



Advising Community on Graduate & Professional Students

Newsletter January 2023

Welcome to 2023!

Hello GPS Community!

I am excited by the enthusiasm shown by the GPS members who attended NACADA 2022, the virtual business meeting attendees in November, those that have engaged with our community asynchronously, and our new members! 2023 holds a lot of promise for the advancement of those that support graduate and professional students. Our goals for this community for 2023 are three-fold:

1. Support those that support graduate and professional students.
2. Help members of the community to share the work they are doing within our community and beyond.
3. Create space, guidance, and encouragement for all members to document and publish institutional, college, departmental, unit, individual, and group histories of supporting graduate and professional students.

To help the Steering Committee and I achieve these goals, we are excited to share the continuation of **GPS Collaboratives**. The *GPS Collaboratives* are small groups that focus on gathering those that work at the intersection of graduate and professional students and:

- International students
- Online students
- Adult learners
- Doctoral students

The second project I am excited to share is **GPS Histories**. This calendar year we will be working to encourage each of you to document the history of supporting graduate and professional students in your departments, units, colleges, and universities in short bursts.

We look forward to supporting you and helping in your professional development. Please feel comfortable to reach out with any questions or challenges.

Sincerely,

Katelyn Talbott, Ed.D.

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University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

GPS Chair, 2022-2023

MEMBER HIGHLIGHT



Annette Strzelecki
University of South Florida

Hi there! My name is Annette Strzelecki. I am the Associate Director of Graduate Academic Advising and Student Engagement for the College of Public Health at the University of South Florida. I have been in student affairs for 17 years (7 in housing and 10 in academic advising). When I transitioned out of housing, I found that my professional passion is advising. I have worked with as little as 300 undergraduate students and supported up to 5000 undergraduate/graduate students with a large team. Each time my role has changed and shifted, I have found new joys in how to grow and improve the support for students.

My current student population is about 800 students, which I support with a fantastic team of 3 fulltime advisors, is approximately 15% international, 42% online students and many working fulltime. My current role only works with graduate students but has expanded to allow me to support their student success more broadly. Universities spend a lot of resources on supporting undergraduate students, so it has been a passion of mine to find ways within our college to positively impact their experience. Our team has done targeted outreach, career fairs, affinity groups, and more to focus on a sense of belonging. If anyone else wants to connect about what they are doing I would love to continue to learn!

On a personal note, my husband, two kids (5 and 1) and I recently relocated to Indiana to be closer to family. I'm working remotely with a few trips a year back to campus. We love being here in the seasons as does our rottweiler. I enjoy listening to books (littles make it hard to sit down and read), traveling, trying new coffee shops (especially those that make their own syrups) and checking out local events.

COLLABORATIVE OF THE MONTH: ADULT LEARNERS GROUP

The ***GPS Collaboratives*** were created as a way for graduate advising professionals to discuss the intersectionality of advising graduate and professional students. One of the four groups, the Adult Learners group, meets monthly to discuss various topics related to how to best serve adult students who sometimes have substantial time between their undergraduate and graduate studies. These students also tend to have additional responsibilities in addition to school such as families and jobs, which can make graduate school even more challenging for this population.

Some topics this group has discussed include: addressing mental health, mentoring, retention strategies, student bullying and building community. This month the Adult Learners group met to discuss how to engage with online learners, orientation strategies, and also shared professional organizations that people have found helpful. By meeting monthly, this group has developed both a sense of community and a network of professionals who help one another on a variety of topics.

If you are interested in joining any of the ***GPS Collaboratives*** (Adult Learners, Doctoral Students, Online Students, or International Students) please feel free to sign up here:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7PXJMHP>.

Kim Bernie, Ed.D., Student Success Coordinator, University of Cincinnati | Online Programs

Contact Us

**Advising Community on
Advising Graduate &
Professional Students**

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NACADA CONFERENCE PROPOSALS REVIEWERS NEEDED!

Have you ever wondered what makes a good NACADA Conference proposal? Have you been looking for ways to start or deepen your involvement in NACADA? This is the perfect opportunity! Sign up by Thursday, February 2 to [review NACADA Conference Proposals](#). Readers will need to review the assigned proposals between February 28-March 13.

2023 NACADA ANNUAL CONFERENCE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

NACADA's 2023 Annual Conference will be held in Orlando, Florida between October 4-7, 2023. The call for conference proposals closes on Thursday, February 23, 2023. [Learn more about the 2023 NACADA Annual Conference and the call for proposals.](#)

NACADA GPS LINKEDIN GROUP

If you are active on LinkedIn, please join our [GPS LinkedIn Group!](#)

We would love to use the LinkedIn group to engage professionally, including sharing articles, professional news, job postings, etc. With so many available positions throughout higher education, this group would provide a platform to share job postings. Please consider sharing position opportunities and include #jobposting in your post.

GRADUATE ADVISING PANEL AT REGION 8/9/10 CONFERENCE

Hello graduate advising colleagues!

I am currently serving as the Graduate Advising Coordinator for the Region 9 Steering Committee. I will be moderating a panel of graduate advisors at the Region 8/9/10 conference in Las Vegas this year. If you are attending, I am looking for panelists. The goal is to have a panel of graduate advising professionals from all three regions discussing different graduate advising topics, issues, challenges, successes, etc.

If you are interested, please feel free to directly email me at michael.cersosimo@lmu.edu. Thanks in advance!

Michael Cersosimo, Ed.D., Academic Advisor | Office of the Dean, School of Education | Loyola Marymount University

EXIT INTERVIEW/GRADUATION INTERVIEW QUESTION BANK

A question bank of exit interview/graduation interview questions has been compiled as a result of a recent inquiry posted to the GPS listserv. [You can access the exit interview/graduation interview questions here.](#)