I attended my first regional conference after working as an advisor for three years and being in higher education for six. I was shocked to learn there was an entire community with the same issues I had when dealing with students.

You would think that attending NACADA would be no big deal after being an advisor for nine years…WRONG! My first NACADA conference was just three years ago in Minneapolis. It was great, inspiring, and overwhelming all at the same time. There were a lot of people and ideas flying around and I was desperately trying to figure out where I fit in. I quickly learned that everyone at NACADA is open to learning something and sharing their experiences. I knew I had a voice but the people in the room were more experienced, polished, and quite frankly louder than me, so at first I just listened!

That conference was the beginning of my global advising connection. I met people in sessions who had similar interests from across the country, I started asking lots of questions that were important to me, and I tried to see how others ideas could impact the work I did when I returned home. I can now say that I have been a conference presenter in Vegas and writing this piece for you in Atlanta. Without attending that first NACADA conference I couldn't share this story with you…and I can't wait for your story!
NACADA VISION
Recognizing that effective academic advising is at the core of student success, NACADA aspires to be the premier global association for the development and dissemination of innovation theory, research, and practice of academic advising in higher education.

NACADA MISSION
NACADA promotes student success by advancing the field of academic advising globally. We provide opportunities for professional development, networking, and leadership for our diverse membership.

NACADA STRATEGIC GOALS
- Expand and communicate the scholarship of academic advising
- Provide professional development opportunities that are responsive to the needs of advisors and advising administrators
- Promote the role of effective advising in students to college and university decision makers
- Create an inclusive environment within the Association that promotes diversity
- Develop and sustain effective Association leadership
- Engage in ongoing assessment of all facets of the Association
- Pursue innovative technology tools and resources to support the Association

COMMISSION & INTEREST GROUPS

COMMISSIONS
- Advancing NACADA’s strategic goals
- Proposing/facilitating activities
- Providing resources for professional development of members within a specific commission area

INTEREST GROUPS
Informal way of communicating similar interests and ideas in advising issues

THEMATIC CLUSTERS
- Administration of Advising
- Advising in Academic Programs
- Institutional Type
- Advising Specific Populations
- Theory, Practice & Delivery of Advising

INVolVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES
- Commission & Interest Groups
- Writing for NACADA Publications
- Consultant & Speaker Service
- Graduate Programs - Graduate Certificate & Master of Science
- NACADA Internship Connection Service
- Emerging Leaders Program

MEMBER BENEFITS
- NACADA Journal
- Academic Advising Today
- Member Career Services
- Consultant Speaker Services
- Special Publications, including DVDs & CDs
- Professional Development
- Listserv Membership
- Awards Program
- Scholarships
- Research Grants
- Involvement & Leadership Opportunities

EVENTS
- Annual Conference
- Region Conferences
- Administrators’ Institute
- Winter Seminar
- Assessment Institute
- Summer Institutes
- Web Events
- International Conference

PARTICIPATION → RESPONSIBILITY → LEADERSHIP