

Rachel Singleton, Mississippi State University Platform statement State Rep 2009

With over twenty-five years in higher education, Rachel has extensive experience with advising practices and models. Between the years of 1992 and 1999, she served NACADA as Region IV conference chair twice for Mississippi and presented at regional and national conferences on retention, probation students and peer advisors. After a hiatus of four years, she reconnected with NACADA in 2003. In 2007, she again became state representative and reconvened the annual Mississippi Advisors' Meeting (MAM; 3rd meeting to be held August 10 in Hattiesburg). She chaired, for the third time, the 2009 Region IV conference in Mississippi and the first NACADA Research Symposium held days before the region conference. Both were successful events.

Rachel is passionate about the advising role in retention and success of students. To highlight the importance of advising to student retention and academic success, as state representative, she set a goal to increase Mississippi awareness of and membership in NACADA. She created the state advisors website and listserv providing state advisors and administrators with valuable information from NACADA. Registrations from Mississippi at the 2008 region meeting increased by 250%!

Rachel serves on the NACADA Region IV Steering Committee, the NACADA awards committee, and will join the Member Career Services Committee this fall. She is currently a member of the Advisor Training and Development, High School to College Advising, Peer Advising and Mentoring, and the Advising First-Year Student Commissions/Interest Groups. She received an Outstanding Advising Award from NACADA in 2008 and an Electronic Publication Certificate of Merit in 2003. Rachel received the 2008 Region IV Outstanding Advisor Award and the 2008 Irvin Atly Jefcoat Excellence in Advising Award from Mississippi State University.

If re-elected as state representative, Rachel will continue to promote advising as a retention and teaching activity and will continue to promote NACADA as a valuable resource to academic units in Mississippi. Her goals include: increasing Mississippi attendance at and participation in NACADA events; promoting professional development activities for MS advisors; and promoting MS advisors. Rachel will present a concurrent session at the 2009 Mississippi Advisors' Meeting on August 10 at the University of Southern Mississippi titled "Submitting Award Winning Advising Packets."

Rachel is full of energy and has a strong passion for her students and for their success. She has employed the same ferocity in MAM and in NACADA. She will continue to serve to enhance advising in Mississippi and to promote our advisors.

Nominated by Lanna Miller, MSU