse." The article by Joseph Aldinger and Chris Smith (2020) focuses on available resources for online career and professional development. While their focus is on programming for their graduate population, it can offer ideas for graduate and professional advisors creating programming for their students, or as they are processing their own professional development. Perhaps most helpful is the list of online resources they have created and shared for readers to access. You can read the article [here](#).



MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

Hello! My name is Allyssa Finder and I am an Academic Advisor for Online Graduate Students in the Gies College of Business at the University of Illinois. I have been serving the graduate student population for the last two years. I felt the feeling of "home" in higher education during the second half of my graduate degree at the University of Illinois Springfield and haven't looked back!

Let's back up, so I can give you some context about me. The beginning of my education journey, at Illinois State University, I thought I would teach high school English. Life happens and I ended up working at a local hospital and then at

the local United Cerebral Palsy center. Bottom line, my passion is working with people, serving others, and providing others with what they need to meet their goals.

In fall 2016, I was given the opportunity to switch from an internship with the Department of Corrections to be the Graduate Assistant to the Department of Communication. After a year of working for the state and being part of the “corporate” world, I was over the moon to be back in academia! I was introduced to NACADA by a mentor, and that was it, I was convinced I belonged in higher ed. I also want to say, my undergraduate advisor Ryan Gray and my graduate advisor, Amie Kincaid, made my education journey so much more enjoyable, doable, and are probably the reason I feel I can impact change for students by being their academic advisor.

I was mentored by advisors in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the College of Public Affairs and Administration; working alongside them to advise students and learn the craft. Attending my first NACADA conference in 2017, I knew I would push others in the field towards this immense resource. The energy at the conference was contagious and I wish you could bottle the experience to take home! Two of my mentors and I presented a poster at the Regional Conference on mentorship and I highly recommend doing a poster presentation, if you get the chance. After being a member as a graduate student, I sought a professional membership and have continued this membership for the last three years. Attending conferences is only one piece of the NACADA pie-- Being accepted to be a mentee in the mentorship program for my region has been such a wonderful professional development experience and I made a friend! NACADA provides so much research, right here at our fingertips and nerding out over articles written by other advisors and relevant to my career is one of the best parts of being a NACADA member. Recently, I signed up to be part of a writing group because it is a goal of mine to someday write an article for publication through NACADA; just another example of how NACADA helps fill my cup. I am excited to present on a panel for the Annual Conference 2020 and hope to see you all in the session (shameless plug to check out “All Aboard! A panel on Graduate Student online, Hybrid, and Campus Orientation Models”).

I am a big fan of dogs, big or small, and the world’s biggest fan of our Boxer dog, Stella. I love to read fiction and spend time with my family and friends. I hope you reach out on LinkedIn or via email abrow27@illinois.edu.

NACADA REGION AWARDS

The NACADA Region Awards is now accepting applications until **November 1, 2020**. [Apply](#) for this great opportunity to receive recognition and possible funding to attend not only region conferences, but other NACADA opportunities.

NACADA RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATION OPENING SOON

NACADA offers [Research Grants](#) for up to \$5,000. Current NACADA members, including practicing professionals, graduate students, and faculty from any institution (US or international) seeking support for research in academic advising are eligible to apply. The application period is now open. Applications may be submitted online through **November 1, 2020**.

NACADA LEADERSHIP NOMINATIONS

Online nominations will be accepted **until 11:59 p.m. central Saturday, October 31**. As a NACADA member, you have the opportunity to self-nominate or nominate other NACADA members to run in this election for a leadership position. This is your opportunity to ensure that our Association continues to grow and prosper with strong and capable leadership.

Complete information and the online nomination form for the 2021 NACADA Leadership Elections is available at nacada.ksu.edu/About-Us/Elections.aspx including a list of positions being elected, eligibility criteria, position overviews, and the online nomination form.

Please note: The Advising Community on Graduate & Professional Students Chair leadership position is included in this election! It is a two-year term: October 2021-October 2023.

NACADA 2020 VIRTUAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

For those of you who attended the NACADA 2020 Virtual Annual Conference, we hope that you acquired knowledge, perspective, inspiration, and motivation. Congratulations to all of our Advising Community on Graduate & Professional Students members who participated in the NACADA 2020 Virtual Annual Conference. Thank you for representing our advising community (and providing a voice to the graduate and professional students we support)!

WHAT GIVES YOU HOPE RIGHT NOW?

Over the last couple of months, we have included a section in the newsletter in which our Advising Community on Graduate & Professional Students members and friends have shared what gives them hope during times of uncertainty, anxiety, and concern. We are wrapping up this section with responses submitted from some of our Advising Community on Graduate & Professional Students members and friends. Many thanks to those who shared their experiences and perspectives. We hope that the inclusion of this section in our recent newsletter editions has encouraged our readers to reflect on what gives them hope right now.

Jordan Wienke - Youth, children, students give me hope. I know they will grow up and grow old and this will be the story they tell to their children. I hold on to this idea when things are not going as I'd hoped.

Kathy Redd - The following things give me hope:

- 1) Students who persevere through some pretty-amazing set-backs this year
- 2) Staff who are superbly dedicated to finding ways to do their job when they never signed up to be a remote advisor
- 3) Faculty who are tech savvy and spent a lot of their time this summer helping their less-tech-savvy colleagues get ready for fall term

Andi Davis - Making old furniture beautiful again gives me hope. There was a barn sale I attended a few months back, and I bought three hidden gems. Seeing the pieces of furniture, essentially deteriorating in front of my eyes in an unkempt, broken down barn, broke my heart. It was hard to witness and I knew I wanted to save the pieces and bring back their use. What gives me hope, is refinishing furniture can help make damaged, worn-out pieces with bumps and scrapes shine again. Having a hand in making a piece regain their value—seeing a new life—gives me hope. Plus, it's fun hard work!

Before:

After:



WHAT ARE YOU THANKFUL FOR THIS YEAR?

We are quickly approaching that time of year when we take time to reflect on the year and share our gratitude. We would love to hear what our advising community members and friends are giving thanks for this year.

If you are interested in sharing what you are thankful for this year, please email your response to Jamie Heck, Advising Community on Graduate & Professional Students Chair, at reynoji@uc.edu by Friday, November 6, 2020. We may feature your response in the November 2020 newsletter.

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.

Many thanks to those who were able to attend the **September 2020 GPS Talk: Virtual Business Meeting**. The recorded link and password are located below:

Recorded Link: https://ksu.zoom.us/rec/share/6OCil5Zt_GLmKhNC88tt53mniPvoU3UhajkzibNLf9EK94fdV41drfM3Fk-BtPb7.KAFM2NwW8VGdWnXV

Passcode: 4%Mw+fX

As mentioned during our Virtual Business Meeting, a survey will be sent out to our Advising Community on Graduate & Professional Students members and friends via email and posted on our Facebook page to gather responses that will be referenced to inform the advising community's direction, goals, initiatives, and programming in the upcoming year. The survey will be sent out late October 2020/early November 2020. Thank you in advance for your time and feedback. We appreciate your commitment to our advising community!

March 2021 GPS Talk: Planning is underway for the March 2021 GPS Talk. Further details, including date/time and topic, will be shared in the future.

Contact Us

Advising Community on Graduate & Professional Students

Current Community Chair:

[Jamie Heck](#), University of Cincinnati

Newsletter Editors:

[Courtney Lewellen](#), Indiana University
[Dawn Loyola](#), University of California, Riverside

Get Connected

Follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/gradadvising/>

Subscribe to our Listserv:

listserv@listserv.ksu.edu

Bookmark our webpage:

<https://nacada.ksu.edu/Community/Advising-Communities/Advising-Graduate-Professional-Students.aspx>

