SUCCESS ON THE ORIENTATION EXPRESS

NACADA National Conference – October 2020

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WELCOME TO ORIENTATION
ADVISING!!

Class of 2024
What State / Province are you from?

ℹ️ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.
What was your major? Select the category that best describes your major

Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.
WELCOME TO NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY!

- Flagstaff, Arizona
  - 22,791 students on campus
  - 95 undergraduate degrees
  - 7,000+ ft. elevation
  - Also, it snows!
TRADITIONAL ORIENTATION ADVISING

Student is enrolled

Advisor meets student at Orientation
WHAT MOTIVATED US TO CHANGE?

• High Advising Ratios

• Student Feedback
  – “I want more time with my advisor.”

• Advisor Feedback
  – “I’m burnt out…this is too many students to see 1:1 in 1 month!”
Are any of the motivations we experienced shared at your institution? (Select one)

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Enrollment
• Advisors enroll students
• By Orientation Date
• Prep for meeting

Group Advising
• 45 minutes
• 6-8 students
• Review general information

Individual Follow up
• Only as needed
• Student Assistants help with schedule changes
• All students are enrolled before Orientation

• Enrollment strategies
  – Bulk enrollment
  – Individual enrollment by advisors

• Advisor Prep
  – Final adjustments and notes
  – Build a folder for each student
GROUP ADVISING ROOMS

- Get Creative!
  - We used existing spaces and created some new areas
  - 11 classroom spaces
  - Every classroom was outfitted with the same materials.
- 2 advisors rotated in a classroom space
EXAMPLE ADVISOR CALENDAR

In at 7:30am
Email

In at 8:00am
Orientation Advising Session
Lunch
Orientation Prep Time for 6/17 and 6/18
Orientation Advising Session
Lunch

Out at 3:45pm

In at 7:30am
Staff Meeting
Team Meeting
Lunch
Orientation Prep Time for 6/20, 6/21, 6/22
Orientation Advising Session
Orientation Advising Session

In at 9:00am
Email

In at 8:30am
Prep

In at 8:00am
Learn about Music! Helen's Office
FW: Meet/Greet
GSSC resource area
Monica Shang-ah Bai

In at 8:00am
Orientation Advising Session
Lunch
Orientation phone advising prep 6
Orientation Advising Session
Orientation Advising Session
Orientation Advising Session

Notes/ Email
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EMILY B
GTWAY available
GTWAY available
Shannon D
GW Available
GW Available

Guided Writing Workshop
GW Available
GW Available
GW Available
GW Available
GW Available
ELEMENTS OF GROUP ADVISING SESSION

Content
- Introductions / Intake form
- Short interactive presentation
- Activity and individual “check in”

Strategies for Success
- Visuals
- Individual check-ins
- Building connections
TRIAGE STUDENTS’ NEEDS

• At the end of group session, advisors divide students into 3 groups.

• Strategies to Triage
  – Prep
  – Intake Form
  – Individual Check-In
    • 2-3 minutes / student

“Good to Go”

Schedule adjustments

More Advising Needed
ENROLLMENT ASSISTANTS WORKING IN OUR ADVISING LAB

Schedule adjustments

Learning to navigate online tools

Change of major
IMPORTANCE OF STAFF TRAINING

Our Approach:
• Weekly trainings over 1 month
• Modeling
• Opportunities to practice and prepare

Strategies for Success
• Opportunities to reinforce, ask questions.
• Engaging senior advisors early – they helped from Day 1 with program development.
What's the most important thing about getting advisors bought into a new idea?

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POSITIVE STUDENT FEEDBACK

• Positive student feedback
  – Not one comment in Orientation Survey about more time with Advisor.
  – “I got all of the answers I needed and (my advisor) was really nice while answering my questions. Overall a great experience. “
As a result of Orientation Advising I understand my fall schedule

- Yes: 98%
- No: 2%

From Student Orientation Survey (n=575)
From Student Orientation Survey (n=575)

I feel welcomed and supported by my Academic Advisor

- Yes: 98%
- No: 2%
POSITIVE ADVISOR FEEDBACK

“I wish we started group advising a long time ago!”

“I feel much more connected with my students.”
HOW WILL WE CONTINUE TO GROW?

- Continue the Hybrid Model
- Expand student choice and options
- Online adaptations
Complete Priority Enrollment
Sign up for Presentation or Online Module
Attend Presentation/Complete Module
Meet One-on-One with an Advisor
“IF YOU WANT SOMETHING YOU’VE NEVER HAD, THEN YOU’VE GOT TO TRY SOMETHING YOU’VE NEVER DONE.”
RESOURCES AND CONTACT INFORMATION

• Additional Resources:
  – https://sites.google.com/nau.edu/success-on-the-orientation-exp/home

• Email or call us anytime!
  – Helen.Hemmer@nau.edu or (928) 523 4772
  – Maureen.Fray@nau.edu or (928) 523-8143