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FLACADA Sunshine Times - Issue 3 / March 2015

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Editor's Corner

Kelly Roy



Greetings and Happy 2015 Florida advisors! I would like to thank all of you, especially the FLACADA Steering Committee, for your efforts and support in moving this newsletter forward. I am pleased with the progress that has been made on this endeavor, and am optimistic about the future of this newsletter.

The intent of this newsletter is to not only keep advisors informed of news and events around the state, but to be a place where advisors can share their work and practice, and to build an academic advising community for the state of Florida. Some of you have already started submitting pieces for the newsletter, and I encourage more of you to do the same! We would really like for this newsletter to grow, and for more advisors and institutions around the state to actively participate.

In this issue:

Congratulations to the PATHWAYS Intrusive Advising Model at Valencia College for being featured for the In The Spotlight column! In addition to learning about the successful PATHWAYS model, you also have the opportunity to read about a new advising initiative at Florida Atlantic University, which is geared toward evening and commuter students.

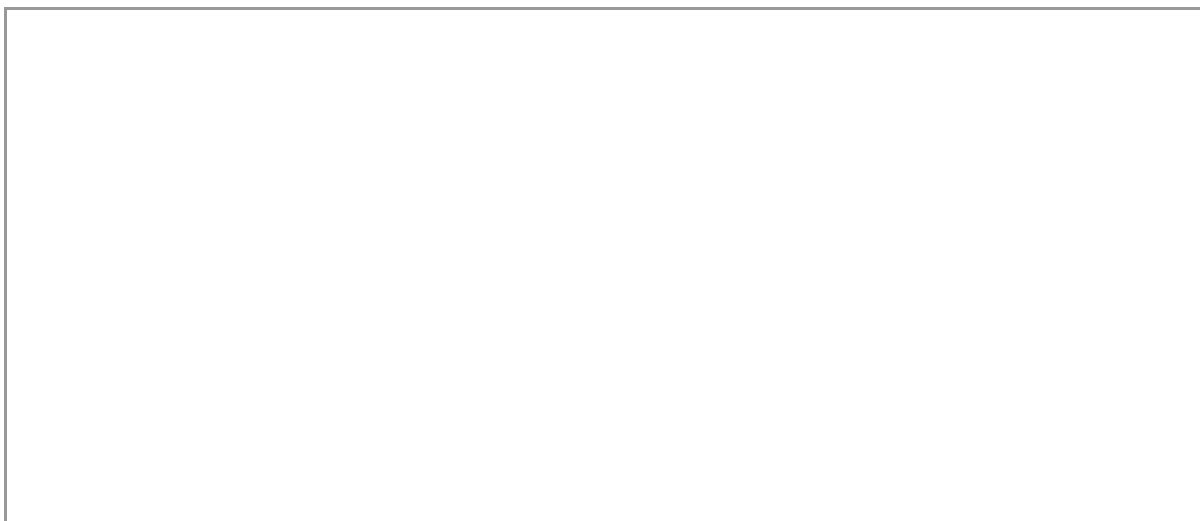
Registration for the upcoming NACADA Region IV Conference and the Florida Drive-In Advising Conference is currently open. I encourage you to register for these conferences as soon as possible, especially the Florida Drive-In, which is free to attend, but space is filling up quickly. You can find more information about these conferences within the newsletter.

Finally, although I have enjoyed my position greatly, the FLACADA Sunshine Times is in search of a new editor. Due to new responsibilities, I will be resigning from my position as editor once a successor has been named. Please see the advertisement below for additional details on the open editor position, and feel free to contact me at FloridaNACADA@gmail.com with any questions or concerns.

Cheers,

Kelly

Note From Our Chair





Hello Florida Advisors!

My time as the NACADA state liaison is about to come to an end. It has been an honor to serve the state in this capacity. Although I am not going anywhere, I wanted to write a short note reflecting on the last three years, and to thank all of the people who have helped the Florida Advising Community to be where we are today!

Almost three years ago, I moved to Miami, FL from Lincoln, Nebraska. Although I had served as state liaison for Nebraska before moving here—for those of you who don't know—Nebraska and Florida are quite different! Within a month of my arrival, the region was looking for someone to take over a vacancy for state liaison. Knowing that I wanted to get involved at some point, I put my name in the hat, planning to lose out to a more qualified person! In the end, I won by default because no one else ran! The morning I was notified that I was the new Florida liaison was a very scary day, but little did I realize then how rewarding and professionally enriching it would be in the next few years.

I was completely overwhelmed my first year. Not knowing the layout of advising in the state, I wondered how I could contribute, much less lead a group of advisors. Although I am grateful to many people, two individuals need to be singled out because of how instrumental they were in helping me through that first year. Our current regional chair, Joshua Johnson (UCF) gave me words of wisdom and encouragement and would build me up when I thought I was not doing a good enough job. And an FIU colleague, Helen Gonzalez, approached

me and asked how she could help. She probably rues that day because in the time since, I have called upon her hundreds of times asking for help, panicking about technology not working and a host of other things. I am grateful to you, my colleagues and my friends.

Let me talk briefly about all we have been able to accomplish in the last few years! It has been so very exciting to be apart of a group of so many creative, hard working people who have done spectacular things. Advising First at Florida State kicked us off by hosting a wonderful drive-in conference in May 2013. That set the bar high, but was met by a wonderful second drive-in conference at the University of South Florida in May 2014. I'm very much looking forward to our third drive-in conference this year to be held May 15th at Miami Dade College! And stay tuned for the announcement of our 2016 conference location! I am so thrilled that this has become a lasting endeavor. Hundreds of advisors from FSU, USF, MDC and other places have made this possible. I cannot begin to express my gratitude.

With the help of Josh and Helen, I was able to form a steering committee a year and a half ago. They make us all look really good! It is easy to imagine what my position would be without them: I look at my first year in office and see how swamped I was and how little I was able to accomplish. It is because of them that we have been able to do so much! A list of our steering committee members can be found in the footer of this newsletter, so if you get a chance and are so inclined, please send them a thank you for all the hard work that they are doing for FLACADA! The steering committee is actively working on three broad projects: this newsletter, which we are trying to build; the bylaws, so we can think about the future of our association; and social media and membership communication efforts.

We are working hard to build the future of our association. I am very much looking forward to see what happens in the coming years...under somebody else's reign. Thanks so much for reading and for doing the very important work that you do.

Craig M. McGill

FLACADA chair and Florida State Liaison



SOAR
Strengthening Our Advising Reach

NACADA Southeast (Region 4) Conference
April 12-14, 2015

Auburn University
The Hotel at Auburn University and Dixon Conference Center
Auburn, Alabama

Proposal Deadline:
November 21, 2014

\$140 Early Registration Deadline:
March 23, 2015
\$170 Late Registration

NACADA
The Global Community for Academic Advising

For more information:
www.nacada.ksu.edu/Events-Programs/Events/Region-Conferences/Region-4.aspx

SOAR: Strengthening Our Advising Reach
2015 NACADA Region IV Conference
April 12-14, 2015
Auburn, AL

Auburn University will be hosting the 2015 NACADA Southeast Region IV Conference from April 12-14, 2015 in Auburn, AL. Regional conferences provide a more intimate setting for advisors to network and collaborate; Strengthening Our Advising Reach (SOAR) will surely be a wonderful experience for Region IV advisors. The early registration deadline for the conference is March 23, 2015, so we recommend that you start consulting your supervisors and/or units for funding opportunities and travel plans as soon as possible! For more information, visit the [2015 NACADA Region IV Conference website](http://www.nacada.ksu.edu/Events-Programs/Events/Region-Conferences/Region-4.aspx). #FLACADALovesNACADA



**MIAMI: Moving Into Action: Motivate & Innovate
2015 Florida Drive-In Advising Conference
Friday, May 15, 2015
Miami, FL**

We are pleased to announce that Miami Dade College will be hosting the 2015 Florida Drive-In Advising Conference, Moving Into Action: Motivate & Innovate on Friday, May 15th, 2015 from 8:00am – 5:00pm. They are seeking volunteers and committee members to participate in this event. If you would like to get involved, or have any questions, please contact James Ochoa at jochoa@mdc.edu – also check out the “Get Involved” section of this newsletter for more information about available committees. For more information, visit the [2015 Florida Drive-In Advising Conference website](#). Be sure to Like Us on Facebook or Follow Us on Twitter, Pinterest, or Instagram to be kept up to date. [#FLACADA15](#)

[Register here!](#)

Open Position Announcement

Editor, FLACADA Sunshine Times Newsletter

The FLACADA Steering Committee is in search of a new editor for the Sunshine Times. The newsletter is currently circulated 3 times per year, and is still a new and growing endeavor for FLACADA. Ideally, the new editor should be able to take over the role and responsibilities of editor before the July 2015 circulation, and can expect mentorship and guidance from the current editor.

Role: Editor of the FLACADA Sunshine Times Newsletter & Steering Committee Member

Responsibilities:

- Report to FLACADA Chair and Steering Committee regarding newsletter activities and updates
- Attend monthly/bi-monthly Steering Committee meetings via Adobe Connect
- Prepare, edit, and organize newsletter content for distribution
- Review, edit, and maintain spreadsheet of article submissions
- Maintain database of nominees for the In The Spotlight column
- With input from the Steering Committee, review, select, and contact In The Spotlight nominees
- Work with technology coordinator for newsletter distribution
- Maintain contact with article writers and respond to newsletter inquiries
- Work on various tasks as requested by FLACADA Chair or Steering Committee

Self Nominations: Please submit your name, title, institution, contact information, resume or CV, and a brief explanation of your intentions, goals, and any related experience in taking on the editor position to FloridaNACADA@gmail.com. Although previous experience is preferred, it is not required.

Deadline: All self nominations must be received by May 1, 2015



Congratulations to **The PATHWAYS Intrusive Advising Model at Valencia College** on being selected for this issue's feature **In The Spotlight!**

The PATHWAYS Intrusive Advising initiative began at Valencia College in 2012 as part of the efforts under a Title III grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The goal of the initiative was to support the development and expansion of innovative programs and services at Valencia's West Campus. The West Campus serves close to 27,000 students, with approximately 11,000 full-time students. Prior to the grant, the campus' academic advising loads averaged 600-1,200 students, making assigned advising nearly impossible. Thus, advising was done "on-demand" unless the student was placed on academic probation.

The PATHWAYS Intrusive Advising Model seeks to be proactive by reaching out to students at critical points in their educational experience. The first step toward becoming proactive was to test if having assigned advisors would work, which also meant lowering the student-advisor ratio to 250:1. Next, the goal was to improve persistence, completion, and transfer readiness. Pre-Nursing and Business were the two programs chosen for the pilot due to the large number of students who began the programs but did not finish or were not prepared to advance upon transfer. Students were given a metamajor-specific orientation before their first term to ensure they understood the degree options available to them. Next, students were required to meet with an assigned advisor three times during their first year. Topics reviewed included education planning, career planning, and transfer preparation.

Having an assigned advisor opened the possibility for strategic touch points and a more tailored student experience. To date, over 700 students have experienced intrusive advising at Valencia through four Pre-Nursing and Business cohorts. Students receive career and degree knowledge at the front door, resulting in earlier, more informed decisions. In Summer 2014 business students reported a 96% career knowledge increase after Business-specific orientations and 51% selected a more suitable major before beginning their first class. Additionally, the first cohort, which began in 2013, has shown a 75% fall-to-fall retention rate, versus 66% in the control group.

Colleges intent on engaging students in a required, learning-based advising curriculum are often met with concerns about resources – mostly the staff needed for a robust, intentional advising program. However, proactive, early career exploration, major choice, and course planning often result in less need for advising down the road – and certainly fewer crises as students are more likely to select the correct courses and develop a relationship with their advisor who can intervene before problems become severe. Effective proactive advising models also distribute the work load more evenly throughout the year, resulting in a more manageable workload for advisors. Colleges interested in experimenting with a required, learning-based advising curriculum may find it helpful to move toward this process slowly – being sure to engage advisors in the creation and design of the model, invest in professional development opportunities so advisors can expand their knowledge of learning-centered advising strategies, and address concerns as they arise.

PATHWAYS Intrusive Advising Staff:

Cathy Penfold Navarro, Project Director, Pathways (Title III)

Ed Holmes, West Campus Director of Advising

Ayanna Collins, Career Program Advisor, Business Transfer Students

Raquel Morales, Career Program Advisor, Pre-Nursing Students.

Submitted by Ayanna Collins.

*Do you know an advisor, administrator, department, or program who deserves some special recognition? If so, consider nominating them for **In The Spotlight!** Submit nominations, along with 3 concrete accomplishments of this person, department, or program to FloridaNACADA@gmail.com.*

Article Submissions

On the Go Services for the On the Go Student

Challenge accepted! As part of a campaign to become the most student-friendly university in America, **Florida Atlantic University (FAU)** has implemented some new and exciting ways to reach out to students. One program piloted at the beginning of the spring 2015 semester was '*Get Wise: Advising on the Go!*'. The program was a collaborative effort between University Advising Services (UAS) and several academic colleges and departments, student support services, the FAU Police Department, the Office of Information Technology, the Office of Commuter and Transfer Services, and Parking and Transportation Services. The program places academic advisors in the security buildings at the entrance/exit of student parking garages (PG) 1 and 2 from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. twice per week; Mondays in PG 1 and Thursdays in PG 2. The initiative serves as an additional point of contact for the historically underserved population of commuter and evening students.

On FAU's main campus in Boca Raton, 83% of students are commuters, and 12% of students attend classes after 5:00 p.m. when many student service offices are closed. '*Get Wise: Advising on the Go!*' offers students, who typically cannot make it to campus during regular business hours, access to the support services designed to help them achieve their educational goals. So far, the program is succeeding. Advisors served over 300 students during the first two weeks of the semester, and numbers remain steady. Students visited the on-site staff for questions regarding general education and major level course requirements, degree audits, add/drop policies, and many other campus related questions. University Advising Services Director, Joe Murray, has been pleased with the program, and plans to continue the program so long as there is a need. "It's a good thing when we bring attention to underserved populations, and develop programs to target and support them," said Murray.

The services provided from the satellite offices do not replace or lessen one-on-one advising sessions and other services provided at Florida Atlantic University. Instead they complement them and expand the scope of students reached. The unique support system makes resources and information more easily accessible and convenient by bringing the service to the student. Roy Kaplan, an Academic Coach/Advisor at FAU said, "we are reaching out to a less traditional demographic of students. The majority I have met with haven't seen an advisor since their freshmen year. I have been able to help

students who seem to have fallen between the cracks. I advise as needed, and provide them with names, numbers, and emails of other advisors, departments, and colleges too.” The advisors have worked with students at all points in their undergraduate studies to answer questions, review degree audits and graduation requirements, connect students with appropriate resources, and guide students through processes such as re-admittance, grade forgiveness requests, and academic petitions. The proactive initiative aims to increase the frequency and quality of student interactions with FAU faculty and staff in the hopes those interactions will positively impact student perception, engage them on campus and with their studies, and see them graduate.

As higher education professionals, we support the success of our students and want to provide top notch services and resources. It is not only about degree attainment, but also about providing a meaningful collegiate experience and connection to Florida Atlantic University. It is a challenging goal made more difficult by the fact that no model of success works for every student. The traditional undergraduate was once classified as a first time in college, direct from high school admit, who lived on campus, and attended full-time. Today, with dual enrollment and AP credit options, online, evening, and weekend classes, and an increase in commuter and part-time students, the majority of campus populations is nontraditional. The “typical” college student has changed, and so have student needs and expectations. Florida Atlantic University maintains its commitment to student success, and continues to evaluate, improve, design, and implement support services for all students. One student who utilized the service described it best, “this is accommodating, awesome, and crazy all at the same time!”

Submitted by Jennifer Coisson.

Jennifer is an Academic Coach/Advisor in University Advising Services at Florida Atlantic University. She is currently working on her PhD in Educational Leadership – Higher Education Leadership at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, FL.





GET INVOLVED WITH FLACADA

There are many different opportunities to participate within our organization. Some benefits of involvement include networking with other advisors in our state, exposure for yourself and your institution, professional development, and sharing your expertise and opinions on issues that matter to you. Here are some ways in which we are currently recruiting volunteers:

- **Write for FLACADA**

Become a writer for the FLACADA Sunshine Times! Sunshine Times writers will be expected to work on stories and various assignments as needed by the editor. If you are interested, or would like more information, contact us at FloridaNACADA@gmail.com.

- **2015 State Conference Committees**

Miami Dade College will be hosting the 2015 Florida State Drive-In Advising Conference. The conference chairs are currently looking for people to serve on the committees listed below. Please contact James Ochoa (jchoa@mdc.edu) if

you would like to join one of the committees. This is a great starting point if you would like to get involved!

- Proposals & Sessions Committee

Assist with submission deadlines, reviewing proposals, and help organize session times and locations.

- Marketing and Communications Committee

This committee will manage social media before, during, and after the conference. This committee is charged with creating all physical marketing materials.

- Hospitality Committee

Assist with hotel accommodations, planning networking social events, and other various needs.

- Operations Committee

This committee will be responsible for the final touches and execution of the events.

- **Website Committee**

Looking for individuals who would like to get involved with creating our new website and assist with our social media outlets. You do not need to have prior experience, only need to be eager to get involved! Please contact Helen Gonzalez at helen.gonzalez@fiu.edu for more information.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLACADA Social Media

In addition to Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn, FLACADA can now be found on Pinterest and Instagram.



CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Have you written a paper that you'd like to be featured in the FLACADA Sunshine Times? Or are you interested in writing an article for the newsletter? If



UPCOMING EVENTS

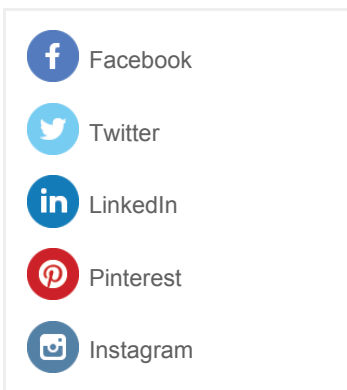
NACADA Region IV Conference

April 12-14, 2015
Auburn, AL

Florida Drive-In Advising Conference

Our Pinterest boards are filled with lots of useful tips and tricks to help the advising community.

Feel free to tag us as you post pictures on Instagram while attending advising events.



so, please contact us at FloridaNACADA@gmail.com.

We are open to all topics, including the following subjects in which Florida advisors have expressed interest:

- Ways to motivate students to come for advising without using holds or negative measures
- Technology & Retention Software
- Students who need developmental coursework but are not successful in their classes
- Working with International Students
- Mental Health and Advising
- Student Development Theory
- Career Advancement Tips
- Best Practices for New and Seasoned Academic Advisors

May 15, 2015
Miami, FL

Academic Advising Summer Institute

June 21-26, 2015
New Orleans, LA

International Conference

June 24-26, 2015
Melbourne, Australia

Academic Advising Summer Institute

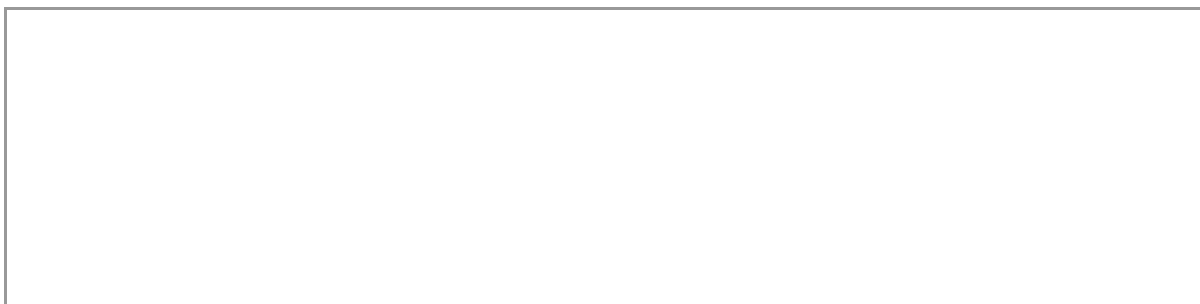
July 26-31, 2015
Colorado Springs, CO

NACADA National Conference 2015

October 4-7, 2015
Caesars Palace
Las Vegas, NV

Do you want to get involved with FLACADA? Become a writer for the FLACADA Sunshine Times! Sunshine Times writers will be expected to work on stories and various assignments as needed by the editor. If you are interested, or would like more information, contact us at FloridaNACADA@gmail.com.

Florida Academic Advising Association Steering Committee





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