



NACADA - A Global Community for Academic Advising

The Role of Academic Advising in Student Persistence **Webinar Handout**

Suggested Activities/Strategies for Your Campus to Utilize this Webinar to Its Full Potential

Pre-Webinar

1. Share the latest IPEDS data indicating your institution's graduation rate. (This can be found at <http://nces.ed.gov/IPEDS/> if you are unable to locate on your campus). Also share the latest Freshman to Sophomore and Sophomore to Junior retention rates with your group.
 - If you are viewing the webcast with a group, have a discussion prior to the start of the webcast on this graduation rate and these retention rates – What are the implications for your institution? For your programs?
2. Have a discussion prior to the start of the webcast on what initiatives, programs, or services exist presently focused on student success. Are they connected to each other? Are they known on campus?

Post Webinar

3. Since conducting an analysis of your campus/institution is essential in focusing on student retention, persistence and success, here are some activities you might do:
 - Either in small groups which will report to the full group or in a full group discussion, answer the following questions:
 - Which of the factors that affect retention have we as an institution/campus developed initiatives or programs to focus on? What are those programs/initiatives? Have they been successful?
 - How does our campus/institution intentionally or unintentionally affect negatively or positively the attitudes of our students toward leaving or staying on the campus?
4. The research indicates that successful initiatives focused on student retention and persistence are powerful enough to make changes in students and their attitudes, as well as changes in the institution. List the programs and/or initiatives your campus/institution has implemented and then list the ways these have changed students **AND** the institution. What still needs to happen on campus to address these issues?
5. Analyze what your campus/institution has done and/or could do in regard to the five strategies or techniques discussed in the presentation:
 - Collaborative Partnership built with academic advising
 - Clear Top Level Commitment and Grassroots Commitment
 - Identifying Leadership
 - Creating a Buzz
 - Factors that affect student success (conducting an assessment or audit)
6. Choose three of the high impact practices you either don't have or have that need strengthening and discuss how you will implement or improve persistence based on these strategies. What resources might you need to implement or strengthen these efforts?

Resources and References

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