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**A Newsletter for the Academic Advising Community****Editor Chatter****ANNOUNCEMENTS****Lindsey Byrd**

Hello my fellow colleagues out in advising land! I am sure many of you are busy with summer orientation sessions. I appreciate you taking the time to view the fourth issue of the Sunshine Times!

Over the next year, the editorial team hopes to bring you four issues that contain some new, and some familiar, articles relating to advising practices within the state of Florida.

Several new features you can look for are:

- Articles focusing on new regulations affecting advisors at SUS, State, and Community Colleges in Florida
- A technology application section with recommendations on apps that may be useful in advising students

Some familiar features will include:

- The 'In the Spotlight' section where we recognize an individual or program



The FLACADA steering committee has been diligently working on ways to create an advising community in the state of Florida.

We are excited to announce
#FLACADAhappenings!

See the article below for information on how and what to hashtag!

within the advising community for his or her dedication to our field

- Important professional development opportunities within our field so we can continue to grow as advisors and excel in serving our students.

Kathy, Melissa, and I look forward to bringing you new information and appreciate your readership!

It's going to be a hot summer here in Florida! Make sure to check out the day/weekend trips article below for places to stay cool!

Until next time, keep cool and advise on! :)

-Lindsey

AWARDS



Work Hard, Play Hard: Integrating Social Engagement within the Advising Community

by Samantha Spiers, Nancy Minev and Mary Correia (FSU) has won the Best of State award for their presentation at the 2015 Florida Conference. Congratulations, ladies!

State of Florida Legislation Updates



Having spent the week at the Florida Higher Education Summit, I am pleased to report that legislation impacting academic advising is minimal. The majority of conversation involved data collection for performance metrics, reverse transfer, ACT and SAT changes, MOOCs, and service animals.

Policies and Changes Affecting the SUS:

The Board of Governors should be exploring the feasibility of developing a performance metrics dashboard. The Florida College System currently has a dashboard. Institutions feel a dashboard of this type would be beneficial for monitoring progress.

The topic of reverse transfer opportunities is gaining national attention. The reverse transfer process promotes partnerships between universities and feeder institutions. The process would include the flexibility for institutions to automatically share student transcripts which could result in the awarding of a degree. For example,

Upcoming Events



The **39th NACADA annual conference** is fast approaching! The conference will be held in Las Vegas from October 4 through October 7. [Click here](#) for more details or by visiting nacada.ksu.edu under 'Events and Programs.' See you there!

a university may share a transcript with a state or community college, and the state or community college may in turn automatically award a degree on a student's behalf. Reverse transfer is utilized currently in other states such as Texas. However, concerns regarding FERPA are ongoing.

Start making plans to attend the **2016 FLACADA Drive-In Conference** hosted by the University of North Florida in Jacksonville next year. Stay tuned for more details!

The topic of Massive Open Online courses (MOOCs) is generating interest in the State University System. By Fall 2015, all university board of trustees must develop a policy to evaluate and articulate these courses. The policy requirements dictate an appeals and equivalency processes which will impact advisors. Advisors should become familiar with the **regulation** outlining the policy requirements.

Policies and Changes Affecting both the SUS and Division of Florida Colleges:

Both the ACT and SAT college admission tests are undergoing revisions for the 2015-16 academic year. These changes may require adaptations to admissions, placement and financial aid policies by colleges and universities. Information on the **ACT** and **SAT** changes for 2015-16 are available.

Institutions are experiencing an increase in the number of service and emotional support animals on campuses and in residence halls. When working with students, advisors need to understand the distinction between the two types of animals as well as the associated legal implications. For additional information, the **ADA** has a FAQ sheet which is helpful.



Congratulations to **Kim Martinez**, our selection for In the Spotlight for June 2015!



Kim Martinez has worked as a DirectConnect advisor at the University of Central Florida, Valencia Osceola campus, for two years. She serves the Central Florida community daily, advising prospective transfer students who are interested in attending UCF after completing an associate degree from Valencia or another college. Although she meets with a large number of prospective students, Kim makes sure she devotes the same time and energy to each student in order to meet his or her academic goals. In addition to her meetings with students, Kim is actively involved in multiple committees and projects at UCF, notably working on plans that strengthen the academic partnership between UCF and Florida state colleges.

Kim recently earned her certification as a Global Career Development Facilitator, enhancing her ability to assist undecided students with their career paths and major declaration. She has presented at numerous conferences, and will be presenting this October at NACADA's annual conference. Kim says that some of her proudest accomplishments involve working with the UCF DirectConnect advising team through their collaborations with FLACADA as well as her time in the Career Development Facilitator Training program. She takes pride in watching the students she has taught in the office and classroom progress in all aspects of their lives.

Kim says that her advising philosophy is primarily based on the developmental and transformative models. Her goal is to help students learn what they need in order to navigate the system, build their skills, and achieve their objectives on their own. Ultimately, her goal is to empower her students to be self-sufficient.

Kim's professional goals include returning to the classroom, where she taught Developmental Writing, and continuing to be a champion for underrepresented and underprepared students as she progresses through her career. She says she feels fortunate to work with a great team through each professional opportunity.

Know of a great advisor, faculty member, or program that deserves to be recognized? Send your nominations for 'In the Spotlight' to flacadanews@gmail.com. Nominations are ongoing.



Our world is dominated by technology. Smartphones, laptops, laptops masking themselves as tablets (or is it the other way around?) are everywhere; they all have apps consumers can download. Here are several apps that you may not know about which deserve recognition.

Khan Academy is a useful app that advisors can recommend to students who may need a bit more guidance outside of the tutoring center and from professors. Topics covered include subjects relating to math, science, economics, finance, art, and humanities. On a personal level, there is primary and secondary math tutorials as well as test prep for those parents with students preparing for college entrance exams. If you are looking for tutoring on a particular subject, for example Calculus 3 or Physics 2, Khan Academy has specialized apps for assistance in these areas as well as many others. Check it out you may learn a thing or two!

Looking for a fun app? **Flipboard** is an app that reads like a magazine as you swipe up to “thumb” through articles. You choose the information you want to appear in the magazine. You can select from many different categories ranging from celebrities, sports, and technology to employee engagement, etiquette, and leadership practices. Categories such as higher education, schools, and teaching have interesting articles that keep me in the know about what is happening in the world of academia. There is a convenient search bar in which one can bypass the massively long list of areas of interest and type in a keyword to find items to tag. Regardless of what you choose to tag (and you can choose as many categories as you want), it is **your** magazine, so tag away!

If you have any recommendations on future technology apps you would like to see featured, email your thoughts to flacadanews@gmail.com.

Note: FLACADA does not endorse any of the app recommendations in this article. The recommendations are chosen only as means to pass along helpful information.

#FLACADAhappenings

The FLACADA steering committee is excited to announce **#FLACADAhappenings!**

Anyone that wishes to can hashtag pictures, news, and events relating to happenings at your university. We hope that this will serve as a way for us to stay connected between regional and annual conferences.

Don't know how to hashtag? Watch a quick video tutorial now!



FIU coffee pick-me-up = taking a break from orientation




Miami-Dade College Senior Advisors waiting to welcome FIU/MDC Dual Admission students at orientation!

What's Going On?



Let us know what's happening in your office and on your campus



Professional Development



Proud Moments in the Office



Campus Activities and Social Events

Share Your Photos

Send your photos to flacadasocial@gmail.com and make sure to check Instagram, Facebook, Pinterest, and Twitter to see who will be featured in this month's:

#FLACADAHAPPENINGS

Fun in the Sun: A Guide to Florida Excursions



Summer marks the beginning of the busiest season for advisors. Fall registration, orientation for new students, and new catalogs increase the work load for all of us. Summer vacation is a distant dream. While we may not be able to take extended vacations, summer is still a great time to spend a day or weekend exploring new places—right in our own backyards.

If you only have time for a day trip, there are many options in the North Florida area. If you've ever traveled Interstate 10, a great scenic alternative is U.S. Highway 90, which runs from White Springs to Tallahassee. Places to explore include Monticello, rumored to be haunted, as well as cultural stops in White Springs and Suwannee River State Park. The 97-mile trip ends in Tallahassee, a city worth exploring for its historical and civic landmarks.

If you'd rather explore the Florida coastline, a trip to **Steinhatchee**, with its restaurants and waterfalls, would be recommended. Here, the coastline features salt marshes and waterways perfect for fishing and canoeing.

In South Florida, **Everglades National Park** is one of the biggest options for weekend exploration—literally. The park's 1.5 million acres will keep you busy with new experiences no matter how many times you visit. Although a trip on the iconic airboats is a must, hiking, boating, camping, and geocaching are just a few of the different ways to discover the diverse ecosystem within the park.

If you're looking to experience a different kind of wildlife, head over to South Beach. Relax on the beach, visit the many nightclubs and restaurants, or sit outside at a café and people-watch. Admire the South Beach architecture that reflects the Art Deco period. There is plenty of shopping for those who need retail therapy!

2015 Florida Drive-In Conference at Miami Dade College

The 2015 Florida Drive-In Conference is in the books! Miami-Dade College hosted the event which was a huge success! 320 people were present representing 22 Florida colleges and universities.

The 36 presentations were given by advisors from nine colleges and universities and were well attended and received!



For more photos from the conference, please visit our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/flnacada>

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