From the Chair

Happy advising season!

With spring flowers comes the increased student traffic in many of our offices. As always, I appreciate you taking time to engage with this community via the monthly newsletter.

I’d like to take this opportunity to officially congratulate those who’ve been elected to NACADA positions, including our very own Philip Aguinaga! He will be our next Undecided and Exploratory Students Advising Community Chair. Please be sure to congratulate him. And as much as it pains me to “pass the reigns,” I know this community will be in great hands!

Finally, I hope many of you are taking advantage of the NACADA Regional Conferences. Regional conferences are a cost-effective professional development opportunity that allow members to connect with others in their region. If your curiosity is sparked by any of the conference sessions, let us know! We are always looking for topics for our Exploratory Conversations.

As always, I appreciate your support and engagement,

Christina Bowles, Chair
Missouri State University
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Member Spotlight
Me! Christina Bowles (she/her/hers)
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How long have you been supporting undecided/exploratory students?
Over 10 years (and in case you are wondering, yes, I *am* a vampire).

Why did you join the Undecided and Exploratory Students Advising Community?
Maureen Bell-Werner (a previous Community Chair) encouraged me to become more involved. I had been a member of the community for several years, but only recently joined the steering committee. I wanted to engage with other advisors who work with the same population.

What makes you excited to work with Undeclared/Exploratory students?
No two students are the same! I love getting to know my students on a personal level, and undeclared advising allows for creative, exciting, and engaging conversations. The best part is when students reach that “a-ha” moment and discover a major they love.

What is the greatest challenge in working with this population?
Engaging and encouraging those who are “chronically” undeclared can be a challenge. However, I love a good challenge, and when those students discover their path, it’s even more fulfilling.

What is one fun fact about you?
I love to sew! I’ve been sewing some of my own clothes since I was 14 years old. I am currently enrolled in Fashion courses at Missouri State, and I am loving it!

Do you want to introduce yourself to other community members? Sign up with our online form.

Upcoming Events

If you are interested in presenting at an Exploratory Conversation, email Philip Aguinaga:
philip.aguinaga@unt.edu

Resources

Check out our Google Drive for resources.
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