

## Offering Report

NACADA National Conference Task Force Survey ...: NACADA National Conference Tas...

## Summary

**Survey Name:**

NACADA National Conference Task Force Survey

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NACADA National Conference Task Force Survey

**Offering Date:**

4/21/04 to 5/5/04

**Statistics**Started: **1441** out of **8201**Opted out before starting: **48**Completed: **1373**Drop outs after starting: **68**

Drop outs by page number:

- Page 1: **76**
- Page 2: **33**
- Page 3: **23**
- Page 4: **3**
- Page 5: **11**






Average completion times:

- Average Time To Complete Survey: **1 hours 40 minutes 48 seconds.**
- Average Time Spent Before Quitting: **Not enough information.**

[top of report](#)**Note: Survey result percentages are always out of the total number of people who participated in the survey.**

## Page 1

**Question 1**How many times in the **past 5 years** have you attended the NACADA National Conference?

5		91 (6.32%)
4		82 (5.69%)
3		117 (8.12%)
2		195 (13.53%)
1		355 (24.64%)

Have attended national conference, but not in the last 5 years		70 (4.86%)
Have never attended the national conference		532 (36.92%)
N/R		1 (0.07%)

## Question 2

How many times in the **past 5 years** have you attended a **state or regional NACADA conference**?

5 or more		101 (7.01%)
4		74 (5.14%)
3		130 (9.02%)
2		245 (17%)
1		388 (26.93%)
Have attended a state or regional conference, but not in the last 5 years		109 (7.56%)
Never attended a state or regional NACADA conference		393 (27.27%)
N/R		3 (0.21%)

## Question 3

In the **past 5 years** how many **NACADA sponsored Institutes or Seminars** have you attended, e.g., Summer Institute, Administrators' Institute, Assessment Seminar?

5 or more		6 (0.42%)
4		7 (0.49%)
3		17 (1.18%)
2		61 (4.23%)
1		234 (16.24%)
Have attended a NACADA sponsored Institute or Seminar, but not in the past 5 years		58 (4.02%)
Have not attended a NACADA sponsored Institute or Seminar		1055 (73.21%)
N/R		5 (0.35%)

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## Question 4

In your opinion, which is **best month for national conference?** (Indicate your first, second and third choices.)

**4.1 January**

1		25 (1.73%)
2		33 (2.29%)
3		49 (3.4%)
N/R		1334 (92.57%)

**4.2 February**

1		133 (9.23%)
2		222 (15.41%)
3		183 (12.7%)
N/R		888 (61.62%)

**4.3 March**

1		95 (6.59%)
2		158 (10.96%)
3		196 (13.6%)
N/R		984 (68.29%)

**4.4 April**

1		76 (5.27%)
2		79 (5.48%)
3		103 (7.15%)
N/R		1175 (81.54%)

**4.5 May**

1		112 (7.77%)
2		80 (5.55%)
3		86 (5.97%)
N/R		1157 (80.29%)

**4.6 June**

1		141 (9.78%)
2		100 (7.04%)

2		(6.94%)
3		122 (8.47%)
N/R		1072 (74.39%)

**4.7 July**

1		57 (3.96%)
2		109 (7.56%)
3		78 (5.41%)
N/R		1191 (82.65%)

**4.8 August**

1		38 (2.64%)
2		33 (2.29%)
3		78 (5.41%)
N/R		1289 (89.45%)

**4.9 September**

1		108 (7.49%)
2		139 (9.65%)
3		86 (5.97%)
N/R		1097 (76.13%)

**4.10 October**

1		520 (36.09%)
2		254 (17.63%)
3		149 (10.34%)
N/R		501 (34.77%)

**4.11 November**

1		58 (4.02%)
2		134 (9.3%)
3		127 (8.81%)
N/R		1112 (77.17%)

**4.12 December**

1		2 (0.14%)
2		9 (0.62%)
3		29 (2.01%)
N/R		1400 (97.15%)

**Question 5**

What, in your opinion, is the **ideal length of time** for the national conference?

1-2 days		166 (11.52%)
3 days		937 (65.02%)
4 days		266 (18.46%)
5 days		29 (2.01%)
More than 5 days		3 (0.21%)
N/R		41 (2.85%)

**Question 6**

Which of the following **conference schedules** best meets your needs? (Choose "1" for the schedule that best meets your needs, choose "2" for the next best schedule.)

**6.1 The entire conference during the work week (no weekend days, conference scheduled sometime between Monday and Friday)**

1		675 (46.84%)
2		242 (16.79%)
N/R		505 (35.05%)

**6.2 The conference ends on Saturday**

1		291 (20.19%)
2		513 (35.6%)
N/R		618 (42.89%)

**6.3 The conference ends on Sunday**

1		167 (11.59%)
2		110

(7.63%)

N/R		1157 (80.29%)
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**6.4 The conference begins on Sunday**

1		229 (15.89%)
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2		437 (30.33%)
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N/R		757 (52.53%)
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**Question 7**

What is **more important to your decision to attend, price or location?** For instance, would you be more apt to attend the national conference if room rates were \$220 in a major city like San Francisco or Boston? Or, would you be more likely to attend if room rates were \$140 a night in a city like Charlotte, Milwaukee or Sacramento?

I would pay the higher room rate to be in a major city.		409 (28.38%)
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I would prefer a lower room rate in an interesting smaller city.		851 (59.06%)
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Other:		138 (9.58%)
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N/R		43 (2.98%)
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[View Other Text](#)

**Question 8**

What is the one thing you would like the National Conference Task Force to know about the timing and location of the national conference?

[Hide Responses](#)

There is usually "down time" after May graduation ceremonies for about 2 weeks so the 3rd week in May would be an ideal time for me. Large cities often have better flight times and cheaper travel rates to get there so I think majors cities are better.

Please consider cost of time and location. I know it is difficult to find a time that doesn't hit someone's heavy time for advising, but for years the October date has conflicted with our early enrollment time, making attendance difficult. Budget constraints are yet another issue.

Alternate regions each year. Time of year is fine.

I have no input here. I am still a starving graduate student who has no money or time to attend conferences. I suppose my only "advice" would be to perhaps offer a few scholarships to deserving grad students so that they might be able to attend a conference prior to graduation.

When the last day of the conference is a half day (ending at noon), it really helps with travel arrangements AND I don't have to miss a several sessions just to be able to get back home at a decent hour.

Travel: Make sure that arrangements are considered from airport to hotel.

## User Responses

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**What is more important to your decision to attend, price or location? For instance, would you be more apt to attend the national conference if room rates were \$220 in a major city like San Francisco or Boston? Or, would you be more likely to attend if room rates were \$140 a night in a city like Charlotte, Milwaukee or Sacramento?**

- my college will only pay up to \$100 a night, so I have to room share with a more expensive rate
- I would attend either way and probably try to get a lower price room near the conference center through priceline.com. For example in Dallas I was at the Westin through priceline.com for \$85 plus tax per night. The Westin was connected to the Conference Hotel by skywalk.
- overall cost is low
- A major city every other year or every three years would be ideal.
- a location fairly close to us is more important. eg. Dallas, New Orleans, Memphis. Pricey plane tickets are difficult for us to afford.
- either
- I want to be in a big city and have less expensive room rates
- Depends if university is paying
- depends on the city
- no preference; department pays
- Depends on accessibility--being able to make easy travel connections
- Doesn't matter
- IT'S NOT UP TO ME TO DECIDE AS I DON'T CONTROL THE BUDGET.
- I prefer a variety of -- both major and smaller cities. Smaller or "less major cities" can be very, very nice.
- proximity to work
- west coast/east coast/ midwest spread
- air fare may be the trade off as often higher to smaller cities. Interesting and inexpensive no matter what size is

ideal.

- I'm sure my district would prefer the less expensive rate
- I would consider the combination of room rates AND flight ticket price. I would not mind much about the size of city.
- both options
- For our office, the location must be nearby or we won't be encouraged to attend
- I would prefer a higher room rate in a city where I can walk to restaurants as opposed to being stuck at some resort where I must have ground transportation.
- work pays, so it doesn't matter to me.
- As long as there are convenient flight and rail links, the city is not a major factor for me
- Prefer lower room rate at a major city
- I come for the conversation rather than the tourist attractions or cost.
- The cost of both accomodation and travel play a big part in a decision when travelling from Canada. We also need to factor in our lower dollar value
- low rates I don't care if it is an "interesting" city
- My biggest consideration is timing
- I am willing to do either, but the cost of the conference would dictate if we could gain approval to attend.
- Cost is always a factor.
- Interesting; large or small
- I like both
- Although it is cheaper to stay in a smaller city, it is usually cheaper to fly to a larger one. So I don't think it matters.
- closer to home; less travel time
- Undecided
- airfare costs are more of a concern
- I would rather attend a conference in a city where there attractions are easily accessible and within a reasonable distance from the hotel.



- No Response

- The room is not important, however, the conference has to be during a time period when I can attend. We are on a quarter system, and everytime there is a conference, we are either beginning a quarter or ending a quarter.

- I would prefer some location that is more centrally located and has reasonable costs

- dont' care

- either is fine

- Flights are my biggest concern- ability to get low fare to attend meeting

- Either

- No Response

- Airfare is a bigger consideration.

- cost would not affect my decision at all

- Would pay higher for a nice warm location

- dependent upon state budgets for the year in question

- Alternating schedules of lesser intermittant with an occasional major city to plan for it.

- The travel costs have to make it worthwhile to get th the smaller city...if you have an extra flight or have to rent a car, then it might be more cost effective to just stay in the larger city.

- either

- depends on what univ would pay

- travel cost is more of a factor

- don't care

- Open to various options

- not sure

- will attend regardless

- Either would be good

- should have choice within city- higher and lower rate hotels

- The total cost of room and air is the most important.

- Rates of \$80-90.

- Doesn't matter

- No preference. Content is more important to me than location.

- Like a mixture of the two

- No Response

- Depends on the city

- mix of the two - one year off, one year on since both are equally important considerations

- hard choice...cost vs accessibility via air transportation

- I think it should alternate every other year.

- proximity to Indiana

- no preference

- San Diego

- not important

- Doesn't matter

- the other attractions of the city; things to do outside the conference

- alternate the two choices

- A balance: an appealing location whether or not it's a major city AND rooms not overly pricey. No more than \$200. Preferably lower than \$150-175. Eg: Charlotte is appealing, while not a major city -- that's fine. Sacramento (no offense) is not appealing. How about: Seattle, San Diego, Minn, Portland , OR (ME is nice, but may be too hard to get, too), Charlotte, Nashville, New Orleans, Reno/Tahoe, a city in AZ or NM

- No preference

- either

- It does not matter since my institution only reimburses a specific amount no matter the cost of the room.

- no difference, school usually pays for trip

- Flight costs are overriding factor

- I do not receive any institutional support for attendance

- We have almost no money, so for now, it would have to be near Chicago for us to go.

- Both

- doesn't matter

- cost of transportation, proximity to California (my home state)

- Mix it up, expensive every two or three years, and then mid-range for the inbetween years.

- A city near a major airport

- I would rather travel to a major city, but whether or not I am able to go depends on the budget.

- Does not matter

- does not matter

- A place known for its natural beauty or wonders would also be nice

- The large cities are very attractive, however, travel budgets are lean now. Currently, funding is the highest priority when considering travel and staff development. Hopefully things will change in the future...

- City with cheap airfare more important than room rate - can always share a room with a colleague.

- I think it is nice to rotate between big city and smaller city.

- don't care about price

- Realistically, I'm usually so busy at the conference that I don't get time to go out and explore the city. However, the lower the cost the less money out of pocket I have to pay.

- transportation is more important: can I get there easily

- as long as it has a major airport

- see below

- AT RESORT HOTELS AT OFF PEAK TIMES

- No Opinion

- prefer location that is healthy: Florida, southern CA, Carribbean

- I like a place where I could vacation before or after..a beach!

- n/a

- distance from home

- The cost is not as important as how easy it is to get to the city! Direct flights are better than multiple jumps.

- it doesn't matter

- Interesting city, easy to get to

- no preference

- depends upon the city

- Costs in general - registration fees, flight and accommodation fees, etc are the first factor in determining whether I could/would apply to our PD group to ask to attend. The second factro would be the outline of topics/presenters. Living in Canada and having to travel to the USA for PD events would be carefully reviewed due to a limited PD (professional development) budget that is shared among hundreds of employees.

- I get my own hotel closest to the conference center

- room rates are not as much a consideration as close location without need to fly

- switch off, include resort locales (mountain, sea)

- A combination of both - perhaps alternating between the two extremes

- no preference

- It does not really matter.

- resort

- Mix

- It doesn't matter.

- No preference

- Southern or Southwestern location

- would like beach area

- Doesn't matter

- It's not likely I would attend a national conference on either coast no matter the cost.

- large city one year; smaller city the next

- Our travel money is not based on cost. Neither would affect my decision.

- Factoring in transportation costs affects my answer

- whatever our budget would allow

- It really does not matter, if the topics are of interest

- a nice city of any kind

- Nice location w/moderate hotel rate

- Room rates are only part of the package. Airfare to smaller cities is often higher than airfare to larger cities, so the room rate often balances out.

- b above or lower in nearby or adjoining city to a major city

Close

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I don't think it's necessary to hold them in large cities where many people have no idea where they are going. It would be nice to have it in a smaller city where there are still things to do and the cost is less.

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Round Table discussions are a waste of time. The convenience and accessibility of a hotel is more important than its fanciness or being located in a congested area of a central downtown location.

---

I am satisfied with the timing and location of the national conference.

---

fall is not a good time, I teach freshman seminar in the fall and cannot get away in October. Late July/early August is good, summer orientations are over and "back to school" is not yet in full-swing. Also May is a good in-between time. Less expensive locations increase my chances of attending.

---

As long as it is moved around the country, that is all that really matters.

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To keep the conference varied in location. Do not pick just one location to have the national conference every year. Rotate the conference between 3-4 select cities so that those who do not want to travel great distances have a choice.

---

Nothing to add

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Try to offer programs that cover a wide range of PRACTICAL subjects.

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Access to airport, public transportation is available, nice weather

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Should not be times close to beginning of semesters in postsecondary institutions. Locations should be conveniently accessible to airports.

---

There are few opportunities for advisors to travel and NACADA offers one such opportunity. I would appreciate a more exciting location.

---

The timing is perfect. I have thoroughly enjoyed the locations.

---

the ones I've attended have been great!

---

October seems to be a good time of the year, since most of should have dealt with students changing schedules. However, if the school begins their schedule in October, then this is a conflict. To be honest, having this conference will interfere with some school advising schedule.

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There is not best time as advising is always going on somewhere!!

---

Early Oct is still a very busy time for our office. Spring or summer would be better. Location is not overly important. Central U.S. makes the most sense for travel.

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Winter travel is difficult for many--early fall seems the best time--and the later into the fall semester the conference is scheduled, the more difficult it is for me to miss class time to attend.

---

let's go back to Denver!

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Pick a city that is good on airfares, a place that most people can fly direct because fares are better that way.

---

I'd prefer a conference on the west coast

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Avoid busy registration times in October and April

---

I prefer locations that have things to do during off hours.

---

BUget is always an issue. Many times people can not come because of the tight budget.

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Summertime we are heavy into Orientation advising and do not have time for the institute. It's good to have institutes in February like the advising administrators and assessment.

---

October is a heavy advising time for us since spring enrollment begins in November. It is impossible for all of our advisors to attend.

---

The timing has to be geared toward preparing, encouraging and or evaluating. The location adds excitement and it takes us away from the everyday.

---

Timing this year is good- just before our advance registraiton period. Please build in networking time. The best part of conferences is making connections with other advisors. There is often session after session scheduled back to back. Why not schedule a networking session?

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Timing is everything. Location is secondary.

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The conference should take into consideration the tight budget most Universities have now. Also the timing of the conference needs to be carefully thought out so that it doesnot coincide with peak times for advisors.

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Stay way from the beginning and end of each semester (4 weeks in each case). also, alternating geography each year is also helpful for attendance due to airfare costs.

---

I like the rotation of the national conference among the regions and Canada.

---

Summer would be best in terms of timing. I would like to see college/university visits with local institutions to see programs and network more with professionals from the local area.

---

Good choice

---

Geographical locations should verify to the four corners and central US in order to give more members an opportunity to attend who otherwise would not due to distances.

---

The campus budgets are being slashed, so anything to reduce the costs of attendance would be greatly appreciated.

---

It's better if it's scheduled during times that are not so close to registration. In regards to location, I think it's important to vary it just so it's not always scheduled in the same part(s) of the country.

---

I don't think city makes much difference as long as there are interesting things to do in the evening. The price of hotel probably does make a difference to some people's budgets, however, and may deter some people from attending conferences in major cities. Warmer weather helps.

---

Too much repetition of workshops where other institutions say what they are doing in there. More variety of workshops.

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Mid-October does seem to make the most sense with most academic calendars. On our campus anyway, the rush of the beginning of the semester has calmed down and we haven't yet started the madness of registration preparation that happens at the end of October/beginning of November.

---

that the conference is concise

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I think location is part of the draw, but it shouldn't be the only reason people attend. I think major (more expensive) cities every few years would keep it interesting while controlling costs for those who do try to attend annually.

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Cost of airfare is a major consideration. Often lower airfare available in major cities can offset the higher room rate.

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Conference location in a city should be in walking distance of entertainment/Cultural and shopping venues

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A central location at times that we are less busy (avoid pre-registration times, year end and beginning).

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That my college is not willing to pay and it must come out of my own pocket.

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convenience in transportation

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With the limits being placed on higher education budgets in these current times, the National Conference should be more centrally located in order to address some of the cost concerns involved.

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The most attractive conferences are held in interesting locations where an extra day or two for sightseeing can be added before or after the conference.

---

Large city - attracts more participants which leads to the added benefit of more networking opportunities. Ideal timing is early fall - you've survived registration, classes are set and you may need a professional boost! A fall time would allow you to implement new ideas for the current year.

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Recent national conf. have been scheduled at a time that doesn't work well for schools on the quarter system (i.e. conf is the 1st or 2nd week of school year) Location: one advantage to larger cities is better deals on flights. if it is a "B" conf venue--pick a city that has something to see and do!

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Spring or early fall are best because the weather is nice enough to enjoy outdoor excursions. The conference needs to be in a location that has convenient shopping as well as some interesting sites.

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Nothing.

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Current time of year is best. Late Sept. - early Oct. Please do not change.

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I think more interesting locations are bigger draws for most people, regardless of cost.

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While I would prefer a lower priced "interesting" small city, it also needs to be easily accessible by air.

---

Timing is always tricky - so I'd suggest going with your best professional decision. Location - easy to get to - and rotate so different regions get the opportunity to pay less.

---

At many universities, registration for the Spring Semester begins in early October. Also, Rosh Hashanah falls in late September and early October each year. This can make it very difficult to attend the conference at that time of the year.



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Make the timing and location sensitive to weather (don't hold it in Detroit in February).

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Avoid cold weather cities during the winter.

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during the summer, otherwise it is very hard to get away from school.

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Proximity to airports/transportation.

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all weekdays

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If a city in the midwest or east coast is chosen where winters occur. The conference should be during warmer months. If a city like Phoenix is chosen the conference should be during March or April.

---

Those of us from small communities find travel to be very expensive regardless of where we go. If you choose a site that has a lot of airlines which service it we can get better fares.

---

I work at a quarter school that starts fall term classes at the end of September. It would be better for us if the conference were the 2nd or 3rd week of October. I feel guilty leaving my students during the 1st or 2nd week of the term.

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Airfares are increasing, so ease of getting there is important (not too many costly transfers).

---

I think it is hard to do in October as that is close to our advising time.

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Proper time of year for location -- January in Wisconsin or Denver, not a good idea.

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Can you web-stream the main events for those of us who can't make it?

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I think that the timing and location have been fine. I am always impressed by excellent organization of such a large conference.

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Ability to tie in with other events in the area related to Advising/Admissions such as NACAC

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Vary location nationally from year to year so that folks from all areas would be more likely to attend. I am a newly registered advisor so I have not had an opportunity to participate but look forward to attending in the future.

---

I like the current arrangement where the National conference is in the fall and regionals off-set it in the spring. Living in Iowa flying anywhere is expensive. Flying to a major city will be less costly than flying to an "interesting smaller city"

---

Location is not a huge issue, in my opinion. Cost and finding time to attend in one's schedule is key.

---

Be sensitive to the schedules of both semester and quarter schools.

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Major cities are best because of attractions and because of ease of air travel.

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I have enjoyed your locations. I would always prefer the conference to run during the work week. Weekends are the only time most of us get to play "catch up." Some colleges also do not permit travel days during the week.

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There is no perfect time; it will be difficult to attract faculty during the week AND during the summer, their time off. Institutions registration periods also seem to vary...I suppose climate is a factor, I'm not opposed to having someplace cold, but I suspect others are.

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Dates very often occur during times when I am advising students right before registration.

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The lower the cost, the more staff from our office that could attend, but the better the place the more that want to. If the conference is in a smaller place, but is close to a major city and the conference ends before the weekend or on Saturday, the extra time can be used to visit.

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Special events that are going on during the time of the conference .

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The sessions should allow participants to submit real situations at their institution and one, two, or more should be selected for processing during the conference.

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Because of university budget concerns, location is a major concern for me. If a conference is held at the beginning or the end of the semester, it also makes it very difficult for me to justify leaving to attend a conference

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If there is any consistency among universities and colleges as to when their students register for upcoming semesters, this would be a time to avoid scheduling a conference. It is the busiest time of the semester for advisors (at least on my campus).

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The conference hotel must be in a location where there are places to eat and shop without having to use public transportation.

---

March is a bad time for me to attend because we are having advance registration.

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Timing should not interfere with impending major holidays. Location should always incorporate local cosponsorship/cooperation of major university in addition to local chapters.

---

It needs to be in a location that is easy to access via air and land; the timing needs to coincide with when it is best for most Academic Advisors' to leave their campus and come attend.

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Coast cities are always more interesting. and as we know, everyone loves warmer climates

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My one NACADA conference [Salt Lake City] was \_excellent\_. For my school, we are limited financially to what I can attend. The conference was fine, and I am sure the regional etc. ones are too! I am glad they are of good quality -- don't compromise anything, we'll get there as much as we can!

---

I think the conference location should be rotated throughout the regions of the country to allow all members to attend a conference closer to home.

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I think it is important to hold the NACADA National Conference during during a non peek time for schools maybe during the summer. I think the conference should be held in a major city. This attracts more people. Keep registration prices low so more people have the opportunity to attend.

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Regional events are more useful to me than national events. I teach at a very small liberal arts college. Much of the NACADA advising literature is geared to large institutions, and to the challenges of large student bodies.

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Choose a better time of the year--March, April or May

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Attending a conference during peak times of a semester (especially if advisors/counselors are teaching) may be difficult to schedule.

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Cost of attendance, including registration fees, hotel, food, and travel.

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I have trouble funding attendance at the regional conference. I don't think I would ever be able to get funding for a National Conference unless it was held in my region (8).

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Since I've never attended a national conference, I have nothing to add at this point.

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Good job w/ choosing a variety of locations in different parts of the country--San Diego, Kansas City, Dallas, Salt Lake City, Cincinnati, Orlando.

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I would like to attend a conference in a place I would not otherwise have the opportunity to visit. I would then invite my family to join me after the conference for a few days.

---

Mid October is best, and also a place where there is good airline connections... that way one can get cheaper air fares.

---

Because I do not come from a major city, the air fare is usually quite expensive for my travel. And this is something out of your control. My administration is supportive of attending professional conferences, so that helps.

---

I don't know.

---

make flying in easy and getting to the hotel easier

---

Avoid peak advising times.

---

Think about having another one in Canada as it is more economical for all concerned.

---

Need to know ALL the costs as soon as possible to get on my campus travel budget. This includes lodging, registration, etc. If money is not appropriated by Oct. 1, we are out of luck until next fiscal year.

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The workshops (days) begin too early I think that 9 or 9:30am is better.

---

October is busy midterm grade time, advising picks up and sometimes makes it difficult to get away.

---

I have not been unhappy about anything that has been planned and carried out. I try to be flexible. I find the conferences to be very stimulating and I am very enthused when I return to work.

---

Take into account student registration periods at colleges.

---

It would be best if it were not scheduled close to course registration times during the semester. The location does not always have to be a major city and should include cities that we have not explored in a few years.

---

More Canadian locations.

---

It's a trade-off. It's often more expensive to fly into an airport in a smaller city, yet the room rates are less expensive. The opposite is true with major cities: the airfare may be cheaper but the rooms are costly.

---

If the location is not somewhere that I find interesting I don't even read the rest of the information because I don't want to spend the money to travel to some place that is not interesting to me.

\_\_\_\_\_  
-

The timing should reflect the the academic calendar. October is midterm on many campuses and is a difficult time for students and therefore those who work with them.

LOCATION: In a city with historic sites (national), relatively safe, reasonable accommodation. TIME: Consider weather condition at the location of choice: nice warm weather preferable; at about the beginning of the semester or a lilltle later, avoiding times closer to exam/end of semester.

location is very important.

Conference has gotten so large, maybe having a National Eastern, Central and Western conference would work. Travel as it is these days is a MAJOR consideration. For those who would have to drive, it would help.

Reasonably good weather, easy access to/from airport, and held during a month when projects are minimal and time more open.

That much of the decision making about who may go from my office is centered on two things: the calendar (it can't coincide with major advisement periods such as new student orientation or advance registration advisement in the spring and fall), and the cost.

Two things are considered for conference attendance approval in order of priority: 1) the enrollment calendar, 2) and, expense.

I think you do an excellent job. It gets better every year. jacque weekes BYU-Idaho

I WAS SELECTED TO GO TO OTTAWA, CANADA AND LOVED IT. A NATIONAL CONFERENCE SHOULD BE AT A MAJOR CITY. OUR ADVISING STAFF TAKES TURNS GOING TO CONFERENCES SINCE THE BUDGET DOESN'T ALLOW EVERYONE TO ATTEND. WE'RE ALL DROOLING OVER HAWAII BUT REALITY IS WE PROBABLY WON'T BE ABLE TO GO.

everything has been fine

If local, better parking (Bellevue as opposed to Seattle). Easy access by shuttle, etc. if out-of-town.

Those of us who are on a quarter system have just started fall term at the end of September. Early October is too soon for us to leave the office for a conference. Late October would be ideal.

Please do not make it too close to the State Conferences.

many of us are unable to attend the pre-conference activities. could you plan some tours during the evenings too instead of the day before it starts?

have affordable places to eat in the neighboring area (close walking distance)

Consider busiest times at workplaces for attendees to be able to attend

This one works just fine.

---

The National Conference should take place in a city and state that not only has innovative 2 and 4 year institutions but has also worked to broaden student diversity.

---

I appreciate that the conference takes place in a different city each year. Some folks will be able to attend regardless of the location, but others can only attend when the conference is closer to home.

---

It often conflicts with our busy time of registration. I also believe it should be longer than it is.

---

No comment

---

I do think it is important to rotate the location of the conference (i.e. midwest, west, south, east).

---

Although I do prefer a variety of major/minor cities, I'm not that interested in Cincinnati. Sorry!

---

Timing should be shortly after the school term begins, before schools start on pre-registration for the next term. Details of costs and conference format should be published ASAP for approval and back-up scheduling at the institutions. Limited funds for conferences!!

---

It's important for the national conference to continue rotating through 6 regions: Northeast, Upper Midwest, Northwest, Southeast, lower Midwest or Midwest, and Southwest, doing so that every other year the national conference is somewhere in the Midwest.

---

Keep the cost to a minimum.

---

Naturally, advanced notice is helpful.

---

The conference site needs to have space for "mingling", so advisors can network between sessions. The last conference I was able to attend had no meeting space -- session rooms were in oversized hallways, and you spent your time running up and down the hall with no time or space to talk to others.

---

The time of year should be kept in mind. It is difficult to get away from campus during the beginning or at the end of the semester and the summer months are a challenge too.

---

As far as timing early Fall is good end of Sept. early Oct. The location I'm flexible on. It could be a small interesting city or a major city that provides a lot of things to do.

---

I would like ample advance notice of dates and costs so that the conference could be included in budget planning and schedule for the year.

---

Weekends would not work for most people.

---

Typically, it's been travel budget limits preventing my attendance at some conferences and not related to location or timing.

---

Have handouts available on the web prior to the conference so that participants can make a better decision about selecting conference sessions.

---

I have always thought the timing and location not a problem. My problem is I can not go to state and National. So State is usually a little cheaper.

---

One of the things that has prevented me from attending the conferences, in addition to timing, is location.

My impression is that the conferences are over weekends and too far away.

---

Smaller, interesting cities may not have cheap airfares, but we can arrange for roommates to cut room rates to manageable costs.

---

Consider holiday schedules and when might faculty members be able to attend.

---

It seems to be just fine to have it in October. Weather is quite good everywhere in terms of not needing to worry about travel conditions or delays and for getting around at the place the conference is held. This date allows time to get settled in for the new semester before attending.

---

I think you have a challenge ahead of you to find an ideal time b/c institutions have such different peak and valley times. I work very hard at networking & learning at the national. I would prefer for it to be cheaper (so I can afford to bring more staff). I am always too tired to get out anyw

---

For most of us at smaller private schools at least, cost is becoming a HUGE issue. I made Dallas reasonable by staying with a friend. As it was, it cost almost a thousand dollars; I have a conference allowance of \$600!!!!

---

Move the location around the U.S.

---

Please have last weekend of Sept. I prefer the major cities as we can combine work with pleasure which is important in taking a break from our office.

---

Close to airport.

---

Early in the semester is best; from midsemester on is problematic. Geographical rotation that is currently done is good.

---

Schools on an academic quarter system have significant difficulty leaving campus during the first week of the fall quarter! I would be able to encourage many more colleagues and advising administrators to attend if the conference was held later in October or during another month.

---

It may be good to pick the time when flight ticket prices are generally lower (I'm sorry I actually don't know when you usually have the conference).

---

I will have support to attend no matter where or when it is held, and I'll enjoy it no matter where or when it is held.

---

Timing is critical. If it is during registration, it is usually not possible to attend.

---

I think a conference which starts on a Thursday and ends on a Sunday is best. I would not hesitate to attend whether the city was major or smaller. It is the quality of the presentations that are important to me.

---

With limited budgets for travel, having a lower room rate is helpful.

---

Location for the Summer Institutes have been very appealing . .... so would recommend National Conference select similar type of cities. Timing in early spring does compete w/many other conferences.

---

even though it can vary among institutions, just keep in mind the general "registration period" during the semester, and try to avoid that

---

October is the busiest month for advising and registration on campus. Unless the conference is scheduled very early in the month, it is difficult to get away.

---

The differences in semester and quarter schedules makes the fall a better time for both types of schools.

---

The conference should rotate around various parts of the country.

---

Larger cities are MUCH easier and CHEAPER to fly to. Cincinnati will be costly from either coast. Chicago would have been cheaper. So it might be a wash. More for the flight, less for the hotel. From "hub city" could visit someone else - extend visit.

---

Many air fares require a Saturday night stay. To get a good fare, I would probably work out my travel plans to be sure a Saturday night was included.

---

Please consider the average start date of the semester in the planning of conferences. Please consider having the national conference somewhere warm in the middle of winter (Chicago gets pretty cold and I'd love an excuse to warm up a bit).

---

Boston

---

Look at when and where airlines have the price discounts, make sure that reasonably priced hotels are available. We're all facing budget issues, and can't always afford to take advantage of the learning opportunities available through NACADA!

---

It should be conveniently located and not occur early autumn quarter or during the summer when we are busy with freshman orientation and survey.

---

I really enjoy conferences that started on Sunday evening. This allows folks time to tour the city first and stay for the conference. This may also help avoid having folks leave early on the closing day. Wednesdays are good closing - esp. if it's done by noon.

---

I would like for the conference to have workshop for Professional development, they should be at least 2 hours. I find myself running around trying to go to some of the workshops that interest me and it last for such a short period of time.

---

Our budgets just aren't out there to attend the National Conference...best we can really hope for is the regional if it is in driving distance.

---

With our University and College budget constantly shrinking for the past several years and no pay raises, getting money to attend a national confenece is very, very difficult.

---

Site that has available competitive air fares & reasonable hotel rates, ex.Orlando, New Orleans, Nashville, Las Vegas etc. Month of Oct. is best for most Academics. Saturday night required for lower air fares, conf. end sun or start sunday

---

As a resident of the Northwest at a school that is operating on a minimal budget it would be nice to have a rotating National Conference throughout the U.S.

---

Alternating eastern and western locations from year to year is helpful. Starting the conference in the evening is not helpful for me, as I inevitably have to travel the day before anyway.

---

Avoid Spring and Fall registration periods. Avoid winter weather travel.

---

cities that are interesting with lots of interesting "tourist" things to do - maybe even near federal parks

---

we are all on a BUDGET and travel is the first thing to get cut out, so we do not need to spend more money than we have in the past, it would be even better if it could be less.

---

Having interesting things to do when you're not in sessions, as well as good places to eat near where the conference is located, is very important. NOT in November or April, that's when we register for classes. October, while it works, is also difficult because mid-semester grades come out then.

---

The conference needs to be held in a month when the advising work load is the lightest or at a time when most students are off campus.

---

Since I have not attended a conference I cannot address this question.

---

Bump it up against a weekend so one can make it a longer trip if they desire-- indeed location is a major consideration for me.

---

Avoid important advising times at participating institutions.

---

Weather ! weather !

---

Possible a planned trip to a well known historical building, or the downtown area of a major city.

---

The conference location should alternate between east coast, west coast, and centra.

---

Easy airport access (that is, the availability direct flights from other major cities) is the more important to me than the 'interest' of the city.

---

During the fall/spring term too difficult to get away. Summer is a slower time. Cost is a huge factor! Would be great if NACADA had a "scholarship" program or reduced rates if you presented at conference.

---

Personally, the timing has never been an issue for me. I have attended for at least the last 10 years and have never been disappointed with a location. The committees have always done an excellent job with location. Even cities I did not expect to enjoy turned out to be wonderful.

---

Affordability, accessibility - major airports, decent weather

---

A spring/summer conference would be great! And, location is a key factor, but price is as well.

---

My favorite conferences were in San Diego and Orlando. Having a place to also unwind and recharge was much appreciated.

---

The city should have sites of interest and should be scheduled during the week. It should be scheduled during the months of october or march.

---

Timing needs to be w/in the majority of advising's "down time" (not around registration). Location, for me, can be absolutely anywhere, but a city that is easy to get in and out of probably works best.

---

My summer is committed to the orientation sessions for incoming freshmen, so planning time away then is difficult. October is also a difficult month because of preregistration activities.

---

I would like for the National Conference to rotate the location on a regular basis, such as having the next



conference in the South, and the following year, have it in the West, etc.

---

I really liked the poster sessions and perhaps they could be scheduled to take place at two times on two different days with the first day used for browsing and the second in separate room used for more in depth conversation for those who are interested to pursue the area.

---

I'm getting really tired of conferences held at resorts. The cost of the meeting becomes exorbitant because of excessive food costs and generally the rooms are not any cheaper. I am fond of meetings held within a city where restaurants and coffee shops and bars are within walking distance.

---

preference is in New England

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It shouldn't be too expensive since college departmental budgets are very limited. We must obtain alternative funding sources by drafting proposals.

---

I did attend the National Conference in Dallas last year and really didn't like the conference timing. Personally, my weekends are sacred - especially Sunday!! So, having the conference take up both my weekend and my Sabbath was not my ideal.

---

Budget is key. I can not attend every year because I do not have the budget. I have to write a grant to attend.

---

For me, it does come down to cost. I am given a \$800/year PD allowance that can be accrued. As such, having the National in a centre that is cheaper to get to and stay at would make it easier for me to attend more regularly. Vegas for instance has good deals on flights and reasonable room rates.

---

The easier to fly into conference cities, the better. Ex, Cleveland OH is much easier to get flights to than Akron. It would be nice to have a day before or after the conference to explore the host city.

---

Please consider scheduling the national conference during the summer or during Jan-Feb. In October, quarter-system schools are busy with advising students during the first two weeks of classes.

---

none

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Having the National Conference somewhere south in the October, especially February timeframe is most desirable.....Myrtle Beach, SC; San Diego; Panama City, FL; San Antonio, TX; New Orleans, LA; etc. Business may as well represent a "semi" vacation break.

---

Thank you for asking my input, but as a Cdn.advisor it is difficult to make requests. The cost and time of the conference is very problematic for us. Late Feb early March are best time wise or early Nov. Driving distance is great but not reasonable for the rest of the country.

---

Oct. is too busy with advising

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Keep in mind the tight fiscal situation most advising offices operate in. Minimizing the number of weekdays and choosing lower-cost locations will make conference attendance more affordable.

---

October - November is the peak of advising for spring classes. Mid March - April is the peak of advising for the following fall, and most schools are very busy in August/early September (assuming a semester model)

---

I am a new comer, but I thought the timing and location in Dallas was perfect. My experience was extremely positive. The conference was laid out in a way that a new person like me could fall into place rather easily.

---

n/a

\_\_\_\_\_

I think it is important to have the conference and hotels close by each other. Little or no traveling to the conference is important.

\_\_\_\_\_

The critical issue is cost. Whether airfare or Room rates & airfare, cost drives attendance. I value content and networking opportunities, not peripheral perks. Affordability reigns. Consider timing re academic calendar. Not within 1st 3 wks of semester. Not too close to finals.

\_\_\_\_\_

Try to avoid tourist-ie places -- search for inspiring venues instead...

\_\_\_\_\_

Understand that some attendees are present with full financial support, some with minimal support, and some with none.

nothing

\_\_\_\_\_

September/October is a terrible time for those of us on the quarter system. Total cost of attendance is important to me - travel, room rates, registration fees, etc. Lowering room rates in a city that is more expensive for me to get to won't be any more helpful.

\_\_\_\_\_

No new suggestions. I feel they've done a great job with the variety of locations, and the current timing works well for me.

\_\_\_\_\_

I'd like the conference to start on Sunday so that I can get back to my job for at least one, if not two, days to catch up.

\_\_\_\_\_

October is my first choice. With a very limited budget, the cost of the conference determines if I can attend.

\_\_\_\_\_

It's difficult to attend conferences during peak enrollment times at our institution. I am more likely to attend if the location has activities my family can do close by, so they can come as well. If the topics are valuable enough to me, then nothing else matters...I will make it a priority.

\_\_\_\_\_

Make it fun!! Incorporate more evening group dinners, activities, so for all of the people that come alone they have some options and hundreds of people aren't left to do something on their own (many won't come back).

\_\_\_\_\_

I'm okay with the timing of the conference as it is. Our office is very busy in October, but we can arrange to attend.

\_\_\_\_\_

Holding the conference in an "attractive" city that is a draw makes a major positive difference.

\_\_\_\_\_

I think timing has a lot to do with the location and climate of that area. So, it is best to have the conference in typically "neutral" weather months that would be most conducive to several locations. And, we need a national conference in the SOUTH!! Nothing better than southern hospitality :-)

\_\_\_\_\_

As an advisor at a public university, I cannot afford the conference and travel expenses. My department has limited funds, and to date the national conference has not provided professional development sufficiently focused on my advising population to justify a funding request.

\_\_\_\_\_

Preferably a vibrant, downtown location where some cafe culture /museums/galleries /shopping etc. are easily available, Ottawa was excellent, Dallas city centre is practically devoid of retail and cafe life.

\_\_\_\_\_

must avoid conflicts with major registration periods or other events (i.e., orientation, graduation); travel

costs must be modest and time away from campus minimal

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We have to pay for the trip ourselves, so expense become an issue for us.

---

Have a decent sized venue to accomodate all the sessions.

---

Watch out for major registration periods for institutions on both quarter and semester calendars.

---

Do the best you can. You will never please all of the membership.

---

N/A

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Prof. development is always the 1st thing cut from budgets. July and Aug. are the best times from a fiscal standpoint and the cost of a conference must be reasonable.

---

Enough accomodations for attendees to be close (walking distance) to the conference site

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Considering colleges are tightening budgets, less cost is best

---

Timing- Depends on the College calendar.For a 2 year college with 5 terms(10 weeks/term) a year, open admission.It makes it difficult for an advisor to be away for a week. Location-- It is all about the budget and conference money

---

location,location, location, prefer large city

---

For those of us on the quarter system the current schedule is often the first or second week of fall term. This has precluded my attending for years.

---

Please change the time of year. Fall is too busy. Winter (Jan/Feb) in a warm climate would be great!

---

The first week in October has worked very well for me since 1992! And I much preferred the beginning of the week (begin Sun. end Wed) than the most recent schedule. Location is a draw but the conference schedule is what makes me go and take a university faculty advisor with me. Great Job!

---

I don't care if the city is interesting or not. Simply get down to interesting topics, run sessions at night, and end the conference. If someone has the time/money/lack of family obligations to remain over a weekend, or to arrive the previous weekend, more power to them.

---

Major speakers draw people to the conference so do not schedule against them.

---

More report of concurrent sessions since SO MANY EXCELLENT sessions and need to attend but during other EXCELLENT sessions I may be in.

---

Timing the conference mid-semester in fall or spring is helpful as advising peak times tend to be at the beginning of the semester and during registration (usually toward the latter third of the term). Summer is difficult because many schools are doing orientation programs involving advising.

---

Every Advisor I know is always busy, so timing isn't so critical. Summer would probably exclude 9 month advisors, so during the traditional school year is probably best. I think content is the most important aspect of attendance.

---

The timing often conflicts with my institution's preregistration period. It's difficult to coordinate preregistration

and conference attendance.

---

The lower the overall cost, the more advisors we would be able to send.

---

If we could get it during school breaks or summer would be the best. Fall is the busiest time of all, but on the other hand the break is very nice. But, also think about Spring and the largest graduation class (usually) so Feb/March is a hard month because of preparing degree petitions.

---

Budgets are tight - any way to cut costs (registration fees, lodging, etc.) would bring more participants.

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Institutional Budgets....

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If possible avoid scheduling at the same time as other National conferences,e.g. Nursing.....

---

It should occur during the Spring Break period or at the end of a semester. October is a very difficult month for me to attend a national conference.

---

The conference is best held in the fall semester because it helps motivate me for the upcoming school year.

---

While a great location is always a draw, budget issues may limit the number of advisors that attend. Timing is crucial also for attendance as it will also limit the attendance if it is conducted during high peak advising times.

---

We have families and weekends are precious. Start conferences on Tuesday and end by noon Friday.

---

I currently think the timing of the conference is perfect. It is usually at a time when the semester or quarter is underway and it allows for professionals to steal away for professional development and networking. I think I enjoy the mid-week to the weekend time frame.

---

Make sure there is time to enjoy a large city...this is not so important for lesser known or smaller cities...

---

Budget concerns of universities Peak advising times (registration, etc.)

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My sense is that conference attendees appreciate the opportunity to explore major cities and take advantage of available tours both within and beyond those city.

---

Budgets are getting tighter so an "economical" off season conference is ideal.

---

It should be centrally located.

---

The issue with a major city is to keep the hotel within walking distance to a variety of restaurants, etc. so attendees do not feel tied to the hotel.

---

The time of the year and the seasons is what I would like the National Conference Task Force to pay more attention. Unless it is Indian Summer, being in Cincy, Ohio is not really something to look forward to.

---

centrally located in the country

---

The universities and community colleges seem to always be in registration, but February, March, April, September or October are the best months. The location should be rotated so academic advisors and counselors can attend a national conference at least once every three to five years.

---

Early in Jan (best time) because the students are not in classes so it would be easier to leave. The October date you have now is probably the worst time of year for most people Also warm weather would be preferred. Nashville is a great town to have a Conference in.

---

For academic advisors it is imperative that we are available to students during the following times: beginning of school, course selection for next term, end of school. Not all schools are exactly similar, but most are similar and anytime during those periods, there is NO way people will attend.

---

I think the timing and locations of the national conferences have been just fine. Due to budget cuts and supervisory changes, my travel opportunities have been dramatically lessened, much to my dismay.

---

I like the conference timing and variety of locations that have been offered!

---

Cost and childcare on-site are the most important factors in my decision.

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Additional information (restaurants, things to do, highlights) of the location.

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Locate in a city with a variety of airline options

---

I prefer to conference in the summer. It allows time to return to campus and incorporate new ideas into the next academic year. However, the NACADA National Conference in Dallas was truly outstanding!

---

Having organized conferences in the past, I think that rotating the location, but keeping the time and length the same is important. It is easier to plan if we know when the conference will be well in advanced.

---

Most universities are on the same cycle - it needs to correspond to a downtime.

---

In the past, it has seemed to fall during a peak time in the fall semester. Try to schedule it during a natural "down time" (is there such a thing?) for advisors.

---

Timing and location are less important than content.

---

The first 3 weeks,middle 3 weeks, and last 3 weeks of the semester are the worst possible times for us.

---

I'm more inclined to attend a conference within driving range, because the cost/time/hassle of flights and transportation into major cities is a deterrent. Obviously, you can't have them all within driving range (6 hours), but I doubt our department would ever support travel cost

---

Rotate east coast, middle of the country and west coast - to be fair to those of us in the east. At least that way we could attend every three years.

---

I like early October for the timing of the conference. I do not like that the conference goes into a Saturday. However, starting on a Sunday afternoon would work well. Would like the opportunity to have input at another time about technical set-up/fees.

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N/A

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Early notification of dates and location so that I can arrange my schedule and get approval from my Director.

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I wish more were in the east. I don't really consider Cincinnati east.

---

There is never a perfect time/location.

---

Major city allows cheaper/easier airfare/transportation costs and larger hotels to accomodate numbers. Warmer months better for touring/day of week not important/month/weather very important

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I have a very limited travel budget and will only attend if conference is on the east coast

---

October is a good month as long as it is later in the month, not the first week. Since we are a quarter school, the first week in October is the second week of class.

---

It's frustratingly hard to argue the value of the experience when budgets are tight... the lower the expense, the better the chance to be able to attend in person.

---

My college has more availability of travel funds in summer and fall. This may be the same at other colleges.

---

Try to see where other conferences are held and see if you can be in a comparable area...it's no big secret that we're going to look at where things are held.

---

Those of us with families at home would prefer the conference during the work week rather than weekend.

---

I really like the month of October and really like that this year's ends on Saturday; would like a conference at least once in SF or Boston because I love both places!! Smaller cities, especially in the South, would be great places to visit!! Just not at a resort like Disney where we are stuck.

---

To be held in an East Coast/Northern city

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I enjoyed the conference in Dallas, and the Regional conference in St. George and I look forward to the next conference.

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Keep evenings free.

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Easy access to airport.

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Every year the location should be in a different part of the country.

---

Timing and location are the MOST IMPORTANT factor in deciding to attend a National Conference. It is both a question of time and money.

---

As long as the conference continues to be a positive experience (and doesn't conflict with registration periods) I will attend regardless of timing or location.

---

Not to schedule the conference toward the end of a semester, and to consider staying away from holidays when planning.

---

We start on a quarter system end of Sept. so October is too busy a month for us. Almost any month is better than Sept. and October. That is the only reason I have not gone to a National Conf, is that it is held in October.

---

Cost of airfare as well as accommadation costs.

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It's too long now and too many events start too early in the day. I come home absolutely exhausted.

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affordable would be my major motivator

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If you're going to have it some place wonderful, make time for people to enjoy it. Don't go some place great and then coop people up in windowless rooms for days on end.

---

I look forward to it every year.

---

Warm and interesting locations would be my first choices.

---

Early Oct-late Sept is a good time for me. April is ok but may interfere w/Easter, other events. Too many other nat'l conferences held in March. Feb is ok if in warm location. Sessions get boring/tiring after 2-1/2 days. Smaller city ok if easy to get to via air.

---

It is difficult to attend during April or May because of graduation preparation and in September and October because of the beginning of the college year. An east coast location is better for me.

---

Academic Advising requires heavy work loads all year long, but especially the four weeks before and after a semester. Additionally, New Student Orientations run at our institution beginning in late May.

---

We are academic advisers and advising has peek times. May, after graduation is the best time.

---

October is a good time to have the conference. For the location, it doesn't matter, really, whether it is a larger or smaller city. What matters is having it where participants can easily get to activities/attractions. Also, sometimes the downtown locations are just dull...the concrete jungle...

---

Work does not reimburse therefore, dont know if you have a "financial" resource to help someone go to the conference. Maybe create an application for assistance? That is the primary reason I have not gone - cant afford it.

---

The only thing I would like to see different is to have one more day, so I had a little more time to spend with people. By the end of the conference last year, I was exhausted! Location didn't really matter to me because I spent all my time at the conference.

---

Due to budgetary constraints, the Faculty would subsidize attending the National Conference once every five years. My preference would be scheduling the National Conference mid-October to the end of November regardless of its location.

---

The current schedule falls in our busiest advising time. This causes us to limit only one adviser attending. The bigger cities seem to offer more activities for after hours. Most importantly make sure the area is safe for walking to places. Dallas was a bit uncomfortable.

---

I would have attended more conferences over the last five years, however, due to changes in my job duties, responsibilities, and support staff I was unable to. The dates just happened to coincide with course selection or enrollment of my students.

---

During the time frame that I can attend without stripping my department. I would very much like to send a team, however, because of the dates that are chosen, it is impossible for one let alone a team of advisors to attend.

---

It can't conflict with registration season.

---

I think ideally a central location in a mid-sized city would be best, with a 3-day conference.

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Since NACADA deals with advising, conferences scheduled during peak advising times are very difficult. Although advising never ends, summer gives a little more freedom

---

That it should change so that if a school always has a big event at the beginning of October (for example) that they can attend the conference another year.

---

Need to avoid advising periods during semester. For us that means mid to late October to mid November and April. None of us make bunches of money. We wouldn't on our own stay in pricey hotels so I would think we could find some reasonably priced hotels with conference facilities.

---

It should always be before or after the pre-registration period of most campuses. It should always be in a major city with lots of tourist attractions.

---

Central locations or alternating East Coast, Central US, West Coast, etc. would be helpful in more staff being able to attend. I realize finding locations large enough while keeping the cost reasonable may be difficult. Fall is also one of the most difficult semesters to attend.

---

Please try and have them not during registrations.

---

Pick a city and place that has activities the area or things to do a night that are close for those who do not rent a car. The hotel in Dallas seemed isolated. Everything in the area seemed to be closed in that area of the city. It took some time to find shops and restaurants.

---

My timing choices are based on the fact that I attend 3 other conferences related to the major that I advise, all during the Fall. I really don't want or need another Fall conference. I'm not sure how the NACADA conference would rank with the other conferences. Never attended a NACADA conference.

---

Cost is the #1 issue. I like the current conference setup and I attend several other conferences each year. NACADA's are usually the cheapest and yet most informative based on the set up of the conference. I would not want it to change too much...

---

no comments

---

It gets increasingly difficult to get away during the school year as budgets are cut and (in our case) student numbers increase.

---

It is difficult to attend during peak advising times: August & September, November - January, April & May

---

It is important that the conference not be during peak advising and registration times or close to major holidays.

---

None at present.

---

Major cities are major draws for a conference and enhance the possibility of my attendance.

---

Stay away from dates near national holidays.

---

I would really appreciate it if you can avoid weekends. Some of us like to attend athletic events for our family and weekend conferences really cut into that.

---



Ease of transportation options between the airport & the conference hotel/location as well as to points & places of local interest is very important. Since there usually is very little "free time" during conference presentations, it's nice to have planned events or near-by attractions.

---

Not all schools are on semester systems, so timing that seems perfect for semester folks sometimes is terrible for people whose institutions are on quarters.

---

Try to make the location family friendly

---

Consider typical registration schedules at colleges and universities. An affordable location.

---

n/a

---

The late October date interferes with the scheduling of our terms, it is usually right around the time that our Fall term is beginning.

---

The conference needs to be held in a location with activities, and hotel choices nearby or easily accessible by mass transit. The actual city does not matter.

---

Keep costs low. Look for a few quality speakers, rather than redundant, not-so-quality wannabes.

---

I live in the northeast so a Feb. conference in a warm area is very attractive (I know that great presentations and networking are a given, so I'm looking at what makes the conference even more attractive.

---

Most of the conferences have been in October; that is one of two of my busiest months of the year as an advisor. We are preparing for Semester II at that time and I also teach in the fall. Little chance to go.

---

For me, the October dates it now typically occupies are about as bad as they could get.

---

Please think about having the national conferences in exciting major cities. They should not always be held in the same region year after year. The summer institutes are always during a good time of the year and are held in wonderful locations.

---

October is hard for those few of us still on quarters. I have the luxury of attending no matter what the cost or where, so I attend biannually and hope for good content!!

---

As they have been, keep in mind most university's registration and admission times.

---

As a Canadian, I would appreciate having the conference in Canada every 5 to 7 years or so, as it makes it more cost-effective for me to attend. I went to the conference in Ottawa.

---

Since mid-end of April & the month of Nov. is when registration for the next semester typically takes place, I could never attend a conference at this time. Also, registration for incoming students is in mid-month in May, June, July and August, so the beginning of the month is a better time.

---

Please do whatever you can to keep costs down. For those of us fighting the reality of shrinking budgets, or those of us who have small budgets to begin with, I think cost is the pre-eminent concern.

---

Look for locations reasonably priced for lodging and conference sights because state budgets tend to be tight and not everyone can go to NACADA.

---

I would personally love to see it come to Minneapolis one year!

---

Areas that are remote from services in the city are inconvenient.

---

Location and timing have been great!

---

The timing conflicts with our major recruiting time with college fairs and university events. Most of our advisors do double duty in recruiting and advising in addition to their teaching load.

---

Advisors are limited in attending if the conference is held during a peak registration time (summer and fall registration begins in April), during or near the first week of classes, or in the summer which is our busiest time.

---

One of the most important things to me is to have good access to air travel.

---

Ensure ease of getting in and out of an airport. Smaller airports tend to be more user friendly and accessible--requiring less time and reducing the stress of travel.

---

The national conference is great. However, in tight budget times, money is an issue. It needs to be affordable!

---

I'm there to soak up all the advice and information I can. The biggest obstacle for me is if it coincides with a major registration time--which makes your job difficult since each university and college is on a different timetable.

---

That it be affordable and not occur during a busy time of the school year, i.e. school opening or summer orientation.

---

I believe that people are more willing to travel when we are away from the major registration dates at schools. It's more appealing to go to a big or nice city than the less popular ones. In the Summer Institute in San Diego, advisors would get together after the classes to network and site see.

---

Try to please the greatest number of members and build in flexibilities for those whose requests are contrary to the final plan.

---

I'm new to the advising scene, and this year's trip to our state conference was my first. It was excellent. I have difficulty envisioning a national conference good enough to justify budgeting even \$140 per night.

---

try to keep hotel prices and air fare low--many of us attend several conferences a year--not just NACADA

---

Changing locations so that travel time could be averaged. At times some of us would be able to travel short distances, whereas other times we would have to travel further.

---

can't think of anything

---

Please do not choose a location in which there is likely to be bad weather (i.e., snow) if it is scheduled for the late fall or winter.

---

October is fine for the national conference. Staying in a city where the room rates are less would help my travel budget so I could attend a regional meeting also.

---

I think the current time fits well with my college's schedule.

---

somewhere nice!

---

consider the academic calendar, since most of us advise after classes begin in any semester is a good time. Let's find out who is interested in the next conference and tailor the city & dates to their interests.

---

I think you've asked the right questions about time and location.

---

My attendance, or lack thereof, has much more to do with my institution's travel or professional development budget than anything to do with time and place.

---

It is important that the host city has a good public transit system. Also, it is better if the location of the hotel is close to a selection of restaurants etc.

---

Nothing new, I've enjoyed each that I've attended

---

I like the October time. I think it fits most colleges' registration schedules. For place, it is useful if the hotel conference center is close to a variety of restaurants and activities so conference participants do not have to take a cab to eat dinner. Also, EASY airport access is important.

---

Major cities, with fewer connecting flights needed to get there, are best.

---

Inner-office politics seem to have something to do with the budgeting of such activities for us.

---

I prefer to attend national conferences where you can get cheaper meals nearby. I get a very low per diem and when there are no options other than conference/hotel food, I can't afford it.

---

Please include more detailed materials regarding the content of the pre-conf. workshops. Last fall I was extremely disappointed when the content did not match the brief description listed in the program. Those sessions are relatively costly & more info. would help in making decisions.

---

Timing - do not overlap with other natl conf. Location - Big expensive cities are not good for the working poor.

---

Summers would seem to work better since many schools are in the process of planning fall activities, implementing new programs, etc. It would also be nice to have time for sight-seeing built into the schedule. Most participants would be willing to pay for the cost.

---

Since advising intrinsically linked with registration for classes, it is best to schedule national conferences during times to avoid conflicts in schedules so more advisors can attend.

---

Third week of August through second week of december are out for most faculty, as are second week of january to second week of may. June/July would be absolutely ideal time!

---

timing is everything. October is our continuing student registration and I can't spare staff from the office.

---

Convenience of conference location to hotel is a major factor in terms of how much I enjoy a conference. Kansas City was terrible; Denver, Orlando, and Salt Lake City were great. Timing is never great but late fall or mid spring is best.

---

Need to stay away from critical times in the semester--if you do May, don't butt up against the typical graduation time.

---

no suggestions at this time

---

Budgets will continue to be tight for the next several years. My college will only cover registration--and even that fee is becoming out of reach for us for many conferences--so we need conferences within driving distance with low-proced accomodations available.

---

Pre-Registration times of colleges and universities

---

The conference should not be held during high advising times. Last year it was right before registration and that made it difficult to get the time off to go.

---

Summers are busy with orientation and advising new freshmen and transfers. Winter and spring are quieter times.

---

Make it when the teaching semester is over so we don't have to miss our teaching assignments.

---

A nice warm location would be a nice treat. San Fransico, Las Vegas, Florida, San Diego, Boston, Arizona are just a few ideas. The best timing would be when school is in session like the dates I indicated above.

---

While other advisors may not want to have to work on the weekend, I would prefer not to miss as many days during the week. I teach and meet with advisees and other students during those times. I don't care about the size of the city, as long as there are interesting places to walk to.

---

A summer time frame would be positive as the academic year is complete. Personally, this timeframe my faciliate an opportunity combined a family vacation on the front or back end of conference.

---

Most of us plan based on a fiscal year budget. My travel plans are made after I know how much it will cost for my faculty and staff to attend their conferences. Therefore, a deadline of April or after to apply for attending the conference works best for me. Thank you.

---

Please do not schedule the conference during the first weekend in October. The selection of the conference location has been well done in the past. Being from the west, I, personally, would enjoy a conference held in an eastern city. New Haven, Conn.?

---

There are always two sessions I want to attend, but because of the time conflict I have the choose the one that is most beneficial. I would like to be able to attend both. Tried to set it so there is not so much walking. Keep all sessions in a small ratius.

---

P)lease make sure there are things to do in the city at night. Dallas became a ghost town after 5:00 pm.

---

I do not like to have to use my weekends for attendance or for travel. The school will give me administrative leave for days missed, so it's best for me to attend during the work week.

---

Whether it is in a large city or a smaller one, there should be time given (either planned outings or free time) to enjoy the sights of the city without compromising attendance at the various sessions.

---

I couldnt say since I haven't been to any, but I have been to many large (ACPA,NASPA etc) conferences and have found all locations to be interesting. timing is crucial though because of the flow of the academic year. I usually cannot get away during the nacada national- its too early for us.

---

Timing: Avoid the ends of semesters. It's way to hectic then. Location: In the South during the winter is fantastic!

---

The regionals have been worthwhile and much easier and affordable that attending the national doesn't always seem necessary. I know more people at the Regional and the Nationals I have attended haven't been as "friendly."

---

Conferences at the start or end of a semester do not work well.

---

Don't ever hold a conference in a place like Kansas City, Missouri that offers no walking opportunities for food or shopping etc. People need to be able to walk to whatever options are available to them and not depend on a car. They need a variety of options.

---

From my experience, generally the beginning of semesters are better for folks. The first 2 weeks of a semester are bad, and then after mid-terms it starts to pick up again, so between there is the best.

---

Be aware of the peak times for students...beginnings of semesters, graduation times, etc. When they are busy, so are we! Also like that it varies from coast to coast every other year...helps us plan that idf its too far away one year, the next one should be closer.

---

Travel is much more difficult during winter months when roads are bad and/or airports are more likely to experience delays.

---

Consider the schedules of both semester and quarter schools in choosing the time...so the summer would be best for all.

---

Take into consideration both the quarter and semester systems. Therefore, end of October for Fall and end of March for Spring would be good times for both systems.

---

During the week is better, but often the cheaper air rates are if you stay over a Saturday night. Bufget cuts are affecting all aspects of travel. No \$\$\$\$.

---

It seems like the national conference is always in the middle of our pre-registration.

---

accessibility

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don't hold the conference in a casino...it's way too smokey

---

Rotate regions of the US.

---

Be sure the facility has the space and rooms to conduct the various types of sessions (lecture style, roundtable, etc.)

---

Don't ever schedule it on the Jewish High Holy Days again! You have no idea how much I resent the fact that I must miss the first national conference since my reinvolvement with NACADA due to this unforgivable lack of attention to true diversity goals.

---

Budget constraints/ travel freezes have greatly retracted options in last years. For us, \$ comes in July, w/ restrictions usu. being applied in early Oct & freed in early Mar. Cost remains a constant. Incentives for multiple attendees from same institution would be helpful.

---

The conference should be at a time when advising appointments tend to be less frequent...not too close to beginning of semester or end of semester. Location doesn't really matter, but I do like to see the conference in the midwest every once in awhile.

---

weather is always a consideration

---

The biggest obstacle to my attendance has been cost. There's no money in the office budget for the national conference and I cannot afford it personally. It is important to move the conference geographically each year. If the conference comes close to my home, I may be able to drive there.

---

I find it very difficult to have a conference in the middle of the week. Many of the other conferences that I attend for my subject area are held on Friday-Sunday. (Thurs used as the pre-conference day.)

---

Atlanta great: access to cheap flights & lots of hotel options. Need moderate size city with cheaper hotels & lots of flight. April, Nov, Dec & summer are out as this is prime advising time for most. 1st-mid Oct or end of Feb-mid Mar best time. Total Cost & finding time to attend #1

---

For our budget and for several of us to attend, it needs to be within driving distance (say 250 miles).

---

I have been happy with the timing etc, but would like to see more conferences held out west, i.e. Washington State, Oregon, New Mexico. However, the northeast, Boston, New York City, in the southeast, New Orleans, Miami would be fine also.

---

It is very difficult to attend a conference during peak advising times. At our University those are during March, June, and October.

---

Interesting, easy to get to, reasonably priced, mild climate.

---

It is very important to have it easily include a Saturday night stay. Too expensive to travel otherwise.

---

I've only attended three conferences and I have loved them all. I am easy to please and my interests are learning all I can about advising. I've enjoyed meeting new people. Thank you for allowing us to have some input but you are all doing an excellent job.

---

Be considerate of scheduling/advising times, planning times and finals schedules.

---

Budgets are tight. To justify the expenditure the conference schedule must be really good. Traveling for a multiple day conference is a better value for college money--No time is a good time, but some times are impossible... Avoid scheduling in January, May, August, and late November/early December.

---

I dont like the evening events; people are tired after traveling. the first day of the conference should not have an evening event attached to it. Plus they last too long. (7 - 10 usually)

---

The conference should take place at the end of the school year (June) in a city that has nice weather and has competitive airline fares. Ground transportation from the airport should be easy and inexpensive.

---

I have no complaints or suggestions at this time.

---

Not too many preconference workshops. Have registration begin in the afternoon and then have the confernece start the next day with sessions, run for another 1/2 day with a tour in the pm

---

I realize there may not be as many Canadians participating, however, I thoroughly enjoyed the conference when it came to Ottawa, Ontario. It is an amazing conference and I came back with so many new ideas. It would be nice if it could come back to Ottawa, Toronto or Montreal.

---

It should not occur during registration. It should be in a fun city with nice weather and things to see and do that people will want to go to alone or with their families. Cincinnati would not be one.

---

Have it in a popular state so that there could be some time for tours with your family.

---

Our department travel fund is very low; therefore, I would prefer cost saving measures.

---

I think it is a very good time for people in our profession. Many of the other months coincide with campus obligations. I like the way the conferences take place in different parts of the country so all members can attend at least some of the conferences.

---

Advisor responsibilities at certain times in the semester.

---

Why does it have to be at such a crucial time? Beginning of Fall semester is very busy for most of us and it's hard to get away, let alone consider sending an advisor. Summers sound better, it's my understanding most of us are working year round.

---

Since I have never been to a NACADA National Conference before, I have no opinion to share on the timing or location at this time. I will have an opinion to share next year, after attending the conference this year.

---

Be aware of schools that are on the quarter system! Our school begins in late September, which makes it extremely difficult to attend a NACADA conference that is in late September or early October.

---

Please look for cities that have flights with discount carriers like Airtran and Southwest. Nacada special rates would be fine. too.

---

Make it affordable -- not all have funding.

---

It conflicts with registration advising at my University. Registration advising is my busiest time, and I am unable to get away.

---

October if probably our worst month for attending a conference. As well, I find that the same sessions are scheduled year after year and there is not enough Canadian content.

---

Location is less relevant to me. A small city would suffice. Ideal time for national conference is October, preferably the time you currently have it scheduled.

---

My believe is that the conference will be scheduled during the work week and as I mentioned before my ideal length of time is 3 days. In terms of the location I rather to pay higher room rate if the conference will b eplaced in a major city.

---

Total cost is a huge factor: Airfare, plus room, plus registration fees. If the site is in a location where the cost increases due to a city being outside of a major airport, Santa Fe for example, the travel cost increases.

---

Every region should host a national conference. Larger Cities aren't always the best places to hold these events. Diversity is the key.

---

October is not usually a good time for me. Locations have in the past been great. Logistically, I'm from the north west and flying from my city can be somewhat difficult and long!

---

I like to have some time to visit the area before the conference starts. If it starts on Sunday evening, I can come in on Saturday and see some things on Saturday afternoon and evening and all day Sunday.

---

Essential that it be at a "slow" time during the academic year, and rotate locations around the country.

---

It needs to be in a traditionally slower time of the year which is why I chose the months that I did. It also needs to rotate between regional areas of the country so that expenses can be held down for those who find themselves close enough to consider attending.

---

Cincinnati is pretty awful. In addition, there are few low rates (airfare). For example from NYC it will cost me \$650 to get there round trip (1.5 hours) and I can fly to San Francisco for \$150 round trip (5 hours) by Jet Blue. It is definitely affecting my decision to go this year or not.

---

The only time I think national conferences have been a problem (in terms of location) is when they are in resort-like settings where it is difficult to get out of the location easily (Orlando, San Diego). These cities were fine - just not the conference setting.

---

I would prefer it during the week, but beginning Sunday night or ending Saturday morning would be ok. That way could have some time to come in early or stay late to enjoy the area.

---

I enjoy attending the conference because I meet new people, gain new ideas and sometimes visit a new city. Peak registration at our school takes place from April to May and from October to early December. March is a very quiet month at our place and so is June.

---

I'm satisfied with the present timing (early October) and rotation from western to eastern regions. Accessibility is important (major airport) and reasonable hotel costs are most important to me.

---

You should market it well in advance.

---

"Major destinations" do help - we make it a family trip when we can.

---

It might be good to do this during the middle of the semester when it is not so busy. I just attended the Region 9 conference and it is a busy time with the end of the semester.

---

I like that it alternates between east coast and west coast from year to year...but it does make it more difficult to attend (and more costly) the ones based on the east coast, if I live on the west coast. I don't have a suggestion as to how to fix that...sorry.

---

Our busiest times are Sept-Nov and Jan-April

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Please, for the love of all things good, avoid cities like Cincinnati. I'd much, much rather attend a higher priced city with better public transportation, nightlife, etc.

---

It is difficult to attend a conference during registration times at our school. October is a prime registration time.

---

Costs/budget cuts and lack of "downtime" in the job are making it incredibly difficult to rationalize conference attendance...therefore incredibly important to be able to promote the conference as great value for the time and budget dollar...

---

n/a

---

I have been unable to attend for the past 5 years because of the date of the national conference. It was in conflict with another conference meeting that I was required to attend.

---

Plan activities for the participants that allow them to interact and network outside of the scheduled workshops, etc.

---



Note that not only are price and location a major factor, but in considering a smaller city, please make sure the airline system can handle the influx of conference attendees. For example, Ottawa was not able to handle the outflow of people in a timely manner.

---

What we all know - that as enrollment climbs, advisors have less and less time for the conference. The beginning of a semester, the end, preregistration, and freshman orientation make it impossible to travel much of the year.

---

Cost is the major issue for our institution's ability to send advisors to a conference. Room rates, registration fees, and travel expenses pay a major role in our decision to attend or not attend.

---

Better City selection is needed. Denver and Ontario were great. Dallas and Cincinnati are questionable

---

If October continues to be conference month to make sure that the dates do not conflict with Jewish holidays as they did last year.

---

No comment.

---

Cost is of paramount importance to us -- it is worthwhile weighing airport accessibility (large urban areas with possible lower airfares) with hotel costs (smaller cities with reduced hotel rates).

---

The amenities of the city are not important. We attend the conference and then return to our campus. The advantage of ending on Sunday is to get the lower airfare for the Saturday night stay. It is important that the city be directly reachable by air--no car rental.

---

Timing - summer is impossible Location - the lower the cost, the more people from our office can attend

---

That i'd like to attend, but with the past funding for education has been at best sparse. Thus, not a high priority at my institution.

---

Better to have the conference during warmer season.

---

Avoid conferences during standard enrollment times -- advisors are needed on their campuses during these times. It is also important to keep costs down.

---

Not to plan conferences during enrollment periods.

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Have conference activities/events planned so that they move quickly and smoothly, but with adequate participation time.

---

Have conference activities/events planned so that they move quickly and smoothly, but with adequate participation time.

---

Location should be varied so participants experience different places. Advisors experience serious overload several times during the year. Conference times should avoid major advising crunch times (pre-registration periods, commencements, etc.)

---

It must be easily accessible for participants in terms of air or land travel.

---

ease of airport to hotel location

---

many colleges are on a quarter system and the times of the conference are often during the first week of

classes.

---

Location is very important to me. I would be much more likely to attend the national conference if I could combine it with a vacation (San Francisco, San Diego, New Orleans, Chicago, Miami, etc.).

---

Schedule conferences that are 2-2 1/2 days. Allow some down time. Schedule agenda from 8-4 or 9-5. Schedule dinners early 6:00PM so that the evenings can be used to catch-up on work emails, return telephone calls as necessary. Give free time 11:30-2:00 one day to dedicate work.

---

July or early August would be an OK time for the conference, but October is a busy time for some advising offices. Moving the location throughout the US works well.

---

Pre/Post excursions should include activity/ explorations. Allow time for preconf. participants to attend at least 1 longer event.

---

I like the current strategy of moving the conference around the country.

---

Don't schedule conference in a cold weather city if conference is held during cold months such as November - March.

---

Never been to a national conference, so I have no real opinion.

---

explore diverse locations

---

Always have it somewhere where, for the season, the weather is great. Traveling away from nasty weather to better weather is always an upper.

---

A location where delegates can leave the hotel and have easy access to recreation (i.e. can they safely go for a walk?) and experience local culture is my preference. It'd be nice to be able to network with people outside the traditional conference setting (without having to go to a shopping mall).

---

Locations should be varied annually to accommodate the regions.

---

As you know, there is no ideal time for such an event. With so many of us involved in so many things year-round, keeping it in early October as we have been accustomed to, would be the best. Location is not as important as budgets these days; the less expensive the better.

---

Spring (March-May) would eliminate my campus from attending due to orientation programs.

---

The location does not matter if there are conference related activities to hold one's interest.

---

The national conference always falls during peak registration times at our institution (mainly April), so it's next to impossible for anyone to attend.

---

more conferences on the west coast or rocky mountain area

---

I would recommend having the national conference every other year, and having regional conferences in the alternating years.

---

You have covered it all in the survey already.

---

hotel facilities should not be separate from conference facilities

---

In the spring we are more likely to be approved for travel based on the amount of funds we have left in our budgets.

---

I attend for the content of the conference, not for the location. Airline access and cost is an important factor.

---

Very pleased with the location, timing and price of the conference in the past 10 years. Very interesting cities were chosen and facilities were great and prices were affordable for most it seemed. Please remember that reasonable airfare still requires a Saturday night stay over. Thanks.

---

It would be great if a conference can be scheduled during the break, but again different schools have different break times. As for a location, a conference should emphasize the different interesting sessions rather than the different tourist areas in the city where the conference is.

---

Please include meetings for advanced advisors and administrators--those with more than 8 years of experience.

---

Continue to find a balance between East and West coast locations from year to year

---

I would prefer to be in a larger city with many activities and sights to see. Although I feel I get a lot out of conferences, I wouldn't want them to be so jam packed that there's no time to be able to enjoy the locale.

---

I will be attending all conferences on a regular basis so would appreciate some diverse climates and geographical areas.

---

Should be in an attractive and appealing location, preferably where sun shines as a contrast to most of the country (or snow falls so delegates can go skiing)

---

end of Sept, beginning of Oct.... semester is underway but we're not into mid-terms, pre-reg, etc.

---

I would love to always attend but due to budget reasons I have to choose only one conference a year since I wear many hats, I need to attend other conferences sometimes.

---

When the conference is held during a busy advising/registration time and the cost is high, I am less likely to be given approval to attend.

---

Nothing in particular

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The conference has to be held when I do not have to miss classes. The location needs to be within about six hours driving because of budget constraints.

---

The speaker should be familiar with academic advising issues from first hand experience as well as well informed from the research literature. I believe that officials from University Administration or in the government are really not as helpful to the professional adviser.

---

I know it is difficult to find a good time for everyone.

---

It would be good to be centrally located, ie somewhat in the middle of the nation. A place like Dallas was fine, even though it was south, it is middle US and easy to get to by land and air.

---

I look forward to Cincinnati--I have never been to one, so going to one that is close will be a great way to get my feet wet.

---

timing and location should coincide with other activities in area (e.g. festivals, fairs, games, etc)

---

Anything longer than 2 days is not effective. There is only so much one can take in at a conference. Major city is not important to me. If it were 5 or less hours from my location I would drive and not worry about the hassle of flying.

---

All in all, October has usually been a good month for the national conference. I have to say, though, I would prefer to go anywhere in the country except Cincinnati and will not be attending this year because it is there.

---

The March through May time-frame is not good; nor is September.

---

I think it has been excellent so far, though being from the midwest the next three are not that exciting to me (Cincy & Indy - Las Vegas not interesting to me for other reasons).

---

The timing and location of the conference was fine.

---

When there is good weather for traveling.

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Be aware of school schedules on both quarter and semester systems.

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Choose locations where there are ample flights, the flights and hotel rates are cost effective, and there is a good range of professional development for all areas of advising

---

I like the time of year, but would prefer a Mon-Fri schedule. When the conference ends on a Sun. I still have to be at work the next day regardless of any timezone issues. It is very hard on the system and I don't get a break until the following weekend.

---

I think the timing has worked out well. I was unable to attend most recently due to budget cuts, so I am not sure NACADA could do much to assist with that- other than having the conference in a near-by location.

---

It would be nice if it was consistently held in a major city that is a popular tourist locale. (I don't plan on going to the conf in Cincinnati because I have limited funds and will save them for a more interesting locale).

---

Location of the nearest hub airport to support lower fares.

---

October = excellent in terms of academic calendar and weather. Higher room rates in a major city could be offset by cheaper airfares. Here in the midwest, it's often cheaper to fly to either coast than to another city in the region. I'd take the higher room rate in San Francisco any day!

---

Timing should take into consideration the busy times of the year for registration, also it should take into account the feasibility of implementing any ideas/strategies given the time frame of the conference in relation to the school year

---

Avoid months of heavy academic advising and registration periods such as March, April, October and November. Many academic advisors are teaching first year student courses in the Fall so maybe the Spring is better.

---

Re: timing - I work at a community college and being away during the semester is not encouraged. Travel or PD events at end of term or mid term break would be preferred. Re: location - If travelling to the USA to participate in event I would prefer a larger city (not necessarily major city).

\_\_\_\_\_

If you do something in the winter make it a warm place. Think about what is going on in the area when you choose a location, i.e. would there be something that we would be interested in going to in addition to the conference. Las Vegas is a great location, gives us an opportunity to bring family.

\_\_\_\_\_

Program and theme are important

\_\_\_\_\_

make it affordable

\_\_\_\_\_

Be sensitive to pre-registration periods.

\_\_\_\_\_

Relate the theme of the conference to the location i.e. is the state or institutions in that state doing things that we could tour and learn from?

\_\_\_\_\_

I have a difficult time attending during our university's registration periods

\_\_\_\_\_

The ideal location is a fun city with very good weather. Cincinnati certainly doesn't qualify.

\_\_\_\_\_

Usually, academic fall semesters are busier than spring semesters so a fall conference is harder to fit into one's schedule.

\_\_\_\_\_

Its important to remember that advising takes place at most institutions in mid October - Nov. so to try to stay away from those months.

\_\_\_\_\_

Due to teaching schedules, having the conference during the summer or overlapping the weekends during a fall or winter month would benefit faculty advisors. Too, in the past the Canadian Thanksgiving was not taken into account which had an impact on Canadian members.

\_\_\_\_\_

For schools on the quarter system (such as the University of CA campuses), having a conference in April is a hardship because that is at the end of winter/ beginning of spring quarter - a peak time for advising.

\_\_\_\_\_

I have been impressed with the locations and the schedules have allowed me to visit the surrounding areas either before or after the conferences.

\_\_\_\_\_

October seems ideal: not during registration times or orientation and not on top of the regional conferences. While I prefer the conference be during the work week, consider plane ticket pricing -- Saturday night stays are often required for affordable tickets.

\_\_\_\_\_

Just to be aware of peak advising times and not schedule then (i.e. January & August are impossible months for my team to leave campus).

\_\_\_\_\_

Any of the months indicated would work for me but I did not like being in Dallas when the downtown area was closed.

\_\_\_\_\_

Timing and location have not usually been the issue for me not attending. Topics have been more the reason I haven't attended. I am an academic adviser in a department and there hasn't been enough topics related to this for me to ask my department to spend the money for me to attend.

\_\_\_\_\_

For quarter term schools that begin Autumn quarter in September, the fall conference is almost impossible to attend. The best we can do is send one representative.

\_\_\_\_\_

advisors need a interesting, informative respite to meet with others and reignite their passion for the career

\_\_\_\_\_

Restaurants and entertainment should be within walking distance of the hotel.

---

Prefer fun places like Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Orlando, etc.

---

Most times the conference is during my advising period and I cannot attend. Check to see, in general, when most members are in the advising period.

---

No matter what someone will always be unable to attend either because of timing or location, but for others timing and location may work great. Keeping the date fairly consistent is a good idea, so members can anticipate the event, and changing the location works to reach those who can't travel far.

---

It is fine the way it has been scheduled.

---

Funding is very limited for conference attendance therefore travel and hotel costs are a big factor.

---

Try to find out when semester advising periods and orientation dates are, so that you don't conflict. Every conference has managed to conflict.

---

I think its important to plan the conference in a different region/state each time its held, so that, sometime in the rotation, even those of us not allowed out-of-state travel can attend the national conference.

---

Our institute rolls out in trimesters. We only employ two academic advisors on our campus which has a population of over 2000 students. Due to this situation ,and the fact that Advising has no budget of its own, we will probably never be able to attend a conference.

---

Planning a conference is always hard work, and it can never be perfect. For example, while room rates may be cheaper in a smaller city, the cost of transportation could be higher depending on flights, public transportation, etc. I still appreciate that you are checking into options.

---

In the current format, Sunday morning sessions always seem to have low attendance. Therefore, I would recommend that either everything end on Saturday night, or begin on Sunday afternoon (to allow for religious services and flights with Sat nite stay overs.

---

It would be nice if the conference was held on Thursday, Friday and Saturday because it is a little difficult for some to take time off during the week, but during the week is ok too.

---

Being able to get cheap airline tickets is important.

---

I think the current scheduling is great. As far as locations, keep in mind that more expensive cities (or those farther away like Ottawa) can keep attendance lower because of the associated costs. Many advisors are on limited budgets from their institutions.

---

let's try to up grade the location

---

The timing of the conference is not important to me. Location is critical however. We have to get out of these second and tertiary level cities. You have the conference in a second class city, then you'll get second class attendance. Was San Diego the best I'm guessing? Cincinatti will be bad!

---

It should be in a location that has easy access to all attendees and should offer a reasonable travel and hotel rate.

---

..

---

Location is key. With many colleges located in the Mid-Atlantic and North East, having more conferences located in this area and along the East coast would help.

---

Never in the Fall -- it is too busy

---

I like that the conferences are in October. April is not a good month for us since we do our registration. I like to attend conferences in warm locations.

---

Since fall terms tend to be busier for those advisors who work with first-year students (answering more concerns about adjustment to college, running first-year seminars, etc.), the spring might provide more opportunity for advisors to be out of the office.

---

Most NACADA conferences have cost my university well over \$1500 for each one I have attended. They seem to think that the cost is the most important and would rather send me to local and regional conferences. However, I get the most out of the national conferences.

---

It needs to move around the country so that the same group of people do not always have to pay the higher travel prices.

---

Having the conference in the Autumn has kept me from attending in the past. It's too busy at work!

---

For faculty, it is better if the conference is in the middle of semesters rather than the beginning or end of semesters.

---

Try to be fair to the entire country and plan conferences that rotate through the different regions. My biggest concern as an entry level professional is cost. I think rotating between larger cities and the "interesting smaller cities" is a great idea!

---

it is currently quite expensive to attend

---

Saturday night stay often important for airfare. Pick cities with many direct flights. Loved San Antonio!

---

For us northerners - a nice warm location in the winter would be ideal. I don't receive any institutional financial support for conferences, so it needs to be a place that has a little extra enticement.

---

I hate the large arranged lunches--

---

Obvious stuff -- move it around the country (and I liked going to Ottawa); use INTERESTING cities with attractions of their own.

---

- Accessibility of travel (flights w/o connections or driving) \_

---

Would like to see conferences held in areas with more airport conveniences for persons in the Mid-South ...ex: Atlanta, Chicago, Miami. Also, like the idea of hosting conference in large city because larger cities tend to offer better conference hotel rates, able to accommodate a larger group.

---

I have attended several NACADA National and Regional Conferences over the past 15 years. Each time that I have attended, I've been very pleased.

---

Add conference rate hotel days before or after the conference to encourage families.

---

Being away from a busy advising center for a whole week taxes our resources. I recommend attaching the

conference to a weekend--either at the beginning or the end.

---

Conferences anytime during Fall semester are just impossible for me to attend. If flying is the mode of transportation necessary, it would be nice for the convention to be in a major city with a major airport to avoid connecting flights. Thanks for all of your hard work.

---

?

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I think it's so difficult to find the balance between the cost and the location. Budgets (especially mine) are getting larger, but I would certainly like to be in interesting places with opportunities to experience the location. Good luck with this!

---

Trying to stay clear of registration times.

---

The presentations are often frustratingly irrelevant to folks from schools, like mine, with 50,000 students! What works in a private setting with 2,000 students does not work in a huge research institution.

---

I would like the conference to be in New York City.

---

Timing is the most important factor because of the way our semesters are scheduled. We are a very non-traditional university and our semesters do not follow the standard day evening schedule.

---

We will go wherever it is!

---

I'm looking forward to some west coast locations. How about San Francisco? Seattle? Vancouver?

---

With most colleges on tight budgets these days, please consider the room costs. It would be nice to attend at exciting places, but there are very interesting places for conferences elsewhere in the US besides New York or Los Angeles etc.

---

The importance of the conference is not the city, the scenery, the tourist potential...it is the value of the information, feedback, networking.

---

If the conference is located in a small city off the beaten track, then air flights will be come very involved and consequently likely to be more costly.

---

Make the conference centrally located in cities like Memphis,TN or St.Louis,MO.

---

It is nice to offer both big city and small city options or to rotate Having to use the weekend to work is not a benefit to anyone. We work enough as it is and need some time off!

---

It's all about budget for us--I just tried to change my answer to Q6 but cannot. It occurred to me that early in the fiscal year would be better because the budget people haven't yet begun to panic--so I'd rather say (1) Sept, (2) Feb, (3) June.

---

It needs to be in a city easy to fly in and out of (without many stops). I'd prefer a place where you can get around but don't need a rental car.

---

I like October, but not the first weekend in October. I also would prefer never to have conferences (sessions) on Sunday. Thank you for asking!

---

Colleges on the quarter system have difficulty with the current dates because the dates are to close to the



beginning of classes. Having the conference during the week, allows for family time and travel on the weekend. Less expensive locations would help limited budgets.

---

Early October is perfect. Location in a "major" city makes attending much more attractive. I'd like to see it in Boston, NYC, DC, Miami, Tucson, San Francisco, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Seattle, Portland.

---

The location is not as important to me as the timing. October is a bad time because the semester has just started and I must miss a week of teaching.

---

It is difficult for those of us who work in smaller institutions to get away when conferences fall at busy advising times. For our school, those times begin after Spring Break (mid-March) and Fall Break (mid-October) and end at the end of the terms (beginning of May and December).

---

Price and timing are the two biggest things! Please consider the academic year when scheduling (i.e. when advisors would be needed/would be able to get away).

---

already noted

---

It is important the the conference is in an easily accessible location. In addition it is helpful not to have it to close to the start of the academic year.

---

That the conferences not be scheduled during registration period. So many times advisors are not permitted to attend because the time conflicts with school registration dates.

---

Best if there is something to do in the surrounding town, in particular within walking distance. Otherwise, you either have to rent a car, or you feel trapped in the hotel.

---

The "Over Saturday night" provision for airlines is crucial to cheaper fares. I would rather arrive on Saturday for a Sunday start than to end the conference on Saturday and remain until Sunday. But either is preferable to a mid-week conference.

---

Weekdays, not more than 3 days

---

Although the conference is work, the more interesting the city the higher my interest in attending. I try and take a couple days before or after the conference to vacation.

---

Travel funds are under \$400 TOTAL for the year per member of my academic unit. This does not even cover going to a regional meeting, far less the national conference. I would hazard a guess that this is typical elsewhere. Please, look for less expensive venues.

---

It rarely takes into consideration the many small schools/universities. Our calendar is very different (early in/early out). We need to have many restaurants within walking distance and a central location (location okay, food - terrible). Maybe we could move it to mid-October. Might be better.

---

The location is very important. If we cannot find an airport that is a reasonable distance from the site of the conference, we would opt not to attend.

---

Warm in the winter and on water in the summer

---

Timing (October) is good for me; expand locations to places like Boston and Charlotte.

---

I think that easy access to an airport is important.

---

Ease of getting there.

---

Only region 6 has not hosted the national conference more than once despite the having all the necessary facilities and hotel space. The Twin Cities are centrally located and have access to virtually all airlines. I think there is a major problem in the site selection process

---

The timing and the cost could be designed to include more of the folks who are doing advising on a daily basis but are not advising administrators.

---

I believe that the timing for the National Conference is absolutely great. The location is not really that important to me.

---

Cost is the major impediment

---

Having it over a weekend is difficult; it seems like I don't have a day off for 2 weeks between travel, attending the conferenc and work.

---

There are many of us who belong to other associations, and attending 2 national conferences isn't an option. Price is ALWAYS a consideration, but central location is also.

---

Cost/convenience of travel is equally important as cost of room. Two days travel/3 days conference eats up an entire week! Late September/early October are good times, as is late February. Avoid April/MayAugust/Nov/Dec! Mid July in a cool place can be good. Check time against other major Nat Conf.

---

Not exactly related to this question: Please consider including New York with the Pennsylvania and New Jersey region , at least NYC. I wanted to attend the Princeton conference this year. Unfortunately, the conference came and went but I never received information to register.

---

Not at very beginning or tail end of academic semesters

---

With tight budgets, the cheaper, the better!

---

We only have four months when we are not dedicated to advising. Feb, March, Sept. and early Oct. are the best months for these activities. I was fortunate to attend the 2nd Administrators Institute, which was fabulous. I would love to consider a Summer Inst., but they are during our busiest times.

---

Timing needs to work for both quarter and semester institutions. Summer is too busy to get away. Major cities are definitely preferred.

---

I like the conference to be in a place with potential to vacation either before or after the conference. I also prefer warmer climates to cold ones.

---

Timing and location don't concern. The program is more important to me than the location. Those of us who ususally attend the national conference need sessions that are more than show and tell.

---

What about Memphis or Nashville. The budget in Tenn is very limited to travel, as well as other state budgets. But the proximity of these two cities would be ideal- especially for the southeast. Thanks!

---

I prefer the location to be in a major city with other attractions that could be seen during the trip.

---

I would like more workshops in the evening and some free time during the day.

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0

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Because of budget costs and shortage of staff, a conference that is low in cost, timely and packed with information would be easy for me to sell to the administration at my college.

---

Northwestern University begins classes for the Fall in mid-September. Therefore, the timing of past national conferences at the end of September/beginning of October has made the conferences really difficult to attend.

---

Location is not as important as the content of the conference, but I prefer a hotel that is near local restaurants and shops.

---

I have not been able to attend a national conference because they are always offered in the Fall. Fall is such a bad time for me as advising really takes place all the way through until Christmas. Maybe switching off every other year - one year in the Fall - the next year in the spring.

---

Our travel budgets have been decimated and our caseloads are skyrocketing with no additional advisors...so timing and location are somewhat a mute point. I would love to attend but given the circumstances impossible. Ask me again when it is free and there are substitute advisors. :-)

---

Having the conference end this year on a Saturday is VERY inconvenient. It almost forces people to spend an extra evening in an attempt to get better air fares.

---

Some advising administrators are responsible for other areas that may or may not be directly related to advising. I am in a small college and am responsible for International Education and other student services functions. Therefore I need to attend other conferences such as NAFSA and ACRAO.

---

It needs to be when colleges are not experiencing common peak times for advisement.

---

Most conferences I'm involved with happen in March. It was very appealing to me when I was considering joining NACADA recently that your national conference was scheduled for October. I hope this doesn't change.

---

Please do not schedule it during the last half of any academic semester.

---

Warm weather conferences are very appealing

---

Just make sure it's by a big airport & transportation from the airport to the hotel is readily available and easy to figure out.

---

That it be convenient to the airport

---

With the extreme budget cuts to university budgets, it is important that the conferences be affordable. This would mean we need to look at the smaller yet interesting areas and have the conference during the less expensive season. (Charlotte, N.C. before May 30 when tourist season starts etc.)

---

The location of the conference is unimportant to me except as it relates to cost. Larger cities are often cheaper to fly in to but the hotel room rates can be higher. Boca Raton or Biloxi - the ambiance may be different but the content of the conference is the same.

---

October is a very heavy advising time and budgets are very tight.

---

I think October has been a great month in which to hold national conferences. I don't think NACADA

should change the time.

---

Create session tracks, such as Administration; Entry-level/New Professional Advisor; Advanced; by academic discipline, etc.

---

I really enjoyed the Dallas conference because the rapid transit trains were so convenient - once the sessions were over each day. Personally, I would love to go to a conference in /near the Washington D. C. I think the Utah and Ottawa sites were great (could not attend) choices!

---

I like the fact that the conference moves from region to region to balance out length/cost of travel for all members. Timing is tough since so many schools have different schedules. For me, some "half months" are better (i.e. end of September/start of October, end of May/start of June.)

---

For me the bigger cost is often the airfare. So, while its nice to go to a big city and visit for the conference, if the big city is on the East Coast (me being out west) I would be less likely to attend regardless of what city it is in.

---

I've never been to a national conference. As an academic advising coordinator with only one year of experience, What could I expect that would be helpful in my position.

---

Larger cities while more expensive in terms of a hotel are cheaper to fly to, so my guess is that it averages out.

---

That there members on a quarter system hence attendance to national conferences becomes restrictive as it more than often conflict with the first week of classes.

---

Make sure there are very competitive airfares to that city regardless of whether it is a "large" or "small" city.

---

For those of us that work at colleges on the quarter system, the early October dates make it difficult to attend. Last year the conference was the first week of classes. The ideal time was the schedule for Ottawa, which worked well for both semester and quarter system institutions.

---

With budgeting woes, cost is the most important factor in attending a National. It might be cheaper is a smaller city, but it might cost more to get there.

---

Sometimes there are better air fares if a Saturday night stay is included in the travel dates.

---

october is probably the best months as i think about it. i don't really have any strong feelings about the big city vs. smaller city / higher cost of rooms vs lower cost. if the money is in the budget, it won't matter.

---

I marked 1-2 days because that was the only choice. I think two days, all day Friday and Saturday is good. So Thursday and Sunday can be travel days. First part of Oct. is the best for me. If the rates are lower I am more likely to get my unit to pay for me to go.

---

Airline fare is a consideration so I need to stay over a Sat. night

---

Have never been and would like to go.

---

Many advisors at state funded institutions have faced budget crises in the past two or three years. Plan the conference to meet the most advisors interests/needs and the rest of us will attend when we can.

---

Nothing special at this time

---

I really like moving back and forth across the country. This is such a wonderful place. I even enjoyed the conference in Canada.

---

timing - not around routine college peak registration periods. location - major city, lots to do, nice place to stay

---

We are dealing with mature to boomers and Xers and we must take all of that in as we choose--longer time to shorter time(compact)

---

I'd prefer alternating between major and smaller cities.

---

I think major cities are now just a hassle. Driving in L.A., San Francisco and the like, even with shuttle service has become a real "adventure."

---

Probably no matter when or where the Conference is, it's not going to be convenient for some people. That's the nature of the beast.

---

If the conference is in Sept-Nov. it should be in a place where the weather is warm.

---

February and October are relatively slow times for me. Either month would be fine.

---

Vary it each year

---

When choosing the conference location, I hope "cultures" of that place to be considered as well, such as participating some activities with local people. field tours, and ect.

---

holding the conference close to "attractions" is a plus and including optional trips to sites

---

YOU MIGHT WANT TO COMBINE A FEW INSTITUTE(S) WORKSHOPS WITH THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE LINEUP

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When are we going to have a National Conference in Las Vegas, Nev?

---

Remember that some folks coming are faculty advisors and it is more difficult for them to change class schedules to attend than it is for full time advisors to travel during the week.

---

It is better to hold the conference in warmer locations if it is in the fall or spring.

---

The Fall semester is much busier than the Spring semester.

---

I feel pretty strongly about my answer to Question #7 - it is much easier to get funding to attend conferences if the costs are lower.

---

I like the locations of the upcoming 3 national conferences.

---

If it must be in a large city, make it one that is truly interesting and pleasant to be in: San Antonio; Boston, NYC, San Diego, Miami Beach. Prefer location that has a warm climate and is fitness oriented. Next to impossible to get in a run in Dallas. Fitness Ctrs useless; too many people.

---

I'd like to have more ways for people in positions that are similar to be able to exchange information--advising administrators as a group, pre-med advisors, etc.

---

When conference dates coincide with registration periods for freshman and sophomores, we will always have a difficult time sending a group of more than one or two.

---

doing a good job; should have a tour of the major campus hosting the conference for those who would like to visit the colleges involved.

---

Do the best you can to insure diverse attendance.

---

October will never be an option for attendance from our school as our quarter always starts the first week of October and is the busiest month of the year.

---

Avoid peak advising periods. Insure air transportation is to a hub that provides good access and reasonable fares.

---

Many of us are on limited professional development funds and often have strict travel restrictions. It is also important to have the conference at a time in the academic year that does not severely impact students at our institutions.

---

Held in an interesting place where I could spend another day or 2 sightseeing--somewhere near the water. I liked going to Canada. How about the Bahamas or some island.

---

I have never attended a national conference. I think they should be convenient and reasonable in price.

---

We are very busy during certain time frames. Conferences should not be held during the academic semesters as our students need us here.

---

as you've done in the past, continue to have each area of the country represented in alternate years

---

I think the current timing is EXCELLENT. The rotation of location across the country allows everyone to be "close" regularly. I go to conferences to improve professionally - not to site see. I don't need to waste \$ on a hotel room just to be in Boston or SF. Resorts are a waste of my budget \$.

---

It is great to visit and see the Big Cities!

---

I think you are right to survey the membership regarding this issue. I prefer larger cities because it is easier to make plane connections.

---

Late October to Thanksgiving and mid-March to mid-April are bad times for the timing.

---

The timing is fine. The Midwest is perfect!

---

The only reason I have not attended a national conf. is because I of timing. I work for an institution on the quarter system. The conference conflicts with the beginning of our school year. The second full week or third week of October would be ideal - if you were to continue with Oct.

---

It should coincide with a time when most schools are between semesters, as many of us cannot be away during peak times.

---

Stop holding the confernece in early Ocotber that is a HORRIBLE time for those of us at quarter-based institutions.

---

Airline access to the location is important.

---

Most of us in advising or advising administration are swamped in November, April and the summer due obligations to enroll students. Location is not as important as quality programming and good logistics.

---

With budgets so tight --the cheaper the better It is also harder to get time off to go when it is all during the week-----We are on terms--so Sept, December and March are out for me.

---

It will be hard to accommodate everyone's needs -- especially advisors. The ideal times would be either at the end of a semester or summer.

---

Avoiding enrollment times which is probably hard to do for everybody. Travel accessibility convenience.

---

Having recently planned a regional conference, people expect some frills. I think it is important to plan a conference at location that will allow the committee to spend some money on extras like(breaks, better meals, etc.). Its hard to accomodate expectations when the location is so expensive.

---

For the most part, it has always been scheduled at a time when we are registering students for the next semester. It proves to be stressful for the rest of the office when one or more of us are gone during this time.

---

none

---

Confirm easily accessible transportation within the city. Confirm several nearby restaurants if breakfast or lunch is on your own so there's enough time to return to the conference center for the next session.

---

Have attended many conferences since the original in 1977. Used to like Sun through Wed but with airfares/Sat nite stay, the Wed/Thur through Sat/Sun seem best. Although cost is a factor, the larger or more interesting cities seem preferable. Has CharlestonSC been considered for example?

---

I think it's just as important that transportation costs be considered. The conference should be as near to the majority of the members as often as possible, or within cheap air transportation of the majority of the members.

---

It should not take place during registration, which, for most of us, means early registration for the next semester.

---

It has been very difficult for those of us with strong religious ties to have national conferences begin or end on Sunday. We have to come late or leave early so we can still worship on Sunday, which is important to many of us. If there is any way to avoid this that would be so appreciated! Thanks

---

If the location is "too" interesting, more people are apt to go sight seeing and not attending sessions.

---

Travel funds are very tight and we need to be sure that the staff attending gets maximum training opportunities in order to justify the expense.

---

Due to budget constraints I have not been able to travel much. We need to rotate the conference to inculde cities all over the U.S.

---

I like both the timing and location of this year's conference. For location I like it near an easily accessible airport with hotel options very near the conference center.

---

I do not care where the conference is held, as long as it has interesting places to visit and to eat. November and December are not good months to hold the conference.

---

Unfortunately, a lot of us are unable to attend a national conference due to the expense. We do understand that it costs significantly more than a Regional Conference. We appreciate your taking the time for input.

---

Task Force should consider the possibility of piggy-backing on (or inviting smaller groups to join) other conferences or events to strengthen likelihood of approval to attend; otherwise, location and timing not as important as content

---

Keep it accessible, i.e. near major hub airports, to reduce cost and keep rotating it (east, mid, south, west).

---

Possible scholarships/grants so people can apply and use the money toward attendance. Most Universities and colleges have cut back or in my case cut off funding for professional development. SO I cannot afford to pay to attend a conference anywhere that is not within driving distance to me.

---

I can only be reimbursed for a total of \$750 for all expenses related to conference attendance; anything more comes out of my pocket. I can also only attend one conference per year. NACADA has been my choice for two out of the past three years, and I plan to attend in Cincinnati this year.

---

Current dates in early October fit perfectly into our academic year. It's a time when student traffic is at it's lowest.

---

As much advance notice as possible to allow planning. I have to put in my training "goals" in advance of each rating year. This year I was able to get approval early to attend the October conference so that I would be able to include it in my "goals"--that was a help.

---

As budgets decrease in higher education, it will become more important for conference locations to be rotated so that people from different regions of the country can attend a national conference once every 3 years at least.

---

Timing usually runs during one of our priority registration periods. Limits our ability to attend.

---

October is one of the busiest times at both institutions I've worked at, due to preparing and beginning registration for the second semester.

---

Advisors need to be available to students at certain times of the year (Aug, Sept, March-May) and with budget cuts it is very hard to get away during these times. Please keep that in mind. Also with budget cuts, in my state we have to keep costs down.

---

I am in Canada. I appreciated the fact the the conference was in Ottawa a couple of years ago. While I was unable to attend due to a schedule conflict I was glad that there had been a Canadian location. Generally speaking, timing is more important than the location.

---

Unless my family needs me to stay home, I am going to be at the national conference. The time and place are secondary to my committment to be there for professional development and visibility of my institution in the organization.

---

We need to compete with the locations of the competing organizations. I am dissappointed with this years choice, but future cities look promising.

---

I plan to attend the conference in Cincinnati in Oct. Would have liked to attend Burlington but had a conflict--also it's hard to plan to go to Burlington in March (weather).

---

I think the conferences are too long and could be in more interesting locations than Cincinnati.

---



If it's going to be three days, it should be three full days, not two and a half or two and one morning, etc. Also, it should not be scheduled around periods that are commonly assigned to early registration on campuses and finals.

---

With so many good presentations, I think adding one more full day to give us a chance to attend more sessions would be great! Since our Dean only gives us \$1000 for the conference and our per diem is \$21, cost is a big factor.

---

n

---

1)The conference should not take place during or right before pre-registration advising. Oct is right at the start of my advising season. 2)To have it earlier in the year, like Feb, would allow attendees to take information from the conference and work on implementing it for the upcoming year.

---

Travel Funds are very limited these days. We need to get the best deal possible for conferences. Many times a small city may end up being a more expensive venture because of airfare and taxi rates, etc.

---

I have attended 5 national conferences and presented at 2 of the conferences and was always pleased. Ottawa was the only conference that I attended where the atmosphere was strange. Most of the attendees were worried about getting home or how they would get home due to the 9/11 ordeal.

---

The conference typically occurs right before our advance registration. It is difficult to come back and be unable to prepare adequately for one of our busiest times.

---

It is very important that we can secure affordable airfare, therefore I would like to see the conference remain centered around a Saturday layover. Unfortunately it is cheaper for us to drive to Cincinnati this year than to fly because the conference is scheduled during the week.

---

Budget money for travel and conferences is very tight

---

Central area of country

---

Conference should be centered around major hotels and/or be able to provide adequate transportation to and from conference facility.

---

For advisors at my school (Michigan State University), Spring (March, April) is the absolutely worst time to try to get away. We have annual enrollment for the upcoming Summer, Fall and Spring semesters at that time. Summer or just after Fall semester gets rolling would be best.

---

be accessible by car or plane

---

I did not have an issue about the location last year, since it was in Dallas and I am from The University of Texas at Austin. Timing was OK. I would prefer November, if in the fall, so as not to possibly conflict with any summer or fall advising.

---

It should alternate between east and west coast locations as well as middle state locations. I think you already do this.

---

Because of budget considerations at our university, the less expensive the conference is, the better. I also would like to have the conference scheduled at a time that is less busy for academic advisors, such as June or July when we have fewer students on campus needing our help.

---

I'm sure this is stating the obvious but for any given conference, no matter what you do the plans will be

convenient for some and inconvenient for others in regards to both price and timing. For me personally, I think you do a nice a job of choosing locations.

---

Conference should not be held during major advising and registration peak periods. A few weeks after the semester begins would be ideal.

---

Continue to move to different part of country each year.

---

generally our peak advising times are mid March and mid October...if our conference is any later in October it would virtually eliminate any professional advisor attendees at the University of Alabama

---

Money is very tight. Institutions are willing to send employees to conferences that are close or closer to home!

---

Distance to/from the conference affects the overall cost, as does "high season" or "low season" for room rates (low season is summer in Phoenix). I like that the conference location moves, however, it would be cost effective to take advantage of the off seasons in different parts of the country.

---

Our busiest advising time in the spreing is in April, so please don't hold a conference then.

---

I think going north to conferences limits our ability to attract attendance. If the conference were held in February in a southern/southwestern location, more people would attend and would enjoy it more, especially the northern folks. The San Diego conference of 1998 was still the best!

---

Too many conferences are in the midwest in the next few years. I live in CA and going to Cincinnati is a hard choicel I may skp it.

---

Should be offered at times in which you will have a solid show rate that does not conflict with holidays and college enrollment times. always enjoy warm weather and beaches!

---

With the increase of M&O operating cuts the lower the cost of attendance the more participates they would get.

---

I like the alternating of the sites from the east to middle to west. It also should be from north to south. So 1 year northeast, 2nd south middle, 3rd northwest, 4th middle north, 5th southeast, 6th middle south, etc. Dates might rotate from spring, summer, fall also.

---

I haven't attended any conferences yet but I plan on attending the conference in Milwaukee. Location is important.

---

Since our college is on semesters an August or December conference is highly impractical. Also, since we are in a cold climate any getaway to a warmer venue during the winter months is enticing.

---

Go to a variety of cities and alternate East/West coast.

---

Vary the locations so they are different from other national conferences that NACADA members are likely to attend.

---

Conference should be in early August, that's after summer freshman orientation programs end, after family vacations, and before the start of the fall semester. Long semesters increasingly busier, hard to leave campus due to increased responsibilities. Conference should start/end during work week: M-F

---

Early information about sessions so I can determine if conference will cover topics of interest.

---

Early information about sessions so I can determine if conference will cover topics of interest.

---

The conference should occur at a time when most people are not swamped with end of semester busyness.

---

Spring suits our schedule best. Staffing and activities are more flexible at this time. Fall is an extremely busy (our busiest) time with students and fall activities.

---

Consider schools on a quarter system and states with major budget issues

---

The variety of locations is helpful because if you can make the decision to choose a location that is more convenient to your institution.

---

Just keep in mind registration and summer events. Our registration is late October, early November, late March, early May. Usually only 1-2 members of our staff can go to these events because of office obligations. Location is always a must to me! I use this as personal vacation as well. Rotate site

---

it's not as important as the content of the conference

---

\*Strong\* preference for locations that have hotel within walking distance of varied inexpensive eating options.

---

The costs really really really need to be reduced because our unit has extremely limited travel funds. This year we had no travel funds. Find a college or a 4H or other non-profit conference facility with far less expensive rooms and meals.

---

I think the conference should make use of participant/conference presenters access to the library and other University related resources. Usually, larger cities contain more diverse resources--for many academic advisers, the national conference is the only set time we are exposed to other settings.

---

Just that working around busy times of the year is important such that the conference is not during registration times or semester beginnings. Certainly summer seems to be the least busy time of all.

---

I would like for the task force to schedule a time for regional steering committees to meet during the conference schedule.

---

For faculty advisors, it can be very difficult to attend a conference which is during the regular semesters (fall/spring) and overlaps more than a single work day.

---

Conferences during January, April, May, September, October, and December are difficult to attend. I am a new member and so have not attended a conference, but look forward to doing so in the near future.

---

That St. Pete, Florida in February is just the right time and place!

---

I think it should be planned to be affordable for individuals since some departments may not reimburse attendees. Also, it would be helpful if it is scheduled at non-peak times for college advising.

---

The times and location of these Nat'l Confer. have been fine. Two concerns some might have.... are work (busy times of yr.) and family. Finding replacements, employers & who will watch the kids.

---

Timing is important in terms of advising students for their next semester classes. Late Sept. or early Oct. before the BIG rush starts is the best time to get away from the office. Location only matters if I have to

personally pay to attend the conference.

---

In choosing a city, please pay attention to the air fares and the cost of transportation from the airport. I paid over \$40 to get from the airport to downtown Dallas. That's ridiculous!

---

I enjoy going to different parts of the US. I enjoy going to larger cities where there are interesting things to do. We begin advising about the time the conference is so I would like it a bit sooner. I like it to be during the week. I don't like using my weekends for work activities.

---

No additional comments.

---

Can not answer this question, since I have not attended a National Conference yet.

---

Weather of the location at that time of the year should be a major consideration. For instance, October in Dallas was great!

---

Cincinnati is not a nice location. Racist city. San Diego, Orlando, Ottawa, Dallas were all great. Warm is nice versus cold.

---

Location! Location! Location! Major cities with warm climates are a better draw.

---

Try to offer more workshops pertaining to issues regarding community colleges. These are quite different from the regular four year university.

---

It needs to be scheduled at a time as removed as possible from graduations... In other words, not April or May...or August...or December. Also, it's nice to have them moved around the country a little as opposed to having them in the same general geographic location consecutively.

---

price range, especially with price cuts, folks will be paying out of their own pocket

---

If the conference were located near a major transportation hub, during a time when student activity is at a minimum, then there would be a greater likelihood of increased attendance.

---

I thought the conference in Dallas, TX was timed perfectly for me, and I had no trouble with transportation to and from the airport, which is ideal.

---

I think it is important that it be held during the week and at a location that accommodate all attendees in one hotel.

---

For those of us on quarters, summer is really the only "easy" time....

---

Don't go back to Dallas.

---

it regularly conflicts with a family event I cannot miss, and thus I don't come to the conference

---

Continue to rotate the conference location region by region (within reason).

---

I would be unable to attend a conference in April, May and November due to high work loads. It would be nice to alternate the location of the conference between the eastern, central and western parts of the United States. My biggest reason for not attending national conferences is the cost.

---

Find a place that has cheap flights from just about anywhere.

Cost is becoming more critical. It seems that we are going to very large cities because they can accommodate our hotel and conference needs. I would rather keep the costs down. There are many interesting smaller cities out there!

Should have National conference during a less hectic time of the semester mid-September or early February would be ideal. Nice location is a plus!

Wow, it must be insanely difficult to fit it around so many important dates to different people! I would prefer the timing to coincide with the weather in the city. Myrtle Beach in February is typically not fun, nor would August in Phoenix. We want to go to the conf. but we also want to relax.

Registration of students for the spring semester is the biggest challenge for us. End of Sept. is good because it is after add/drop and before pre-reg.

Don't make me give up my weekends with my family. I have to work anyway Monday - Friday, so put the conference during the workweek.

I need to work around registration and orientations. Most of the time in locations with "lots of things to do" the conference schedule does not accommodate the options to attend. I do not cut conference workshops to visit local museums, etc.

Cost is becoming a prohibiting factor in decisions to allow people to go to conferences. Therefore, if people need to fly - a Sat night stay is preferable due to costs of flying midweek.

Location, location, location! Sunny, warm, fun!

Because of our class registration schedule, we have only a small window of opportunity to do professional development: mid September - mid October and February is about all we have. Anytime April to first September will never work for us.

Schools on the quarter system begin in late September/early October. For those of us on these schedules, attending the early October national conference is almost impossible.

Funds for travel and professional development are practically nonexistent at our college, unless one has grant monies. It makes it very difficult to participate in anything.

I am new to the organization and so have limited input--I just attended the regional conference and found it interesting but have no real idea of how the national differs

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### Question 9

Which three (3) of the following **most influences your decision to attend national conference?** Use "1" for your highest priority.

#### 9.1 Opportunity to find out about future issues facing higher education and advising

1		196 (13.6%)
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2		256 (17.77%)
3		193 (13.39%)
N/R		783 (54.34%)

**9.2 Discuss current trends and issues in higher education and advising**

1		485 (33.66%)
2		317 (22%)
3		179 (12.42%)
N/R		434 (30.12%)

**9.3 Time to hear new research in the field**

1		60 (4.16%)
2		95 (6.59%)
3		118 (8.19%)
N/R		1160 (80.5%)

**9.4 Ability to learn the 'nuts and bolts' (how to) of advising**

1		115 (7.98%)
2		89 (6.18%)
3		65 (4.51%)
N/R		1165 (80.85%)

**9.5 Professional development opportunities**

1		209 (14.5%)
2		195 (13.53%)
3		185 (12.84%)
N/R		841 (58.36%)

**9.6 Time to renew personally**

1		79 (5.48%)
2		101 (7.01%)
		153

3		(10.62%)
N/R		1099 (76.27%)
<b>9.7 Chance to network with colleagues</b>		
1		85 (5.9%)
2		119 (8.26%)
3		186 (12.91%)
N/R		1040 (72.17%)
<b>9.8 Reaffirm our current advising practices</b>		
1		27 (1.87%)
2		59 (4.09%)
3		87 (6.04%)
N/R		1260 (87.44%)
<b>9.9 Learn about new products in the field, i.e. see exhibits</b>		
1		9 (0.62%)
2		19 (1.32%)
3		49 (3.4%)
N/R		1364 (94.66%)
<b>9.10 Present at a professional conference</b>		
1		57 (3.96%)
2		62 (4.3%)
3		81 (5.62%)
N/R		1238 (85.91%)
<b>9.11 Ability to post or view position openings/conduct interviews</b>		
1		2 (0.14%)
2		4 (0.28%)
3		14 (0.97%)
N/R		1418 (98.4%)
<b>9.12 Conference theme</b>		
1		20 (1.39%)
2		22 (1.53%)
3		23 (1.6%)
N/R		1374 (95.35%)

**Question 10**

While at the conference, which 3 of the following **delivery methods** best meets your needs? Use "1" for the delivery format you most prefer.

**10.1 Keynote address**

1		144 (9.99%)
2		225 (15.61%)
3		196 (13.6%)
N/R		862 (59.82%)

**10.2 Concurrent session**

1		734 (50.94%)
2		308 (21.37%)
3		121 (8.4%)
N/R		249 (17.28%)

**10.3 Discussion or roundtable**

1		245 (17%)
2		336 (23.32%)
3		249 (17.28%)
N/R		595 (41.29%)

**10.4 Poster session**

1		7 (0.49%)
2		32 (2.22%)
3		75 (5.2%)
N/R		1323 (91.81%)

**10.5 Pre-conference workshop**

1		80 (5.55%)
2		123 (8.54%)
3		136 (9.44%)

1091



N/R		(75.71%)
<b>10.6 Post-conference workshop</b>		
1		4 (0.28%)
2		9 (0.62%)
3		17 (1.18%)
N/R		1410 (97.85%)
<b>10.7 Informal opportunity to share with individuals at the end of each day</b>		
1		27 (1.87%)
2		137 (9.51%)
3		309 (21.44%)
N/R		957 (66.41%)
<b>10.8 Themed tracks</b>		
1		101 (7.01%)
2		138 (9.58%)
3		182 (12.63%)
N/R		1008 (69.95%)

**Question 11**

What **one thing** would you like the National Conference Task Force to know about the **structure and content** of the national conference?

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Topics offered always are interesting. Skewed toward full-time advisers -- but we have mostly faculty who have advising as one of multiple assignments. Topics relevant to this challenge would be appreciated!

Nothing.

Don't offer concurrent sessions dealing with the same topic at the same time. If I'm interested in nontraditional student advising, I don't want to have to choose between 3 sessions on the topic. I might want to attend various sessions on the same topic.

no answer

Round Table discussions in the same room is about as confusing and unprofessional as you can get. More concurrent sessions can be attended by having the conference run three or four days.

The possibility of repeating popular sessions.

I "assume" that I will hear about current practices and best practices and theories - a chance to meet other colleagues and renew (little time to do this at work) is an essential part of the conference.

---

Opportunities for members to dialogue and review ideas pertinent to advising and higher education are very valuable in order to refine and stretch our minds and allow our imaginations to create new, innovative ways to approach the advising profession.

---

There are many levels of information. I would like to see "beginners", "intermediate" and "advanced" levels indicated. Some are too basic for someone with several years experience but excellent for the "new" advisor.

---

When there are multiple papers on a theme, it would be better to schedule them as a block.

---

Utilize current trends/themes in structuring conference sessions. Allow for common threads to be carried through concurrent sessions so attendees can create their agenda specific to their needs.

---

Make it "user friendly"

---

I like the preconference sessions and the concurrent sessions

---

Content should address needs of small and large postsecondary institutions. Content should have practical application. Should consider structuring "most popular topics" at convenient times. Night sessions may be counterproductive after all-day sessions.

---

I would like there to be fewer sessions of higher quality. There appeared to be little screening done.

---

It is vital that the content be timely and cutting edge. Veteran Professionals have different needs than people new to the field. Repeating particular workshops has been helpful. Themed tracks could be constructive.

---

Make sure you get an engaging keynote speaker.

---

Nothing on Sunday. Location Location Location

---

Need to provide rooms with Round tables for Round Table (small group discussions and sharing)

---

It's been a while since I have attended a conference, so I 'm not sure if things have changed since the last time I attended one.

---

We need more topics for the seasoned advisor

---

One keynote address is fine - no more than that. Like concurrent sessions with opportunity to select what is of interest to me.

---

we get more out of the concurrent sessions, we all enjoy a Keynote who is an advocate of the advising field and is a strong speaker. We enjoy someone with high energy to kick off the conference.

---

Open work sessions are most helpful as opposed to presentations with no time for discussion.

---

networking time is great! Especially the Commission Fair in the evening.

---

Good workshops, new things.

---

Current issues, networking, professional development, exhibitors are all important to me

---

Additional time and expence for the pre-conference workshops make them unaccessable.

---

I would like to see some sessions be allotted 2-hr time blocks. Some topics take more than 1 hour but do not need a full pre-conference session time.

---

offer a variety of sessions in each timeframe

---

#9 = 2nd choice is being exposed to Best Practices...

---

I think things have been great so far. There is enough variety for everyone to pick which sessions they will go to.

---

Make it user friendly by separating session topics. Don't have the faculty advisor sessions in the same time slot, because then you are limited options. Networking time during the day-not at the end of 5 sessions: this is too draining so many people skip....

---

The conference is a great opportunity to hear what others are doing to enhance advising and promote student success.

---

I like the variety of the conference structure.

---

You need all of the above because people are at different stages of their careers and different formats are appropriate for different stages.

---

Although, I have only attended one conference - I believe the overall format was conducive to many different learning styles.

---

Mostly well done

---

The Pre-Conference Workshops are always great. Themed tracks are helpful to ensure that sessions on similar topics are not scheduled concurrently.

---

I really enjoyed the last conference, except for the repetition of same type of topic workshops.

---

Slightly longer sessions would be nice even if there are fewer of them

---

It is structured fine, content is fine!

---

Scheduling. Consider the historically most popular topics and coordinate workshop times.

---

Presentation of programs or activities that work should indicate how long those programs are in existence.

---

Since I've only been to one National Conference so far, it's still pretty new to me. I think the combination of the different delivery formats is great!

---

I really appreciate the variety of options for concurrent sessions at the conference.

---

Knowledgeable, experienced speakers are key.

---

I like Charlie Nutt.

---

Provide info on new and old approaches, cover some theoretical background in advising, don't plan structured "have to be there" sessions after 3pm.

---

keep it simple and interesting

---

Keynote speakers tend to be "NACADA insiders" rather than nationally recognized researchers/presenters on education. In 10+ years in advising & NACADA, I see the same faces over and over at either the conferences, institutes, etc. Broaden the pool a bit

---

Less concern with theme and keynotes. Focus on more sessions instead.

---

Offer more choices for the concurrent sessions

---

should include topics beyond advising that impact advising

---

There should be time for networking.

---

Not sure if you do this - but another organization I was a regional President of (NWACUHO - Housing) - took the best regional presentations and sent those folks to the national conference to present. I liked this.

---

The Discussion/Roundtable's need to have informative handouts included. Better communication is needed about the dinner meetings for the special interest groups so that all those interested can be included.

---

nothing

---

Consider getting more sponsorship for events like NAAHP does. For instance, sponsored meals, etc.

---

It seems to work well as is.

---

Keynotes have always been strong and help me determine which concurrent sessions to consider (in addition to those that I already had on my list). They expand my knowledge.

---

Relevant and current

---

Workshops should be in the morning with time for sightseeing in the late afternoon. The content of the workshops should be insightful and innovative, ideas that you can take back and implement at your institution

---

Hard to choose concurrent sessions, there are always two I want to attend at the same time. That will be difficult to address, however.

---

Target some workshops for large public research universities.

---

I wear three hats; academic counselor, study abroad coordinator and first-year experience teacher. I found it hard to coordinate sessions, especially since my Dean wanted us to go to Retention presentations.

---

I think the way you have it now is "perfect."

---

Convergence with other disciplines, e.g., career counselors, etc.

---

More is not always better. Concurrent sessions are very useful, but the chance to attend as many as possible, on different topics, throughout the day, is always my goal. I come to learn, not vacation or socialize.

---

At most times I have found the conferences timely, well planned and refreshing.

---

Current structure provides for a variety of needs--excellent

---

I like that different delivery methods are offered. Variety and choice are wonderful!

---

The most important thing about content to me is new tools to improve especially in how we can better help students who need us. The structure must allow for adequate down time. Coffee break in the afternoon is critical.

---

In general, the structure and content are fine.

---

It is important not to schedule themed tracks sessions that conflict with each other.

---

My greatest interest is in practical solutions to common advising issues, particularly with respect to new and innovative ways to increase efficiency and provide good advising with shrinking resources.

---

Keep sessions simple but have enough content to keep people interested in the topic for an hour. Roundtable discussions led by a discussion leader can be great things to put on.

---

I actually think that the sessions should last longer than they do. It seems like we just get started on our discussion and the time is up. Is there any way to reconsider that the length of the session is more important than the number of sessions offered?

---

If it's anything like the administrator's institute, I'm sure it will be fantastic

---

Nat'l conference is fine -- and essentially all of Question 9 are good/valuable features --

---

I like the themed tracks, each year I select a focus for the conference that is important to our institution and attend every session on the topic. This allows me to return to my campus with enough information to make start implementing ideas.

---

Seems okay to me.

---

I would like to have a session on assessing advising at small institutions.

---

Themes or topics of content be interesting and offer concrete information (techniques, skills, etc.) individuals can take and utilize in their daily activities.

---

Complete and accurate descriptions of sessions is crucial because with so many choices and so little time it is heartbreaking to choose and be disappointed.

---

Overly specific themes are unnecessary . . . often result in "forced" topics.

---

Opportunities to meet with like institutions is attractive as well.

---

Morning sessions on the the last day of the conference that ends around the lunch hour are usually poorly attended.

---

It needs to have some focus on advisors who work for academic departments and not only those in an Academic Advising center.

---

I would like to see a comprehensive conference proceedings booklet handed out to each attendee. This way I would be able to read and learn about all of the workshops/roundtables offered at the conference if I chose to do so.

---

I like sessions that don't go on forever, maybe about an hour long, and breaks inbetween each session. The content always has enough variety to choose sessions from.

---

There should be an opportunity for folks from small colleges to network early in the conference, because it is hard to connect at a national conference where there are so many representatives from large schools.

---

Vary geographical locations throughout the country so much members may attend who otherwise would not due to distances involved.

---

If there is a specific advising area (community colleges) - try not to overlap/duplicate times. If there are a limited number of sessions, it is frustrating to have a couple of them scheduled at the same time.

---

I think roundtables and other facilitated discussions among advisors are very important.

---

Urge presenters to spend less time on statistics that reflect success and more time on strategies and overcome obstacles that led to those statistics.

---

A mix of delivery methods seems to work best. Semi-structured opportunities to share with colleagues are also really nice - breakfast/lunch discussion sessions focused on a specific issue.

---

I love the variety and selection of the concurrent sessions.

---

I found the structure and content very good at the Ottawa conference.

---

I believe it is a fantastic opportunity for individual universities to be exposed to what other people are doing and finding out what is working for them or not. The sharing of information that helps to make students successful life long learners.

---

I found this past National Conference well organized when considering structure and content.

---

Attending the concurrent sessions and being able to discuss issues in a smaller discussion or roundtable format. Provides an excellent way to find out more info and share with others. Being able to obtain paper /electronic copies of other sessions.

---

N/A

---

The keynote should be at the beginning of and set the tone for the conference.

---

The keynotes do not usually seem to be very useful: they, by nature, are so general. I prefer concurrent sessions, where I can zero in on specific topics of interest.

Having different commission or interest groups meeting at the same time is frustrating, as you have to pick the group you want to meet with and ignore the other group (or bounce back & forth!) I think having the commissions or interest groups meeting early in the conference would be helpful.

---

Nothing I can think of at this moment.

---

Not sure (I have never attended)

---

Be sure to leave some down time in the scheduling of the sessions. I have attended several conferences where the workshops are scheduled so you have no time to reflect on the information you have been introduced to.

---

Pre-registration for sessions you plan to attend. Presenters then have a room sized to meet that attendance, and the appropriate number of handouts if given.

---

I always leave the national conference feeling validated as an important academic professional. It recharges my professional batteries.

---

I think the structure is good.

---

room designed to facilitate conversation while allowing note taking

---

With growing international student populations, Nacada needs to address academic advising issues relevant to multi cultural populations and especially for the global students.

---

I have not attended a national conference, but my expectation is that presenters would be enthusiastic and prepared.

---

I have been pleased with the structure at the conferences I've attended

---

I really like the social events at the end of long days...sort of reward for being a good student!

---

I strongly felt the descriptions of the workshops didn't give a real sense of the actual content.

---

keynotes have been very good each time I've attended....keep up the good work

---

Allow more time between sessions and to allow 'booth-browsing' without rushing all day.

---

I would prefer a longer conference so that I would have the opportunity to attend more talks, rather pick and choose among 2-3 that really interest me.

---

It works well.

---

It is important to include information sessions from smaller universities, as they often deal with problems in a manner many larger universities have not yet explored.

---

I prefer sessions in which a presenter shares their knowledge and experience with the audience vs. round table/discussion.

---

I would like more discussion based presentations.

---

More educational trends, whether advisors will be replaced by websites, helping students prepare for new trends in the workplace, study abroad trends, psychological, spiritual, ethical aspects of education, continuing education support.

---

I would like to see the conf. to be 4 days in length with a day off. For example: Conference is in session T, W and then Th is an off day, and the conference resumes F and ends on S. Th can be used for siteseeing, vacation, shopping, etc. This would give a break and we would be refreshed for Frd

---

Structure: Give folks some free time either every day or at the end if it ends on Saturday or Sunday.

---

Assessment! Quantifiable variables that matter.

---

I think there is a good variety the way it is now. I would not change anything major.

---

Advance notice of sessions to be offered, so I could decide if the conference was worth the time and cost.

---

When there is an entire day of sessions, there needs to be a longer afternoon break - people can only absorb so much...

---

Some presentations have been on programs just started or research just begun and I'd prefer to know that prior to attending.

---

Don't have the awards ceremony the last Saturday night. Do it earlier.

---

Appreciate the "professional" presentations. It appears there is a good "screening" system.

---

The conference is one of the best in terms of quality of all I've attended. The expertise of the speakers is and has always been impressive. The participants continue to attend, which encourages networking and distance communication.

---

I think the mix you have is great

---

Consider all areas, Canadian Advising in many instance is very different due to structure of the smaller Colleges and Universities.

---

Variety of presentations and delivery is helpful.

---

I feel it works well for my needs. There is great variety delivered in many diverse ways.

---

The delivery method for workshops should be reoccurring. I think realistic discussions of the "diversity issue. Are campuses really diverse? Also what is diversity really? I feel a workshop on basic counseling skills for advisors is needed.

---

I like Keynotes, but I didn't rank it b/c it is kind of a crap shoot: if the speaker is really good, it can charge up my whole conference. But if the speaker isn't good, it is a real downer. I am not sure what themed tracks are.

---

Alot of sessions is not necessarily the sign of a good conference. Whatever is planned must be of high quality.

---

The quality of the presentations has been consistently high every time I have attended. Do whatever you are doing to keep making that happen!!!!



---

The concurrent sessions are a versatile and terrific format.

---

Put funding into a nationally recognized motivational speaker

---

As many round tables as possible, themes for every event

---

keep up the good work with offering a range of topics: for the generalist as well as the specialist, for the new professional as well as the seasoned.

---

Variety of topics is important - I work with freshmen, transfers, probation, international, adults, etc.

---

It's very helpful to offer a mixture of discussion/networking opportunities along with information and research presentation. I think the key to a strong conference is being able to provide opportunities for both.

---

PROVIDE A VARIETY OF TOPICS AND LEAVE THE PROGRAM FLEXIBLE ENOUGH WHERE PARTICIPANTS CAN ATTEND WHAT THEY WANT.

---

I HATE keynote speakers! I will not sit through another one unless it is someone outstanding.

---

Learning about the future trends of advising and the research that is being conducted is important to me.

---

Have more sessions that focus on the community college

---

Online postings of conference materials and presentation handouts is extremely helpful, since it is impossible to attend every session of interest. Contact information for presenters is also helpful.

---

more sessions and more information about graduate students and graduate professional programs keynote speakers who speak well and deliver a good message

---

Sharing evaluations after presentations is important for shaping how the information gets shared a second time. (I didn't receive my Dallas evaluations.) Themed tracks are helpful, since there are so many sessions to choose from.

---

Have interesting, well-known keynote speakers. (Susan Komives was amazing at the conference in Orlando.) Help us get re-energized for our jobs.

---

Make sure the sessions have enough time for discussion at the end.

---

Attendees need the opportunity to connect,

---

Make sure you include sessions that address issues of diversity and sessions that look at adult learners - both topics are of growing concern in advising.

---

I would like for the sessions to be longer, where you have time to ask questions. I find there are so many sessions, I get confused on which one I really need to attend and bring back information to my colleagues

---

Allow plenty of opportunity for people to interact with the people at the conference

---

Shorter time for presentations per session. A long session can be difficult.

---

To include advising adult/working professionals in evening degree programs.

---

Don't spend a lot of time, energy or money on big lunch meetings or keynote speakers.

---

n/a I have never attended.

---

More student panel input would be beneficial because the student perspective can lead toward improvement in approach and technique

---

Having longer lunches is nice- we can explore the area without having to miss a session! Also, I don't like having regional meetings during meals.

---

I am very interested in the use of technology in advising--particularly how it can improve communication and save time.

---

Don't schedule regional meetings earlier than 9am.

---

more well-defined tracks on such topics as assessment and the levels of expertise or experience (such as levels for beginners and veterans).

---

I basically like the way the conference is structured, but would like to see more information regarding advising student-athletes.

---

Could NACADA provide descriptions of the sessions listed in the conference brochure?

---

I think that the structure and content has generally worked well for me.

---

I believe that there should be more for community college advisors to hear/learn. Sometimes we hear from universities, but we need info/input from 2 yr. advisors across the country.

---

Continue to organize sessions by theme tracks and assign rooms on same floor and wing of the hotel. This would eliminate "mad dashes" to following other up on attendees specific topics of interest.

---

The keynote speaker needs to be upbeat and concise with the presentation. Something to get you started in the morning with enough energy to carry you through the day.

---

limit powerpoints, avoid simple reporting on who's doing what--presentations with substance and research are most useful

---

Like the opportunity to hear what others are doing and discuss it with in a group.

---

I have found the national conference to be well organized and have a good selection of sessions.

---

Too many topics; unable to attend all that are appropriate. Usually only 1 person of our unit can go.

---

I would like for the conference to be about three to four days long. When it is shorter than that, the distance (if far) seems to be too much to handle.

---

Last year's structure was very convenient. I appreciated the way the sessions were coded by subject.

---

Make sure it is content oriented and not social driven as I have been told the conferences are.

---

More substantive material for seasoned professionals. Too much repetition from year to year.

---

A good conference is one that I come back to campus from with at least four or five "action" ideas to share and discuss.

---

So far so good!!! I have attended NACADA since 1993 and they seem to improve every year.

---

I have found the conferences very enriching. No criticisms.

---

It is helpful to have the conference over at least part of a weekend. I teach and it is difficult to be out of the classroom for more than two days and we can get a price break on flights that stay over a Saturday.

---

none

---

Target special sessions for various size and type of institutions

---

Keynote address too long

---

I have enjoyed it in the past

---

n/a

---

It needs to be informative and if possible exciting as well as interactive.

---

Please continue to acknowledge that there are long-term professionals in attendance, as well as mid-career and beginning professionals.

---

Nothing

---

I like the current structure and content. I like it when the keynote is also a "motivational speaker" who can inspire.

---

I most enjoy the pre-conference workshops. I have learned a great deal how other advisors handled situations and have developed programs to assist their students. Most beneficial!

---

I like to have a variety throughout the conference.

---

It is important to have a variety of topics that will appeal to both four-year and two-year college folks. There are some areas of very significant differences and these differences need to be addressed. A variety of presentation formats also gives everyone a chance to participate.

---

I find the roundtable discussions most helpful, especially when there is the opportunity to network with other advisors working in similar departments.

---

I would like to learn how faculty are encouraged/required to participate in advising on various campuses. How is the advising role defined for/by them?

---

Keep the time frames to about 90 min.....one hour is often far too fast for a good session!

---

Perhaps to offer 2 of the same sessions/topic at different times if possible.

---

Continue to move location to different regions of the country to allow for less costly travel.

---

I wish it were easier to determine what would be "new" and useful information. A lot of presentations indicate they are appropriate for all sizes of institutions but they really aren't. Nothing's worse than to want to leave but can't because it would be rude.

---

I think it is important to have a mixture of delivery methods for everyone. Some topics are best discussed in a roundtable format, while others need a session. Posters are a great way to showcase topics/research of similar interest at one time.

---

promote collaboration for scholarly writing

---

hard to network with such a large conference, so the keynote or sessions with leaders in the field are helpful (as an experienced administrator); my informal interaction is with folks I already know and that is always nice, but a motivation to attend

---

Much too many concurrent sessions to choose from; fewer presentations of known/assured quality should be in competition on the timetable. Go for quality as against quantity. It is a capstone event, the weaker presentations should not appear.

---

Variety is important.

---

N/A

---

Allow for networking time

---

Big picture themes and futuring is not what attracts me. I want to learn techniques I can put into practice right away.

---

The structure and content of the National Conference should focus on the needs of the advisor and the advisee. Advisees needs at the university level are wide: Choice of Majors, Career, social development issues and emotional stability all are of strategic interest to the adviser.

---

To repeat concurrent sessions or have materials available for distribution. Content has always been exceptionally good

---

To continue offering a variety of sessions regarding current issues. Several sessions are not interactive or interesting so people quit attending. Be more selective in who gets to present. Also- it would be nice to know by using a key grid which sessions are lecture, active, etc.

---

Structure and content has been excellent

---

consideration for the time, place that the conference is held in - give advisors time to network, sight-see, reconnect with colleagues. avoid scheduling every minute of every day.

---

I think that the number and variety of sessions available at the Dallas conference were incredible!

---

The above selections cover the appropriate options

---

Give some time to get out into the city--nearby schools, attractions.

---

The theme selection is, I suppose, important inasmuch as it advises keynote speeches and pinpoints issues, but it should not dictate the selection of all conference presenters. After the keynote speech, I do not choose which session to attend based on the theme.

---

Longer time break time between sessions

---

no suggestions at this time

---

Make sure "nuts and bolts" is clearly differentiated and make sure that session presenters actually present what they've described in their proposal---I've never been to NACADA, so I don't know whether this has been an issue for you, but it has been in related fields.

---

Themes are a great way to get a lot of info. If more than one advisor attends from an institution, they can follow different tracks and bring more back to their office.

---

n/a

---

The variety and timeliness of the topics at national are what attract me to attend.

---

The more informal and interactive the better

---

Opportunity for discussion and ideas exchange is crucial. I use conferences to look for ways to do tasks better, more efficiently. I look for ways to avoid reinventing the wheel!

---

It would be helpful to focus on what the participants will "take home" from each session. This means being more outcome focused.

---

If memory serves correctly, last year's conference Program was put together much differently. I didn't like it as much as past years. Something about not being able to cross reference "subjects" to make it easy to follow one theme if I chose to.

---

As far as the content goes, I would like to see more information regarding Legislative Updates.

---

I would like to see more about advising adult students

---

The ability to collaborate with colleagues is of extreme importance. More sessions that allow for individuals to interact while at the conference would be great.

---

In order to network with folk with similar issues or concerns, I think that some "in-conference" workshops should also be planned. Attendees should have the opportunity to choose a longer time on a subject over concurrent sessions.

---

The conference location should have their meeting rooms set up so participants do not have to be running to get to the next session. I have been to conferences where participants have gotten lost because the meeting rooms were too far apart and not clearly recognizable

---

nothing

---

I have been very happy with the format as is.

---

Anticipate better which of the sessions will draw the most attention and plan room assignment and handouts with that in mind.

---

Ensure rooms are large enough and there is seating for all. I hate sitting on the floor in a popular session.

---

Keep them interesting and on task.

---

I would like to see more emphasis on the needs of and challenges to professional(non-faculty)advisors.

---

Keynote speakers at times are too long. I think an opening speaker and closing speaker should be used with prizes at the end of each and bigger prize items at the closing.

---

Would like to be able to attend workshops without having to pay extra, but cannot due to current budget realities in higher ed (and my own!!). Include these in the structure of the regular conference.

---

I always want to walk away from a conference with a new idea or procedure, etc., that can be implemented right away.. I like a conference to provide that type of dynamic exchange that I have come away with something to improve our practices.

---

I would like to see the concurrent sessions be for a longer time period and more in depth. This would weed out some of the sessions I've attended in the past that were "fluff".

---

see my previous comments.

---

I'm much more interested in discussing or debating issues than hearing descriptions of what people have done on their campuses.

---

I would like to hear more research and more about trends and issues, less about particular advising programs, most of which have very little variation.

---

I do like the idea of a post conference workshop, especially if the conference ends on a Saturday.

---

n

---

I would like to see more sessions geared towards small colleges and universities. Not everyone who attends is from a large institution.

---

should be organized to offer something for "everyone" in each time slot

---

interesting topics

---

The current structure is excellent!

---

Establish special interest groups and give a chance for these groups to meet and discuss ideas specific to their needs

---

I don't have a problem with the structure or content. I have always been pleased with all of the 5 conferences I have attended. I realize ALL of the hard work that goes into planning an event of this type.

---

The national conference has grown considerably over the last five years. I have been to sessions where it was standing room only. We should be "pre-registering" for our session preferences, on-line prior to the conference. That way, you will know how many are planning to attend each session.

---

N/A

---

Keynote address leaves lasting impression.

---

Description of the sessions does not always match what really occurs. Eg. often I've learned nothing new because the session is labeled as a presentation and I think I'm going to learn from an "expert" but then we get in small groups and share our opinions, which may or may not be helpful.

---

I think the poster session could be more valuable if it were extended to possibly two days thus eliminating the "crunch" of attendees at a single session

---

I am always looking for new ideas and future trends in servicing students. Student populations are changing each year. How we service these populations sometimes does not change!

---

If you are concerned about attendance at the recent conferences, I think the major factor is money. There is no money for travel at many state schools because some many states are facing huge budget deficits. I am not going to spend my own money to go to a conference.

---

I like the general layout and timing of the conference. I do feel that the timing of presentations can really make or break them, in terms of attendance; so scheduling is everything in terms of making each conference a quality experience.

---

I think we need more roundtables and chances to compare notes.

---

Don't overlap similar sessions, for example, don't overlap a session on advising transfer students with a transfer matrix system session.

---

It should be interesting with current information that will be useful to people in their specified field of interest.

---

My first few conferences attended were as an undergrad adviser, and for over 10 years I've been a graduate adviser. Anything that will add to the graduate and professional advising area would be a big plus because there isn't that much for us.

---

I think it is very beneficial right now - a little of everything!!!

---

More opportunity to network with people I don't know personally.

---

NACADA has always been the best conference I attend because of the opportunities to develop professionally.

---

There are more than 3 reasons that I like to attend conferences. Many of the reasons that you have posted are reasons I attend.

---

Give us lots of options.

---

I would like some of the more popular workshops to be presented twice. I know that this means that presenters would have to do extra service but I would rather that and more carefully selected workshops.

---

I have always enjoyed the concurrent sessions and roundtables the best.

---

I can't say, since I have never been to the National Conference.

---

I have loved some of the Key note folks and the workshops, Keep in fun Locations - How about Seattle, SanDiego, Santa Fe, New York, Wash DC, ect....

---

I strongly feel there should be more presentations given on research based material.

---

nothing

---

The number of speeches seems too many--I would rather have just one.

---

As I have only attended one conference I was satisfied with the structure and content

---

Sessions should have more interesting topics. Also have them a little longer b/c some sessions are very good and give good information. Don't try and schedule all of the interesting sessions together. In Texas, there were some sessions that were lumped together as far as times hard to choose.

---

During my participation in the previous Nat. conference, I noticed that several of the concurrent sessions discussed similar topics--I would have preferred to see more variety in the presentations.

---

Workshops, whether pre- or post-conference conference, or during the conference are the best because they are long enough to be substantive. There should not be additional fees for workshops.

---

Sometimes the keynote speakers are not good speakers! I suggest that more screening is done to make sure that the presenter is experienced at large group presentation.

---

Some members get so much more out of keynote speakers than roundtable discussions. Discussions can go on & on and be dominated by individuals who don't when to stop contributing. Discussion is great but it should be held during the concurrent session time so attendees will have the choice.

---

Opportunities to do in depth are important to me.

---

Have not yet attended one, so can't really comment.

---

Particular attention to needs of community colleges is very helpful.

---

Group discussions provide the greatest opportunity for sharing and learning.

---

It is my opinion that more time should be given to the discussions and roundtable format. Here is where I get to discuss issues with others who share my concerns and desires.

---

I like the opportunity to choose from different topics throughout the day; it keeps it interest- ing. Yet depth is also helpful. Maybe fewer sessions yet a little longer, 1-1/2 hours.

---

I have limited time. Provide the full abstracts with the schedule on the web. To maximize my time, I call the Nat. office a few days before the conference to get the "full" detailed description. Put in on the web. The "book" we get in our packets can be easily placed on the web.

---

This is already being addressed, but having to present on the last half of the last day is tough-low attendance, low interest.

---

I've attended NACADA conferences for 17 years. I've never been bored or felt that my time was wasted. The opportunity to network has been very worthwhile. The breadth of information is marvelous.

---



I would like to see more presentations on the advising of students in developmental/remedial programs.

---

I would like to learn about opportunities to publish

---

I love theory and research-related sessions!

---

Sometimes it seems as if there are multiple concurrent sessions on the similar topics/needs and other sessions when there is nothing of interest.

---

I like the commissions

---

Increase the discussion session times, to allow for more interaction.

---

I get a lot out of the national conference. I do wish it had some sessions that were longer so that they could go deeper into the subject.

---

Need more on special populations academic probation struggling students limited enrollment programs

---

It is rare that there is a time block that I have not found less than 1-2 talks that interest me. Most of the time there are multiples that are of direct interest to what I am there to learn about. Personally, I don't get much out of the plenary sessions. All of the items in Q9 are important.

---

no comment

---

The last one had great content. Keep it up!

---

More emphasis on positive aspects of faculty as advisors, More emphasis on community college models, More emphasis on serving high risk and undecided students.

---

Workshops that might generate a lot of interest should be offered more than once throughout the day or offered on multiple days. The other thing that I find to be true of conferences in general is that presenters read through powerpoint presentations instead of connecting with the crowd.

---

We need more workshops on LGBT issues. We also need to discuss the overlap between issues of power and oppression. The isms are connected. There has not been a strong presence of issues around equality.

---

Instead of going from hour to hour allow 30 minute breaks in between sessions. In addition, there should be a keynote speaker at the opening session and at the luncheon. Entertainment such as music, advising skits or a band would be great.

---

The structure should build in time for informal connections.

---

Concurrent sessions really work because I can almost always find a topic of interest.

---

It would be refreshing to have more non-traditional schools share their experiences...Colleges of Professional Studies...Online Schools (like U of Phoenix, Capella, and so on).

---

Need more good quality information on psychological, learning disorders and legal issues facing advisors and Universities

---

I would like to see themed tracks, like mini institutes on different topics, i.e. 4 year public, 4 year private, community colleges. The concurrent sessions don't seem to provide much insight.

---

Again, I have always been pleased with the format. Plenty of variety and opportunity to learn and grow.

---

Previously as a premedical program coordinator and now as an Asst. Dean in nursing - there is a terrible absence of programs relating to the health professions. I might attend more conferences if more sessions focused on this.

---

Too much redundancy--not enough quality.

---

I think the current structure/format is pretty good.

---

I cannot respond because I have never attended a national conference.

---

In #10, poster sessions, roundtables and post-conference workshops are also high on my list of what meets my needs, too hard to rank them just 1, 2, 3!!

---

n/a

---

content should include workshops or sessions with information for all types of colleges, from small community colleges to major universities.

---

Try not to schedule several similar workshops/ sessions at the same times during the same day.

---

Tie in more to FYE program at South Carolina

---

Need a greater emphasis on faculty advisors. How can faculty help academic advisors etc. How do you establish a connection between faculty and professional advisors.

---

I am often disappointed with keynote speakers. I like to hear someone who is motivating and inspirational and reaffirms why I am in the field of academic advising. I also think it would be helpful for NACADA to provide some guidelines to presenters to help them deliver well-organized presentations.

---

Seems like too much of the same every year. Not much new is presented if you go every year.

---

I hope to receive NACADA Journal regularly.

---

Providing options for attendees is critical.

---

I go to conferences for professional development. Research is valuable only insofar as it directly enhances my job performance. Opportunities to process issues, best practices, etc. with other professionals in an interactive or workshop setting have had the most enduring value for me.

---

please schedule commission meetings early in the conference--networking is important to those at smaller schools

---

If the session is a presentation, make sure it is a presentation and not a roundtable discussion.

---

Keep it relevant

---

I think that variety is important, and I like different presentation methods.

---

Make concurrent sessions long enough to reach useful depth in presentation and to allow adequate interaction at the time the thoughts are happening.

---

more time to talk outside of presentations - meet people with-out having a structured environment...

---

I always learn a tremendous amount from the National Conferences. My biggest decision is always which workshop to attend at a particular time that has 3 sessions to which I want to go.

---

it is too busy and hurried

---

Concurrent sessions last year offered good choices.

---

Let's know more about those attending & use the information to form interest groups. For example ask those registered which concurrent sessions they'd choose, rate sessions & perhaps create some interest groups.

---

Keynote address speakers need to do more than read from their Power Point presentation.

---

content: more discussion on transisiton from two year community colleges to 4 year institutions.

---

The keynote addresses and concurrent sessions begin too early in the morning. I think you would find better attendance if the starting time was a little later in the morning.

---

It would be better if there were less presenters to enable more discussion of certain popular topics or to allow a presentation of a given theme on one day and then follow up with a deeper discussion involving more questions and answers with the same theme & presenters on the second day.

---

I like the more hands-on approach (and longer length) of pre-conference workshops, but wish there were some workshops like that throughout the entire conference (possibly at no additional cost). An hour or so isn't always enough time to deal with certain issues.

---

I very rarely walk away from a national NACADA conference with a model that I can truly apply on my campus. Most of the presentations are very model-specific and are not applicable.

---

PLEASE PLEASE limit the number of concurrent sessions and offer them more than once. If you end up in a session that is disappointing you miss out on going to one that might have been more helpful.

---

Can there be prergistration for sessions so numbers of attendees can be accommodated with the proper size room.

---

A faculty advisor should lead the faculty advisor commission and select the sessions...not an administrator or professional advisor who tells us how to "train" faculty. We are really missing the boat here.

---

I have been frustrated with the time allotments for roundtable discussions, they always need more time and you are left wanting more in depth information

---

I hear its too big, like our school. We work on ways to 'make a big school feel small.' You should too.

---

Avoid information overload

---

Need more structured small group networking opportunities - mentoring, small group discussion.

---

I often find the speakers are not of a high enough caliber to motivate and believe in. I wish the groups could be split into common concerns: position types, school size, programs and types. I don't have much in common with the whole group

---

Informal networking is invaluable---finding ways to create opportunities for it to occur is paramount!

---

daily themed tracks sessions are worth consideration

---

Please have more actual faculty advisors offering information about faculty advising! I felt insulted the last time I went because a full-time advisor running a panel insisted that I didn't know the reason faculty members "didn't want to do advising."

---

I think that the focus needs to be on NEW trends and ideas and New research. It appears that a fair number of presentations simply showcase what a school is doing but it is not cutting edge or new in design. While good works of many institutions merit applauded, I think the conference needs more

---

ask people not to read papers, but to do more lively, interactive presentations

---

I appreciate knowing which concurrent sessions are sponsored by commissions/interest groups - it helps in making decisions. I think the current structure is fine!

---

You need to expand your options. I never see anything about developing better advising teams or working with the limited resources most of us have.

---

More topics related to academic departmental advising.

---

so much is offered, it's hard to decide how to choose the sessions - always miss something I would like to do.

---

Too many sessions; not enough time for sessions

---

Since I have not attended, it is difficult for me to comment. I'm interested in how other institutions are conducting the assessment of advising.

---

Having technology available for presenters might influence the content in a positive way, especially when considering future advising issues.

---

There needs to be more content on specialized areas. I am in the area of business administration and there are very few topics on advising business majors at the national level, and rarely any at the regional level.

---

Do not have the same subject matter concurrent sessions at the same time. At many conferences there are the two major issues that I want to attend and it is always at the same time, making me make the hard choice of which one to miss.

---

It is very helpful if the national conference registration fee includes the annual membership fee as well - not as a separate item, but as a package.

---

Incorporate pre- and post-conference workshops into the conference period and reduce the cost of the workshops.

---

The keynotes should be better than they have been.

---

I'd rather have fewer, higher-quality sessions, that TONS of sessions to pick from. I'm not a big fan of keynote speakers.

---

Need to ensure to the extent possible that what is presented is not "old" news. We need more involvement of faculty advisors and a discussion of issues specific to this group.

---

Offer ample opportunity for programs geared to beginning advisors as well as advising administrators.

---

I think the task force should keep the various formats, because it meets the needs of all attendees.

---

Practical information is paramount.

---

Be careful what you slot for final times...keep people interested to the end of the conference, don't have concurrent sessions that won't be well attended...very unfair to presenters... number 1...have good presenters at the national conference...maybe with recommendations from regionals.

---

The last day of the conference is always the dreaded time for presenters who would like to have solid attendance and feedback. Might there be a way to avoid such disappointment by rethinking the end time of the conference--a closing evening event, for example?

---

the current structure and content has served my needs well

---

Try having a formal mentorship program for graduate students, new professionals or career changers into advising. Provide career track advice and resume consults.

---

I think it's important to address the various interests of advisors...faculty advisors, administrators, models of advising, issues, public universities vs. private, etc.

---

quality of presentation; with concurrent sessions - I want it to have info /handouts to ease replication or application

---

Enjoyed VARIETY of sessions, INSPIRING keynotes, and loads of info at poster sessions (when highlighted within conference) Theme creates a pleasant flow thru activities. These plus an affordable "business" site helps to sell the investment. A multiple attendee discount would also be helpful.

---

There must be a strong introduction format for newcomers. NACADA is the best training ground I can afford when I hire new advisors. At the same time, we need an avenue for professionals to share good and bad examples. Themed tracks and concurrent sessions are great for this approach.

---

It's nice to see something for everyone--sessions for those you have been in the profession for several years (we need to hear about new things) and sessions for those who are new.

---

I like the idea of themed tracks.

---

Keynote addresses are often too long and too boring at non-NACADA conferences I've been to. They should not be longer than a concurrent session would be, and should never be the only option for any given time slot.

---

Too busy in concurrent session.

---

Prefer shorter session and more of them rather than fewer long sessions.

---

Would like to see more emperical rather than anecdotal findings of program/project success.

---

More than just the top three choices above would also be acceptable topics and delivery methods.

---

It is always great to be able to meet with people based on size of the institution in addition to content oriented sessions

---

Roundtables and discussions are the best way to learn from colleagues.

---

We need to make certain that presenters have enough handouts. Expect a larger crowd than predicted! While I feel keynote speakers are a typical part of programming, I sometimes feel that this one event is the least beneficial for me.

---

There are too many options at each concurrent session. I would prefer to have you select fewer of the proposals to reduce the conflicts.

---

Try to spread out topics of the same area to different sessions. Where there are 5 sessions on high-achieving students and 3 of them are at the same time, it doesn't help the attendees or the presenters.

---

I really like the themed tracks -- makes it easier to go through and identify sessions I am most interested in.

---

I am attending for the first time in October, 2004 so have no input.

---

need many concurrent sessions with a variety of topics

---

Professional Development "How to grow as an academic advisor/counselor."

---

Conference concurrent sessions always feel so rushed.... presenters either need to pare down amount of info they attempt to cover....and/or offer follow-up time for more indepth conversation about a particular session.

---

My academic background is in the health sciences, so am accustomed to conferences that present hard research. One thing that makes me reluctant to invest in advising conferences is the \*relative\* absence (at the regional level) of reliable data - instead too many "practice" or smallstudies reported

---

Educational sessions should be the main focus.

---

arrange concurrent sessions as very different topics so I don't miss one pertinent to my job because I'm at another one that is just as pertinent. Start sessions at 9:00 am to help with time zone adjustments.

---

The diversity of offerings is already very good. Maybe more things about the future of advising. On our campus things are really changing at a rapid rate because of financial issues and we like to know how other schools are planning for the future.

---

I appreciate having numerous options.

---

No breaks between sessions makes a very long day/sessions too good to miss/scheduled lunch best if served to people sitting/line-ups too long otherwise

---

I have not ben to a National Conference before; therefore, I have no opinion on this.

---

Just make sure that presenters are GOOD.

---

The keynote addresses are generally interesting but the size is too large to make it effective.

---

content should be varied. Call for researched-based presentations should be encouraged.

---

to include presentations addressing distance education

---

I'm not sure how you could guarantee this, but try to have speakers who do not READ powerpoint presentations.

---

I am very interested in learning about the progress being made toward a National Certification for Advisors through NACADA.

---

Need qualified moderators in the Discussion and roundtable sessions. Without a quality moderator, sessions tend to become a gripe session and little is accomplished.

---

I feel the structure and content of the national conferences has been excellent. Quality of presentations, information, and opportunity to network has been extremely helpful to me.

---

The poster sessions are useless, to me. It is always so noisy that you can't hear what the presenters are trying to say. The posters are generally not graphic enough to show what they intend. I just think it's a waste of time.

---

fewer workshops of higher quality

---

Include plenty of variety

---

The content needs to reflect current and/or future trends PLUS best practices. The structure needs to provide for lots of session choices but also allow for some socializing and networking!

---

The conference needs to allow more structured time for presentation and discussion for small colleges and universities.

---

Our conferences are more packed than any others I have been to. By the third day folks are so tired they are not functioning well, not taking in or retaining information, etc. We need to unpack them a bit

---

I love to speak with other professionals about the field. Also, I would love to see an afternoon free and maybe some evening sessions.

---

Build in the newest approaches to advising and student success.

---

Please do not put too much in one day. No more than 3 concurrent sessions and one lunch or dinner keynote address. The day is just too long and breaks too short.

---

Variety of presentation formats (addresses, concurrent, and discussions) is important to keep my interest. Second would be a motivational keynote speaker. I want to feel inspired in my work in higher ed. by the keynote address.

---

Variety is good.

---

Some presenters are very poorly informed and do not have good presentation skills

---

Structure the last day with less sessions

---

I'm extremely frustrated at the lack of quality international student advising issues - it serves no one to not have them addressed within NACADA. You cannot be a quality advisor if you're not cognizant of a student's nationality/ethnic background....word character cut me short.

---

Keep the variety of topics current.

---

you itemized informal opportunity to share. end of the day. I think this is more critical than "end of day" This is something integral to the conference. It is important to connect with colleagues during all aspects of the conference - "discussion" - at all times is key -- research needs forum too

---

keep it interesting-

---

Most keynote speeches are a waste for all but the speaker. We learn more in small sessions.

---

The structure and content are fine with me.

---

Keynote addresses are generally useless as a delivery method, and should only be used as pep talks, inspirational sessions, or comic relief.

---

Could we have Advising Certification courses as pre- through post-conference workshops. In other words, a course that would last the entire conference time. Could these count for graduate credit? Perhaps with some assignment due a few weeks after the conference, to be submitted electronically.

---

Nothing. Have enjoyed it.

---

I am pleased with the way it is set up.

---

I would enjoy a variety of topics geared to different types of institutions, i.e. some geared to problems faced by smaller universities, private institutions, etc.

---

I haven't been to the National Conference yet, but hope that popular sessions are offered more than once during concurrent sessions.

---

Since I haven't attended a national conference, I can't comment.

---

Less touchy feely

---

The content is great. Sometimes, it seems as if the actual sessions get a little boring, though. That, of course, can't necessarily be controlled. Overall, I like the way things are structured.

---

There were too many topics at each concurrent session. There were always at least two topics I wanted to participate in. I would also like to see more topics on advising research.

---

Lectures dont work. The best way for people to acutally be able to use what they learn is to present the information through an experiential method where we apply what is being taught to our own experiences and work issues. Integration, discussion and synthesis

---

I wish the pre- and post-conference workshops were less expensive.

---



I feel there are quite a few weak presentations. I personally want information in a more entertaining than lecture style. Even more importantly, GIVE HANDOUTS. Last year it seemed presentors were very stingy, I don't know if it was to conserve paper or ideas.

---

Need more hands on.

---

Would like to see a session on how to begin writing about academic advising.

---

On a very personal note, I have been extremely impressed with the professionalism that has been displayed over the years. There has been an incredible amount of diversity in terms of the attention to detail. Kudos to all who had a hand in the NACADA work. The structure should remain consistent.

---

I think that round table discussions allow for more sharing and give more people the opportunity to be heard.

---

Have conference activities/events planned so that they move quickly and smoothly, but with adequate participation time.

---

Keep us busy throughout the day. Be as representative of as many states/schools as possible.

---

Stop allocating monies for the NACADA bags. Access to "free" coffee and pop during the sessions would be a better use of the resources.

---

That they do a good job with having a variety of topics available.

---

I have enjoyed the content. Information are on the cutting edge. Excellent Presenters.

---

PLEASE arrange an interactive meeting for small college personnel on the first day of the conference so that we can find each other, e.g. a Small College Commission roundtable discussion. This contact is invaluable for us, and difficult to find if one knows no-one.

---

Themed tracks are very valuable, but frequently there is much overlap of most valuable related sessions; last day of conference feels too much like left overs!

---

I found that the conference in SLC met my needs well. (Did not attend in Dallas)

---

?

---

I'm uncertain if this already happens, but it would be nice if each Region could have some time to get together and visit.

---

The structure should always permit dialogue.

---

Possibly expand concurrent sessions to 75 minutes - we just get things going and it is time to end. Need more sessions on general advising issues (retention, theory, generalizable research, models, etc.) rather than "this is what we did on our campus."

---

Need for down/social time is critical

---

excellent selection of topics, liked the themed tracks. didn't like the discussion so much as got excited about the topic and wanted presenter to be the "expert"

---

Most times, pre & post conference workshops are more enticing and informative than conference workshops.

---

While I like the concurrent sessions, having the same sessions help more than one is useful since one may miss a good session because of time conflicts.

---

The ability for the conference to connect theory with practice -- the what works for me concept.

---

Really encourage presenters at concurrent sessions to leave time for questions.

---

Poster sessions need to be improved. At other academic conferences, and in the old days of NACADA, poster sessions can be excellent. When NACADA switched to posters over lunch, it greatly diminished the quality. I will present posters at other academic conferences, but not at NACADA.

---

I would like to see the workshop recorded and sold at the end of the conference.

---

Repeat concurrent sessions so you can attend as many as possible

---

The content should address the needs of those new to advising as well as those with years of experience.

---

Be sure that issues discussed are diverse and inclusive of current practices and problems/solutions

---

No comment. What was done seemed to be as good as it could be.

---

Please allow time in the middle of the conference to tour or see an interesting site in case you cannot arrive early or stay late. Please plan for decent breakfast food--not just fatty pastries but lots of fresh fruit, cereals, yogurt

---

I've found that many times, concurrent sessions are run from year to year. Often, these sessions change their title to coincide with the theme. Given the new title, I have attended sessions that I've seen/heard before.

---

Overall the structure is fine. However, often times the scheduled activities (city tours, shopping trips, etc) usually conflict with some of the more significant presentations/sessions. Please look into scheduling more of the outside activities in the evening.

---

Comprehensive Campus processes for large universities.

---

Themes need to appeal to both professional and faculty advisors

---

I enjoy sessions more when they are not too rushed, and there is ample time for questions. I think an hour should be the minimum time scheduled for concurrent sessions.

---

Nothing in particular

---

Having sessions in the morning (9 or 10) & early afternoon (ending 3 or 4) is better than at night.

---

I find many of the discussion sessions an inefficient use of time; people are understandably prone to talking about their own unique problems that seldom have applicability to the majority of people in the room.

---

It's usually very good, sometimes the choices are overwhelming

---

Structure all talks in a certain topical area together in the same room i.e. runs sessions on "Advising Administration" from 8am- noon. Delete discussion or concurrent labels-just let presenter run it whatever way they want

---

I would like there to be opportunities to meet with others in the field on a more casual level.

---

I have enjoyed the regional conferences and anticipate going to a national one. I would encourage you to bring in nationally known experts in education and areas that impact our advising roles. Also, maintain diversity with the selected presenters to represent all members of the organization.

---

I feel that day-long pre-conference workshops are the best for the money I am going to put in. An extra day of per-diem and hotel often are not worth the 3-4 hours sessions we have offered.

---

Always have a motivational speaker start off the conference. It helps set the tone.

---

Workshops should be WORKSHOPS, not big, long concurrent sessions.

---

Too many sessions get too crowded. Either put them in larger rooms to accommodate more people, or find a way for people to sign up for them ahead of time then only let in those who signed up? Also, the "food lines" at the lunches are awful. Minor detail, being served at tables works better.

---

Should be no longer than 2 days!

---

There seems to be a great degree of variance in terms of the QUALITY of presentations that happen at the national conference. Maybe particularly GOOD sessions could be repeated at the conference, or given particular recognition on the NACADA web site.

---

I'm not able to attend some of the sessions as they overlap with others and are not repeated.

---

Do what you are doing now. Find out what it is that our colleagues want to know. Give out, early, as much information as possible about the conference topics, and then ask for feedback in advance. People do not have the right to complain about events when they have had the opportunity.

---

I think that it would be beneficial and essential to have sessions that are related to multiculturalism in advising. As advisors, we meet with people from different ethnic backgrounds, social economic levels, age groups, sexual orientation, and various disabilities.

---

I believe NACADA has provided good structure and content in the past. I don't know that anything you do in these areas will change the economics problems that I have seen for the last several years.

---

That they have video of some sort instead of dry lecture type presentation.

---

I don't think that it meets the needs of experienced advisers or administrators. The sessions are for beginners. For myself, I need opportunities to network with other advising administrators.

---

I would like to see more sessions with case study discussion, whether real or hypothetical. It would be interesting to have specific topics with a few scenarios to talk about and pick up new ideas and fresh suggestions as to how one could deal with each situation.

---

I enjoyed the structure of the conference I attended in Salt Lake City.

---

Breaking into small discussion groups has always been beneficial. Sharing with others from similar institutions (two-year, four-year public or private) allow exchange of ideas common to each. I would also

like to see a wide variety of topics to choose from, especially Learning Communities.

---

Avoid, if possible, scheduling themed track presentation during the same time period.

---

Content should include information regarding multicultural issues in advising since our student of color population will continue to grow nationwide

---

Allow plenty of time for concurrent program sessions.

---

Just to keep them going north, south, east, and west I guses. This gives everyone an opportunity to attend if possible when it is in their area.

---

I'm basically satisfied with the current structure and content.

---

Take seriously the different levels of advisors and have a track for more experienced advisors, after a while the sessions all seem similar we need something new and challenging.

---

a. Relevancy to conference theme is important. b. Gaining information and ideas on advising that are practical or 'can apply this now' at our campus. c. Research that supports the benefits and effectiveness of advising models. Opportunity to network - allow time between sessions.

---

I really liked the structure and content of last Octobers conference however there were not enough seats and that put a cloud on the entire event.

---

Give more time to the presenters. At the last one the presenters had to rush to finish.

---

Can't think of anything.

---

Make certain it's relavent and interesting.

---

No comments

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Need chances to mingle and get to know other advisors - especially if you are the only one at the conference from your location.

---

Allow some free time to network and relax.

---

I'm sure you already do this, but: look for variety in presentations (both content and format) and don't schedule all similarly themed presentations in same time slots.

---

No idea? I like having 4-5 sessions per day and multiple options per session. Keynotes and authors are interesting. I dont' know if you do this already or not.

---

Do not overload same time sessions with the same themed presentations

---

Many presentations seem to repeat each year - same presenters - same topic. That is NOT appropriate for a national conference.

---

no comment

---

It would be nice to have fewer workshops and longer sessions for the workshops that are offered.

---

Important to build in time when there is nothing on the schedule. Also, there are some presentations that should be allotted more than one hour.

---

At the February 2004 conference, I really appreciated being grouped with similar institutions, then being able to discuss later with other participants. I do not like small groups without leadership--too often it becomes a sharing of ignorance.

---

Leave plenty of time for open discussions with other advisors. We often go with a set of questions we want to ask our counterparts.

---

?

---

Advisors and advising is so varied. I like current setup with keynote, various tracks, specialty preconf wrkshps, new adv orientation, etc. Might want to tighten titles like Poster session which can be confusing, but in general think it has evolved well with something for new and old, adm&adv.

---

The one I went to (Dallas)had too much at one time.

---

I think a major keynote speaker, as opposed to the president of a local institution, for example, is a BIG draw.

---

I don't typically get anything out of the keynote speaker. Could that time be better spent with smaller group setting, more sessions, etc.

---

It might be nice to extend some time between concurrent sessions for more networking.

---

I think that the sessions should run on a schedule that would allow you to attend as many as possible within the timeframe of the conference even if it means shortening the sessions and just presenting key ideas.

---

There needs to be more advanced information, or SOMETHING, for those of us who have been NACADA members for many years.

---

More for small schools

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A lot of opportunities for those of us from schools with first-generation, low socioeconomic students.

---

I really enjoy nationall known keynote speakers. All three most memorable were in Atlanta....Art Levine and Wendy Kopp and the president of Kennesaw State Univ.

---

Stop letting people present same session year after year! Invite upper Administrations to present

---

There is nothing I can think of, I have always enjoyed the conference when I have attended

---

You are all doing fine. I don't want to be the person who has to put this all together!

---

I administer advising as one function in my area. I like themed tracks for that reason.

---

In reference to the previous question, for a newer member, the organized sessions and discussions are the easiest to particiapate in. That being said, I think it is important to have evening gatherings that new people would feel comfortable coming to. I realize this is very difficult.

---

Some of the conferences require action plans; I think this is good for a Summer institute but not for a shorter conference. There is not enough time to develop an action plan and attend concurrent sessions. Puts too much pressure on people when they want to relax a little and attend sessions.

---

None

---

Conference should offer a variety of topics in a concurrent session mode with keynote presenters.

---

I think that the basic structure and offering of a NACADA conference are very good!

---

Descriptions of concurrent sessions should appear on the conference website earlier with their time slots.

---

I am particularly interested in community college issues and would like structured experiences to meet with colleagues about the issues related to CC advising and student success.

---

d

---

Ability to network with others. I learn so much talking to others between sessions.

---

It is very well put together and very interesting. No matter which session I attended, I learned something new.

---

In the past, there seemed to be a variety of programs to meet the interests and needs of most participants.

---

?

---

Schedule themed presentations so they do not conflict.

---

Would be nice if it could be separated for "new" advisors versus advisors who have been in the field for a while.

---

Give some open time (end of day maybe is best) for free time - to mingle, network, sight see, etc.

---

In the past there have been way too many concurrent sessions to choose from. Quality instead of quantity would be preferred.

---

Need more information on future careers and how to select courses that will retrain the workforce. In the future, how often will the work force change jobs, what are the economic trends, etc.?

---

Concurrent sessions are wonderful, but sometimes too many sessions are offered on one day. A person can only absorb so much information in one day.

---

Is there an opportunity to create spontaneous roundtables for professional discussion, perhaps thru a central message board and sign-up for those pursuing and so interested?

---

I would definitely any new tools of the trade to be available on display. The structure should be flexible enough so participants do not feel too rushed from session to session.

---

Networking and sharing is most valuable. Some people present just to be able to come to the conference so their presentation isn't as valuable as it could be.

---

Recognize that advising happens across higher ed venues - don't always focus on university model.

---

In terms of the structure I would like to see more concurrent session for the topics to be presented. In addition I would like to have the opportunity to be informed about more research on the field

---

I'd like to see fewer concurrent sessions competing with each other for the same time slots. Perhaps half as many presentations, but repeated at other times.

---

Most pre-conference sessions have been excellent, and provided useful information. Some concurrent sessions should be presented more than once. Frequently there will be 3-4 great topics during one time period, and they aren't offered again.

---

The structure is great. The content needs to be tightened up. The abstracts in the program do not match the actual presentation from time to time.

---

interesting speakers on current hot topics

---

Don't make the session times too long. Studies have found that you lose a person's interest after @ 25 - 45 minutes.

---

Make sure there is ample sessions that would appeal to faculty advisors

---

one hour session are sometimes too long for research papers. symposium sessions that feature similar areas of research would be a neat thing to do. this is similar to the model that the American Education Research Association uses. I think this might be a good addition and encourage more research.

---

More discussion groups.

---

If I ever return to attending a national conference (and I once was on the national board representing Region 6), I would prefer seeing more posters and less emphasis upon expensive pre- and post-conference workshops.

---

I like the general layout, overall- the poster session/luncheons tend to be quite hectic.

---

I thought it was structured very well--the one I attended in Salt Lake City in 2002.

---

There needs to be more for Graduate level advisors, and also for new advisors that are just learning the profession.

---

Please even out the schedule (hard too!) so that not all types of events are against each other. More room for regional get togethers and being able to attend more than one commission meeting.

---

It needs to provide an overview of the profession while addressing specific "nuts and bolts" issues that can be taken back for immediate use. Provide a kind of "view my product" room for advisors to see some of the items used in advising ie. the "Advisor/ Advisee Responsibilities Placemat."

---

Stress to the presenters to be enthusiastic and to have a plan if technology fails.

---

I want relevant and useful content. I don't want to participate in gripe sessions. I want to hear what the speaker has learned in her/his experience. I like concurrent workshops where one can choose from many topical presentations.

---

I think that it's important to allow enough time between sessions to network and talk to others.

---

I want to hear how advisors at different schools are facing the same problems that I have at my school.

---

I would like the National Conference Task Force to keep in mind that there are departmental advisors as well as college advisors attending. Communication skills between the two would be an advantageous session to include.

---

Sometimes having too many concurrent sessions dilutes the attendance at any given presentation.

---

should have lots of structured time for people to exchange ideas

---

Poster sessions too short.

---

National conference has gotten so large and there are so many new people, that it would be nice to have informal opportunities to discuss topics with others sharing the same interests. I just don't know who they are! Help me find them.

---

It would be nice to continue to see some sessions designated for newer advisors, part-time advisors, and full-time advisors.

---

The structure is fine. Viewing the information sent on the past two conferences...the presentations are more current scope of information...hands on rather than theories/statistics

---

I would prefer to have a wider range of themes (ex. alternates to first year experience issues and developmental advising). Also, I would like to be able to take more concrete ideas home to my campus. Small school/ large school presentation designations are appreciated for concurrent sessions.

---

Making sure sessions are quality - material and information. I don't feel last year's conference was worth the price for the sessions I attended.

---

Have good variety...not the same presentations year after year.

---

no comment

---

importance of good "course" descriptions so that may match up institutions needs when choosing courses

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0

---

Divide 2 years colleges - universities topics

---

The variety of topics concerning advising issues as mentioned about; current trends ,web advising, reserach etc.

---

Since my first preference in structure is concurrent sessions (or roundtables), it's obvious that themed tracks will help accomplish this more efficiently - and that helps make attendance decisions. Pre or post conference workshops are awkward for me to schedule.

---

currently meets all of my needs

---

It's always been a very well run and organized conference. No additional suggestions.

---



I would like to have an opportunity to attend a networking event organized by the professional interests of participants. For example, this could use the facilitation technique of "open space" to identify topics that attendees want to discuss with others.

---

Including lunches organized around topics make for great discussions. Possibly having tables separated by themes or region?

---

Organized discussion sessions work best for me versus informal - especially at a national conference where I know very few people and what they do. Better way to meet and find out about a lot of people.

---

That it is important to have fun and "lighten up" even while we're being serious about the important work we do!

---

Have presenters offer their topic several times. When each session is only given one time, it is difficult to get as much out of the conference. If I am going to spend the time and money (employer does not sponsor me) I want to gather as much information as I can.

---

It seems there are too many sessions which would appeal to a very small population.

---

I think the structure works very well. The content overall is good. I like to hear what is happening at other institutions. I DO NOT like to hear people complain about how the advising profession is not respected but don't want to tackle the issue where it counts.

---

Better sessions. Often the topic sounds interesting, but the presentation is shoddy and poorly researched. Hardly ever does anyone quote a book or article, or quantitative data about their findings. I also the cute presentation titles and descriptions. No more cute!

---

In four years, I've never looked at a single poster. I also generally skip keynote sessions because I rarely get anything out of them. Wes Habley and Susan Komives were exceptions to that!! Cost for preconference workshops is a hindrance.

---

The two conferences I attended were very interesting and helpful. Current format has worked well for me.

---

I've never been to a national conference.

---

I have been pleased with the conferences I've attended. The structure is good with ample opportunity and a variety of ways for advisors to get information.

---

I would like to see more opportunity/encouragement of the informal opportunity to meet and mingle with people from other institutions. This might include an event with ice-breakers and "forced" mingling of some sort. I notice that people like/tend to stay in their groups otherwise.

---

make sure there are choices for small colleges at each session.

---

I prefer to attend sessions where I can learn how other colleges "operate" and to hear keynote speakers.

---

Those sessions where we get to interact and discuss work the best for me.

---

No plenary sessions would be helpful -- just a number of individual (small) sessions.

---

I was in student affairs for years and attended National ACPA conf for many years. They were structured in a well organized fashion--surely you've looked at models of other national conferences, yes?

---

Nothing at this time

---

The variety of topics covered is awesome. I wonder how people would feel about ending the conference in the evening instead of running a few sessions in the morning of the last day. It doesn't seem that those sessions are as well attended. By the last day, I'm listened out.

---

To me, Post conference workshops are a waste of time. People are just too tired.

---

Sometimes the 50 minute sessions are too small and some times they are too long. I am not sure that the planning can cover all of the continuancies.

---

structure - concurrent session with themed tracks content - new ideas

---

We need to take into consideration all of the various groups whose needs we must meet...so different types of presentations, etc.

---

The best thing for me was getting together with my "group" once a day. I felt like I had a place to go to, to discuss ideas and interact with a small group of colleagues. It was my home base. Terrific!

---

Vendors are only available during the height of the conference when everyone is in sessions. I usually do not take time out from a session to go see them. I might if they were in a reception format at the end of the day with refreshments (w/ cash bar) and vendor raffles.

---

It's fine.

---

Would like to see more adult-centered themes incorporated in the overall conference

---

I would have liked to be able to obtain handout from all the the workshops or at least for the ones that I attended.

---

The content should consider the various roles that advisors play in their respective positions. For ex., some of us are counselors, advisors, instructors, and/or administrators. The structure of the conference I attended in Vermont recently was just fine, organized yet informal and comfortable.

---

I DO ENJOY A GOOD KEYNOTE SPEAKER WHO CAN SET THE TONE FOR THE CONFERENCE

---

Generally like the format; however, the keynote speakers seem to leave something to be desired. Maybe a little organizational self-serving. Perhaps a "futurist" would be a good thought provoking addition.

---

Keynote address is too long.

---

I find that many of the presentations only scratch the surface of issues. I would like to see stronger opinions on issues. That's why I chose the discussion or roundtable delivery method, as they tend to get more to the guts of things than concurrent sessions.

---

Keynotes should not be longer than 30 minutes. Be a bit more selective in what gets included. Too many choices; hard to determine what is the best thing to do. Select carefully, so each concurrent session is full of truly quality presentations.

---

Sessions that are scheduled so early in the morning or too late in the afternoon, joined with informal networking in the evening and in-between, makes for very long and exhausting days. It limits the time to reflect. I'd make breaks a little longer.

---

I would like the conference to consider the keynote during or after a luncheon.

---

there are too many concurrent sessions and it is hard to chose; more conference days would allow an easier spread for concurrent sessions

---

Diversity!

---

Schedule rooms to accomodate the interests of the audience.

---

Nothing substantial - I was very impressed and satisfied with the structure and content of the one national conference I have attended so far. I am relatively new to the Association.

---

It would be helpful to have some assistance with networking. Especially for those new advisors from smaller colleges or institutions that might not have peers or colleagues that can introduce them to other advisors or faculty.

---

More people who have done research in the field presenting at concurrent sessions

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More hands-on workshops wold be preferable.

---

perhaps too many choices in concurrent sessions; might be helpful to have fewer offerings but more repeat sessions of the more popular ones.

---

There needs to be a variety of presentations.

---

I also think time to reflect on what has been learned is important. Not only time to share with individuals, but some personal time to process all the "data" that is absorbed.

---

We need more sessions that deal with small college issues.

---

At the last meeting there were many, many presentations that seemed repetitive.

---

Choose keynote speakers with high standards, education, good values, integrity and a positive message. NO "DWELLING ON THE NEGATIVE" PLEASE. I do not need a conference which incites depression.

---

It has been great.

---

Change the date from early October to the second or third week.

---

Keep keynote sessions brief.

---

I feel having one length of concurrent session would help in the structure and 90 minutes is too long. If all sessions were scheduled on a 30 minute interval, then individuals could move from one room to another based on their interests.

---

Keep away from the formality.

---

Again, a combination of the abov works best for me

---

variety

---

I feel that NACADA puts on a great conference. I don't think one should have to choose which session to hear. Arrange sessions in the morning you attend about three to four depending on the time limit 830 to 1130. Afternoon 130 to 430. It would be like attending class.

---

I want to go home energized, with new ideas to try in my own department-----I want to know what other Universities are doing with on line counseling ---

---

Give attendees options for roundtables and concurrents at every time block.

---

As an "administrator" I often times (in the concurrent sessions) feel that I have been there, done that! I got a lot more out of the institute where there were more peers, such as myself, facing similar issues. ... really do not feel the conference addresses my needs as much as it does my advisers.

---

none

---

With this size of conference, it is EXTREMELY helpful when you have tracks for smaller colleges and universities. Even if they are not specifically geared to that content wise, if sessions presented by smaller schools could be marked or identified clearly in the program it would be great

---

We are all interested in doing the best job possible. That means learning how others have overcome problems, etc.

---

--

---

It has been so much more helpful when the concurrent sessions are more broad so as to apply to the greatest amount of counselors, rather than specific topics relating only to that institution. You have all done a wonderful job....thank you!

---

I think you do an amazing job - compared to other national organization conferences NACADA consistently puts on one of the best year after year.

---

I would like to see a survey done of all members regarding what are problem areas for their schools. Address those at the conference.

---

My experience is that "real stuff" happens in the sessions. Keynotes speakers have been of little professional value but enjoyable to listen to.

---

Choose a keynote speaker that can get the advising crowd fired-up. Someone who is motivational, funny and creative- this person does not have to work in the higher education area.

---

No comment.

---

I prefer a variety of activities that encourage the advising veterans to interact with those newer to the profession.

---

I like the current structure except I do not get very much out of poster sessions.

---

Provide ways for those who missed sessions to access information presented (online, CD, printed, etc.).

---

Focused discussions with groups of 15 or so are most beneficial.

---

I suggest trying to figure out how to select the beset presentations. There are lots of them but many are not

done real well.

---

I would like to see a format structured for people who cannot attend the conference, but who want see the workshops. There is a new format called webinars where a person attends the seminar without being there. I am not sure of the technology required, but it sounds like a good idea.

---

A good balance of workshops, sessions, and speakers. Also, try to create opportunities for informal conversations that usually lead to a wonderful exchange of ideas.

---

important to add the side trips at the beginning of the conference so we can see a bit of the city we are in

---

The conference should not be arranged from 7 a.m. until 10 p.m. because people tend to not attend the sessions and it is not fair to the people who are conducting the sessions.

---

Having the conference focused on a major theme about a current topic would best meet my needs.

---

I also like the opportunity to have the pre-conference workshops as well

---

Be sure it is disability accessible.

---

More activities that encourage networking.

---

I like the content that is currently available. I would like to see an opportunity for a change in the poster sessions. The lunch environment appears to me to take away from the positive impact that the poster sessions bring to a conference. Can it coincide with an informal networking time?

---

integrate student personal development with studnet intellectual development with studnet social development with career planning.

---

Many times the content is repetitive. Different titles tend to be misleading and I have gone to more than one session discussing much of the same information.

---

Information on faculty advising models including training, recruiting, evaluation, gaining support, dealing with incompetent advisors.

---

The content has always been very positive. I believe it would be great for the conference committee & national office to extend a extra effort to welcome first-time conference attendees. A warm welcome may prompt increased involvement in organization.

---

In regard to question 10 above, poster sessions rank at the bottom of my list.

---

No answer

---

I like the opportunity to have discussion groups on specified topics such as technology in advising.

---

There should be more detailed presentations. Generic speeches tend to be boring.

---

The hottest topics on our campus are assessment and retention.

---

It's a wonderful opportunity to meet other professional advisors and the "big names" in advising (Gordon, et al). It helps me know that my work is valued at a national level even when advising is not publicly acknowledged and rewarded at my institution.

---

Variety--- I often find that sometimes things can get too "narrow" and I want to learn as much as I can about as many different topics as I can.

---

Offering multiple sessions on the same topic is great. Allows attendance when there are so many people.

---

Formatting the conference to address the needs of advisors in diverse college/university settings must be a daunting task. I appreciate any efforts that can be made to "personalize" the conference experience.

---

It's already great!

---

Quality of keynote speakers extremely important.

---

I thought the conference I went to was well organized and very informative.

---

Some of the best programming seems to begin on the first pre-conference day(s). This occurs before most people can arrive and even then, it costs extra. It precludes members who can't afford to arrive earlier, and then pay the extra costs of the extra-programming.

---

Early information about sessions so I can determine if conference will cover topics of interest.

---

Any sessions with an audience intended to cross all programs, all levels should be repeated when concurrent sessions schedule is used

---

There may at times be too many choices. Inevitably there are conflicts in timing of sessions one wishes to attend.

---

I really prefer strong content to keynotes and to concurrent sections. Networking used to be an important part of national conferences for me, but because I've not been able to travel outside my location easily for a number of years (personal and professional reasons), I almost need a "jumpstart."

---

Try NOT to schedule like topics at the same time. It has been getting better, but if I am interested in, say, adult learners I want to go to as many sessions related to that topic as possible. Concurrent sessions work well.

---

?????????

---

more items of interest to those working with graduate students

---

I just get frustrated at times because there are new advisors presenting and I would prefer someone who knows more than I do presenting at these things. They are expensive and I hope to learn. People present just because it is the thing to do not because they have invaluable experience to pass on.

---

The poster sessions sometimes get lost in the lunch timeslot. Is there any discussion about it lasting longer or starting earlier?

---

"Just say no" to poster sessions. :-)

---

I like the variety of content options at the conference.

---

The current structure fits my needs well, it has a good balance and variety of learning activities.

---

n/a

---

N/A

---

More promotion at the Dean level and administrative level to encourage professional development of academic advisors.

---

N/a

---

Provide opportunity to participate in two themed tracks by having some for the first half of the conference; others the second half.

---

I like smaller sessions rather than listening in a large room to a speaker. Though they may be good I seem to learn more from good small sessions.

---

Cannot answer.

---

Keynote speakers need to be really good presenters; i.e. have rich content and good delivery.

---

There needs to be more truth in advertising. The concurrent sessions so rarely follow their descriptions.

---

I'd like more information for senior professionals and directors of programs.

---

If it was possible, some topics could be repeated. Sometimes topics that you want to see are offered during the same time periods. We come looking for specific answers to problems. Perhaps different 'tracks' could be structured around specific topics.

---

N/A

---

more casual

---

The keynote speakers were not a specific option for question nine and they are often the reason I attend the national conference because they usually address many of the options offered in question nine.

---

I think the the sessions needed to be shorter on the last day of the regional conference, I don't know how a national conference is structured.

---

I love to find out about new and best practices in advising. Also, I think sessions that are geared toward discussion of a particular problem are helpful. It's great to hear how others are dealing with a similar situation.

---

Personal renewal and sightseeing are important also. However long the conference is, there should be some time for these considerations.

---

The design of the conference seems fine. Some cities offer more off-site opportunities, so some "free" time during the day to take advantage of these might be nice.

---

Don't make it too unwieldy (large and spread out).

---

It might help to put similarly themed presentations in the same concurrent session. Many times all of the "good ones" are in the same session, and then every session has something on probation students so you

end up getting repetitive information.

Putting themed offerings at different times so they don't conflict with each other. Varying the format of sessions. Giving sufficient breaks times between sessions since going all day can be very intense.

It would be INCREDIBLY USEFULL if we could see any powerpoint/handouts/etc on the web BEFORE the conference to get a better idea of the kind of approach the presenter/s will use, i.e. sometimes they don't seem stay on the topic they presume to talk about.

I think the opportunity to attend a lively concurrent or roundtable session in small rooms is important.

Continue to spread out similar topics so that those interested in one specific topic can attend as many on that topic as possible.

Create a taxonomy for session descriptions. This would allow attendees to have a better ability to judge session content. For example, at year's conference, I attended 5 sessions with "orientation" as the main topic in which orientation was defined at least three different ways.

When choosing speakers, it would be nice to consider that again membership differs in size so it may not be a bad idea to also have speakers who could relate to smaller size schools.

Variety is key!

Built in opportunities informal discussions. Targeting sessions to types of universities - public, private, big small, etc.

A session for new advising administrators would be great!

Don't make them go all day. 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. makes for a long day. End the sessions around 3:00.

Since I have never attended one, cannot respond.

again, no experience to draw on--

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## Page 4

### Question 12

Does your institution require that you either present at a conference or be involved in the organization in order to attend a national conference?

No		1126 (78.14%)
Yes, while I don't have to do both, I must either present or be involved		134 (9.3%)
Yes, I must present a session in order to attend		67 (4.65%)
Yes, I must be involved in the organization in order to attend		53 (3.68%)



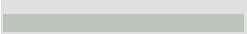





N/R		62 (4.3%)
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[top of report](#)



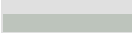





## Page 5

**Question 13**

How long have you been a NACADA member?



Less than 3 years		572 (39.69%)
At least 3 but less than 6 years		343 (23.8%)
At least 6 year but less than 10 years		188 (13.05%)
At least 10 years but less than 15 years		160 (11.1%)
More than 15 years		109 (7.56%)
N/R		70 (4.86%)

**Question 14**Which of the following best describes your **primary role** at your institution?

Faculty Advisor		48 (3.33%)
Academic Advisor/Counselor		681 (47.26%)
Advising Administrator		304 (21.1%)
Administrator with responsibilities over several areas, one of which is advising		249 (17.28%)
Graduate student		18 (1.25%)
Not affiliated with an institution of higher education		3 (0.21%)
Other:		65 (4.51%)
N/R		74 (5.14%)

[View Other Text](#)**Question 15**

**How long have you held a position similar to your current one?** (e.g. if you have advised in your current position for 2 years, but were an advisor at another institution for 5 years, you have been an advisor for 7 years. Therefore, you will mark "at least 6 years but less than 10 years".)

Less than 3 years		313 (21.72%)
At least 3 years but less than 6 years		351

## User Responses

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Which of the following best describes your primary role at your institution?

- No Response
- Assoc. Director of Advising
- Career Center Director
- employment counselor
- Head of advising, as well as humanities and the English major.
- Academic Dean
- Academic/fin.aid/career advisor
- director of undergraduate studies
- Advising Assistant
- Transfer Advisor/Recruiter
- admission/academic advisor through first semester
- Bachelor of Arts Program Advisor
- Athletic Academic Advisor
- Counselor for at-risk, adult learners
- Staff with responsibilities over several areas, one of which is advising.
- Career advisor
- orientations
- faculty with advising responsibilities
- professional school advising

- peer advisor

- 24CC Academic Advisor

- No Response

- provost office

- Dept administration - some advising

- Dean of Academic Services/Dean of Students

- CSAO

- Retention Advisor

- retired...adjunct advsor

- president

- retired

- Writing Tutor in major retention program

- student/peer advisor

- not employed yet

- Counselor/Director Counseling and Advising

- Teaching Faculty who Advises

- coordinator

- advising tech support

- program coordinator

- Director of Advising and State Testing

- Advisor with some administrative responsibilities

- International Education Administrator

- Assistant Registrar
- Faculty Advisor/ Advisor administrator over freshmen advising
- Academic administrator
- adviser with other responsibilities (50% adv.)
- Office Manager of Advisement Center
- No Response
- Program assistant (office tasks, one of which is advising, but mostly at the lower level in one specific department)
- Counselor
- Orientation
- No Response
- Psychological Counselor
- Director of Admissions for a College of Education
- Program Evaluator
- career services director
- advising info sys
- Library faculty with advising responsibilities
- Program Coordinator
- Adjunct Instructor
- High school advisor
- Learning Specialist
- Director of a residential learning community
- staff, but I'm also backup advisor
- ADA Coord.

- 
- Directo of Academic Advising





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(24.36%)

At least 6 years but less than 10 years		267 (18.53%)
At least 10 years but less than 15 years		218 (15.13%)
15 or more years		220 (15.27%)
N/R		73 (5.07%)






**Question 16**

Your institution would best be described as:

Public		1065 (73.91%)
Private (non profit)		277 (19.22%)
Proprietary (for profit)		22 (1.53%)
Employed by agency or firm; primary income not from an institution		3 (0.21%)
Not currently employed		5 (0.35%)
N/R		70 (4.86%)


**Question 17**

The highest degree granted by your institution:

Technical (vocational) certificate		1 (0.07%)
Associate?s degree		221 (15.34%)
Bachelor?s degree		65 (4.51%)
Master's degree		341 (23.66%)
Ph.D., Ed.D., or professional degrees, i.e. M.D., J.D., D.D.S. etc.		737 (51.15%)
Not applicable		7 (0.49%)
N/R		70 (4.86%)

**Question 18**

Institutional Size (number of students enrolled)

Less than 2,500		134 (9.3%)
2,500 ? 4,999		157 (10.9%)
5,000 ? 9,999		227 (15.75%)

10,001 ? 19,999		302 (20.96%)
20,001 ? 29,999		243 (16.86%)
30,000 ? 39,999		154 (10.69%)
more than 40,000		145 (10.06%)
Not applicable		9 (0.62%)
N/R		71 (4.93%)

### Question 19

#### Region

Northeast Region (ME, VT, NY, NH, MA, RI, CT, Quebec, New Brunswick, Maritime provinces)		141 (9.78%)
Mid-Atlantic (PA, NJ, DE, MD, VA, DC)		153 (10.62%)
Mid-South (WV, KY, TN, NC, SC)		93 (6.45%)
Southeast (MS, AL, GA, FL, Caribbean)		134 (9.3%)
Great Lakes (WI, IL, MI, IN, OH, Ontario)		298 (20.68%)
North Central (NE, IA, SD, ND, MN, MT, Saskatchewan, Manitoba)		84 (5.83%)
South Central (KS, MO, OK, AR, TX, LA)		187 (12.98%)
Northwest (AK, WA, OR, ID, MT, British Columbia, Alberta)		88 (6.11%)
Pacific (CA, NV, HI)		78 (5.41%)
Rocky Mountain (AZ, CO, NM, UT, WY)		109 (7.56%)
International (other than Canada)		6 (0.42%)
N/R		71 (4.93%)

### Question 20

Finally, what **one thing not previously covered** in the survey would you like the National Conference Task Force to know regarding the national conference?

[Hide Responses](#)

not applicable

Allow members to bring guests to the conference meals - you allow for family to attend but then don't offer us the opportunity to have family at the meals. We're willing to pay but don't get the opportunity.

If I attend, I'll be alone and don't really know other people. It would be nice to have "mixers" built in to the schedule so you can find people to go to dinner with, etc.

---

Because of state cuts, money for professional development is usually not available to the staff.

---

Keep up the good work

---

Networking opportunities for those who have never attended a national conference or for those who attend the conference without other colleagues. Networking is difficult because of the size of the conference. Those attending cluster in groups.

---

I just returned from the American Educational Research Association conference in San Diego. The sessions were themed so different researchers (maybe 3 or 4) presented their work in a single (longer) session. I really thought this was effective. For example it would be beneficial to bring together Ph.D. students who wrote their dissertations on advising, or a session on retention. This would also allow for better collaboration within the field and promote the academic advising discipline.

---

I have attended 5 natl. conf. and all have been of the highest quality - overwhelmed with information - many new colleagues and totally refreshed. THANK YOU

---

Make sure that the conference moves each year to different areas so that it is more accessible to all groups - and keep it affordable!

---

Make it easy for attendees to get from one session location to another.

---

can't think of anything - you covered it well

---

Make sure the accommodations are nice. I was not impressed with the hotel in Dallas. Some rooms were nicer than others, yet we had to pay the same amount.

---

keep up the good work!

---

New things in advising

---

Welcome parties or planned evening social events are great networking opportunities in a more casual relaxed environment. Also, concurrent sessions should be offered at an hour length with at least 20 minutes break. Sessions that are an hour 1/2 long are too long.

---

The first weekend in October is a really hard time for those of us who are Latter-day Saints. I know you cannot accommodate all religions and all interests, but that weekend (as well as the first weekend in April) is our world conference that it is so important for us to hear/watch. If October ends up still being the month of choice, another weekend in October would really work well for the Utah schools. Thanks again for taking all this into consideration!

---

Keep doing a great job!

---

Cost is an important factor. If I have leftover money, I would be able to attend a regional.

---

How about an exhibit of books for sale. Include reference books for advisors, some of the books on the book review list, professional development books, etc.

---

I have always found them to be worth the time and money. That is not true for the Advising Administrators' Institute. Recommended changes that were not accepted for the 2nd year. Was basically not useful to the three of us who have attended. NACADA does an exceptional job with conferences.

---



Food- offer a variety of hot and cold. Snacks throughout the day are also helpful in keeping motivation levels up. I'm really looking forward to the National Conference.

---

It would be nice to have more posters, so information could be gleaned without sitting through whole sessions.

---

This conference not only provides an opportunity to empower those that do advising, but it also gives advising the recognition that in many institutions is not given.

---

I think the conferences are well-organized and well-done.

---

The one thing I would like to see at the national conference is a more pronounced track for new attendees/new professionals to the field.

---

Would like to see some national government officials on the program...maybe the Secretary of Education where they could be asked questions

---

providing an opportunity for presenters to make additional copies of hand outs on site. out reach to possible new members to start at the national conference level in order to get to know what is available to them... having discounted rates for first time members attending the national conferece to encourage participation.

---

Making sure that there are USABLE maps of the area (with possible points of interest highlighted) for people that want to explore is nice- I was at a conference where not even the hotel staff could tell me interesting places to go- I like the little planned trips of the area too (and no, I really don't spend most of my time exploring, but I do consider that to be a plus of the conference!).

---

Can you work on lowering the cost of the conference, travel, and hotel? As you know most institutions have budget problems, it is tough to attend conferences, and the other programs. Higher ups who get to go don't pass down information and the experience is better than hearing about it.

---

It is a good opportunity to learn about things and a good organization.

---

Not need for too many informal networking opportunities becasue folks who are shy or traveling alone need more structured and themed discussions.

---

One small thing about hospitality...it would be really nice to have volunteers who live in or near the conference city to offer to take visitors to local sites, perhaps in the evenings. I am not comfortable venturing out on my own (for personal and safety reasons), and it's hard to round up conference attendees I don't know to go out sight-seeing.

---

The cost of the conference is a major deterrant for conference participation. Particulary in the case of presentors, who I believe should be given a break in registration as an incentive and for miscellaneous things like handouts. Sessions should be as descriptive as possible. Outstanding session should be repeated.

---

I wish is was more accessable to members with a limited budget for professional activities.

---

don't know

---

How about offering graduate credit for attending and doing some extra work afterwards?

---

nothing...seems the survey is ok

---

would like to see more collaboration with other groups such as ACPA

---

Providing snacks and computer terminals is always helpful. I appreciate having access to the internet and also snacks to energize. The conferences are always well done!

---

Cost is one of the biggest factors - if the conference is several nights and the hotel is expensive, it quickly gets "unattractive" to attend.

---

No comment.

---

More Canadians are attending and we appreciate having a voice. Don't forget us! It has been a great networking opportunity between the different Canadian institutions but also on a cross-cultural level. Very much appreciated. Maybe a session explaining the "cultural/educational" differences between our countries would be useful. Two speakers from the two countries comparing and contrasting would be useful. (Accreditation system, private/public education, funding etc)

---

nothing

---

I'd like more emphasis on the career advising track. Since it's my area of responsibility, conferences without a substantial career portion are difficult "sell" to my organization.

---

I do not have a lot of travel money, so my advisers and myself are far more likely to attend regional conferences or national conferences which are "close to home".

---

Some Canadian content

---

I've enjoyed the national conferences I've attended (Ottawa and Salt Lake) and think NACADA did an excellent job all around!

---

Keep up the great work!

---

The most valuable items upon return are the examples of what has worked at other large institutions. I still have a training manual written by a peer to train professors and others.

---

After 25 years we are now ready to go to the next level. We have the nuts and bolts. Where do we go from here?

---

I can't think of any thing. I think NACADA does a really fine job of putting on national conferences--they are always the best I attend each year. Thanks for the chance to give you some of my own opinions and preferences.

---

Budget may be a long term concern at most institutions. Is there any way to lower conference costs, or earn waiver of conference costs, or "scholarships" for conference costs?

---

The good thing about the conference is that it has so many offerings so you can really tailor your experience, but it would be good to make the entire conference info available to all participants--ie requiring handouts be available on the association website. Too much good info is lost when you have to decide between sessions.

---

I think that providing tools to improve as well as perhaps guides on ways to find time for and implement new changes are the most important things to strive for.

---

Approximately when will this conference be in the southeastern area?

---

You have it covered.

---

I appreciate this opportunity to provide feedback. With budgets at public universities the way they are, the conference must be money well spent. Please make every effort to keep the conference cost effective, move it around to minimize travel expenses each year and pay attention to lodging costs. This will allow more people to attend when budgets are an issue.

---

The conference is very well organized with lots of interesting sessions. Keep up the great work!

---

n/a

---

Many presentations highlight innovations that people have just or are in the process of implementing. It would be extremely useful if these presenters could be encouraged to return two or three years down the line to provide an update on the success of their ventures.

---

Generally, I feel that the national conference is more likely to give me a feel for what is new in advising and to have high quality speakers and presenters. The regional conference is more affordable and provides opportunities to network with people who are probably dealing with similar issues to ours. I have to admit that the location of the national conference is what initially attracts my attention to consider going or not.

---

Keep up the great work. Receptivity, \_smaller\_ interesting/less expensive setting terrific, communication excellent.

---

None

---

None

---

Nothing I can think of.

---

They are informative and rejuvenating and most worthwhile (if only institutions had money to allow us to attend). Thanks for your efforts.

---

For some people an every other year national conference alternated with an every other year regional conference might work better in their budgets.

---

I wish there were professional clock hours we could earn toward something--toward an advising certificate or ???

---

I have been to one National conference, and one Regional conference. I have been impressed by both. More experience at the conferences will give me a better idea of what I would like in the future. Thank you for doing a good job on the conferences I have attended!

---

Importance of time & opportunities to enjoy the city/conference location built into the schedule. Opportunities to tour or do things not usually open to the public or on the typical tourist list.

---

I don't know.

---

Nothing.

---

I have served on the national board & recognize the challenges faced by NACADA in holding the National Conf. It seemed, at the time, that the locations, timing & even presenters catered to the Eastern part of the

US. Also, an untapped resource NACADA could use more is the graduate student programs--particularly if the recruitment piece continued its expansion. As a grad student I attended NASPA and ACAPA for that very reason.

---

The effort to move the conference from one coast to the other is appreciated. Recent budgets have made it difficult to send staff to conferences at all, but having one close really helps.

---

Continue with a mix of presentation formats -- discussions, presentations, etc. -- some conferences are solely tech related and although that area plays a significant role don't focus only on that area.

---

It would be nice if you could pre arrange some tours of the local attractions. Not all attendees have the option of renting a car.

---

Thanks for your hard work.

---

The 1 hour workshops do not allow enough time to handle material. 1 1/2 hour sessions would be better, with some sessions repeated (in case two sessions running concurrently would be useful to an attendee).

---

Glad to see it rotate to different regions-I cannot afford to travel very far.

---

Had an excellent experience at the past National Conference

---

It would be helpful if there was an incentive for Deans/Directors in Academic Departments to get mailings/info about NACADA since graduate advising is not centralized in many universities. They should also be aware of the Awards so that they can nominate an outstanding advisor without this information having to come directly from us.

---

N/A

---

For the most part the Nat. Conf. have be very good. Lots of information shared and good topics for all. Sometime there's too many topics. Overall great work.

---

I find the biggest issue for me attending these types of events is getting the money, part that comes from my institution, to be the main issue. I was going to attend the conference in Colorado, but, because I couldn't get enough funding to cover all the expenses I didn't go.

---

N/A

---

We need help receiving funding for professional development opportunities. We only have enough money to send one person to the national conference each year, and our director always goes. Without professional development funding, the small salary I receive won't ever be enough to cover my paying out of pocket for a national conference.

---

The time and money involved in attending a national conference have been hurdles. The regional conferences are much more attainable, although the timing has been bad for us the past two years.

---

n/a

---

Can't think of anything additional at the moment. Thanks for giving members the opportunity to assist in your planning. Hope you have a good response. Good Luck!

---

In an era of shrinking budgets for professional development the regional conferences are more realistic for most advisers to attend.

---

Glad to have the conference in our area which makes attendance viable.

---

Possible allied interdisciplinary section(s).

---

IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF SCHOLARSHIPS WERE AVAILABLE. OUR COLLEGE HAS "x" AMOUNT OF MONEY SO WE STAGGER OUR ATTENDANCE. THERE ARE TIMES WHEN WE'D ALL LIKE TO GO.

---

It would be helpful if attention is given to facilitating connections. One of the reasons people attend conferences is to make a connection with similar minded individuals. They often leave dissatisfied in that area; especially if he/she is the only representative from an institution. Many individuals don't know how to negotiate the networking path meaningfully.

---

NACADA is a class act. Keep it that way. At our institutions, deans, vice-chancellors NOT interested in advising still respect NACADA. Don't compromise the integrity of the organization.

---

Budget constraints at our institution would dictate that I (and my staff) attend either the national or the regional conference within a given year, but not both.

---

N/A

---

it is difficult to attend the sessions the last morning due to flight schedules. would prefer to finish Saturday evening if we keep current format.

---

Come to Texas more often or at least offer more professional development opportunities for those of us who cannot travel out of state.

---

Total costs (airfare, conference fees, lodging, food) is an issue, especially if you are paying out of your own pocket to attend conferences. Best to schedule at times where everything is the cheapest to avoid people leaving early or not attending at all. In addition, conferences should be rotated west and east coast - location seems imbalanced.

---

I have nothing to add here.

---

More time for interest groups & regional groups to meet. There never seems to be enough time to really accomplish anything.

---

I think that the sessions should start a little bit later in the day. I would rather attend fewer sessions that are longer than try to cram several sessions in before noon and several more after lunch. It is exhausting to attend all the sessions, yet I don't want to miss anything!

---

R.T. Airfare and overall meal cost (in addition to Conference content) are also high on the consideration list when making decisions to go to a Conference!

---

It would be wonderful to have some inspirational speaker, like Caroline Myess, etc. She could talk about the archetype role of the advisor, steward, etc.

---

I would like to see more vendors with exhibits demonstrating how technology can help academic advising.

---

You have covered it all. Thanks!

---

Perhaps some of the content that was presented at the conference could be shared (via electronic media) afterwards.

---

They should have had a booth with materials available for purchase (handbooks, etc.)

---

The National Conference is very even in years when I cannot attend because of scheduling or budget. I am so grateful for those presenters who have their material on line so that we can share some of the value.

---

The one I attended was excellent. If timed correctly, I hope to attend further conferences.

---

NACADA has had comprehensive coverage of all areas of advising, and serves to provide information in all areas through several formats (conferences, publications, websites, etc.)

---

I have FEW opportunities to attend anything, even regional events & conferences, due to tight budget constraints. I would love to do more.

---

Continue with the outstanding job you have been doing.

---

Ideas about how to get faculty to attend....I am not sure I have any great ideas, but I would like to see more faculty involved.

---

NA

---

I have never attended a bad conference. It has always been invigorating and helpful, and the spirit of student sensitivity that pervades is marvelously refreshing. Thanks to the many of you who have been key people in making this happen!

---

Emphasis how it can really help the mainstream advisors who constantly meet one-on-one with students to better fulfill their responsibilities.

---

Don't give up and thanks for asking my opinion.

---

"keynote" and "theme" are important, even though they will not "rise to the top" on my evaluation because of my own prioritizations.

---

The better the attendance, the better the conference. I think it is important to find a place people would like to visit and a place that is affordable for those of us on tight budgets.

---

Provide more social options for first time attendees... it seems to work if there are sign ups for dinner outings, etc.. Especially if there is a newcomer who is the only one from their school, they can have difficulty connecting with others.

---

Keep the fees down as much as possible

---

The presentations at the national conferences get better and better every year. The Best of Region program was a wonderful addition a few years ago. KUDOS to everyone planning and implementing the yearly conference.

---

I would prefer more experienced presenters who have published research. Some of the concurrent sessions presented information that was not very informative.

---

I actually like the way things have been in the past except that I would like to see the conference in smaller as well as larger cities.

---

Best practices are important to share, however, the description of the session should reflect if the practice is basic/core to advising or highly specific or whatever . . . seems like sometimes the sessions are covering core services that may already be well established at my institution.

---

I feel that many of the better sessions are on the last day of the conference when many people are leaving. It seems a disadvantage for presentors who have to present on the last day. Overall, I have been very impressed with the national conferences I've attended. Keep up the good work!

---

The schedule is usually so packed that the 2 or 3 days of the conference are exhausting. Some of the concurrent sessions seem repetitive, so perhaps fewer presentations in greater depth with a little more free time would be a solution. Every national conference I've attended has been a fantastic help to me.

---

It is a great chance to get together and remember (celebrate) the "value" of advising as a career.

---

I thought the 2003 conference was excellent.

---

Try to make it friendly and personal--it can be a lonely experience if you aren't with colleagues from your school. Arrange introductions at table groupings at lunch, etc.

---

One of the joys of NACADA was having the opportunity to meet with other staff who shared the same interests, skills and problems. The Dallas conference had become so "professional" that I found that piece missing.

---

When finding the right hotel for the events, it is important to not only view the conference rooms but to also examine the guest rooms. There were many complaints last year of the cleanliness of the individual rooms and the lack of help from the hotel staff.

---

Location Location Location (affordable & with something to do after conference sessions).

---

Please keep conference registration fees as low as possible. I'd prefer a conference with low fees and fewer provided meals over one with high registration fees.

---

Timing of the conference

---

na

---

My attendance at a national conference is based on where it is held in relation to my university. Being in So Cal, I'll be at LV. But futher than that won't be allowed.

---

I really enjoyed going to the Ottawa conference, I'd like to see another outside-US site (including Hawaii) maybe every 7 yrs for affordability. I would go to D.C. again. I think the format has been honed to perfection over the year. The 7 conferences I've attended have been informative, fun, and well-organized.

---

I would love to attend the National Conference. The current budget lets me attend the smaller conferences that are not too far away. I am sure the National Conferences would be wonderful as I get such a rush from the State conferences and go home on such a positive note. Eager to put in to practice what I have learned or share with others what was experienced. It needs to be central to be National and I fully appreciate that

---

More information about the host city would be good.

---

The three or four that I have attended over the years have actually been quite educational, interesting, and enjoyable. I do appreciate the hard work that must go into all the prep and carrying off of this event and the people that accomplish the task so well! Thanks for all you do!

---

Attendees feedback concerning most critical issues in higher education facing academic advising profession. Thank you ! great survey!

---

Need new people presenting and in charge -- you have the same people all the time.

---

I can't think of any thing.

---

Anything that will help keep costs down are helpful. An area that could be looked at is the fee for attendance. My location in Nebraska to almost anywhere gets expensive. Estimate of cost of attending a national conference for me is \$1200-1500. My budget currently allows for about \$600 per staff per year for professional development. Anything that can be done to narrow that gap increases the likelihood of more people attending.

---

The price of the conference dues. I would love to attend a national conference- but due to budgets have been limited to a regional conference.

---

Reduce the registration fees when an institution sends more than one advisor

---

I need more information on advising students who are enrolled in pre-college level, "developmental" courses who may or may not be willing or able to complete an Associate's Degree.

---

1) It is important to begin to cover "touchy" topics - like 911, students with post traumatic and other diseases our students enter into college with. In addition, what kind of skills and training an advisor needs to competently address when advising these students. Trust me they do exist. 2) Include a panel discussion of educational authors and have all professionals read their books in advance-come prepared to get feedback. I.e. An author who can address "School Character Education".

---

Having a session called better than sliced bread - where each school represented brings a program outline of a program that they believe is unique or works effectively on their campus.

---

The commissions and interest groups need more opportunities to get to know each other and share.

---

Overall the conference I attended have been well done.

---

Continue doing a great job!

---

Price is a key factor as to whether I can attend a conference - airfare, hotel, registration, etc. Also, conference presenters should have registration fees waived or largely discounted. (Same with regional conferences.)

---

none

---

Mutual meetings with peers from like kind of institutions to discuss various advising programs; what works/does not work.

---

Make it meaningful

---

Planning a few social events brings people together like the bands and dancing in \_\_\_\_ (can't remember the city)

---

Food. The breakfast should include FRUIT. It was a very unhealthy breakfast. Don't provide it unless there are options other than sugar, fat, and carbs. Lunch: delicious, but not exactly the right kind of food if you



want people present and actively involved in afternoon sessions. Stick to salads and grilled fish or chicken. Desserts should be fruit. The food did not fuel the mind!! It acted as a sedative.

---

I am really not sure what else. Best wishes on the results.

---

In years when I served on the national planning committee and other committees associated with NACADA elected officials, I became very discouraged about the politics of it all. Some of the same people get chosen over and over to present preconference workshops--these most frequently are past board members and cronies of board members. New people quickly become discouraged about their chances of being dealt with fairly when the same folks present the same preconference workshops year after year

---

Possibility of varying cost options, such as, one day or institutions sharing a registration.

---

Please continue to make the conference affordable and attractive to those of us who have retired. Thanks!

---

Nothing

---

N/A... I've enjoyed my participation to-date and feel this is one of the best organized associations I belong to.

---

Having "cyber stations" onsite is becoming increasingly important. I think it was Dallas where they had a great set-up-- you could check e-mail between sessions and keep up with what was going on back at the office if you needed to. I don't own a laptop, so having the free computers available, and having several, so the wait time was small, was a huge help and a great service.

---

It is of the utmost importance that the conference details be organized and clearly laid out to the participants. People need to fully understand what they are getting for their money and to feel that they are attending a "professional" event. It has been my experience that NACADA is very good at this aspect and I appreciate it a great deal.

---

It would be nice to have more information about fit. There are so many NACADA sponsored conferences and seminars at the regional and national levels. It would be nice to have an overview of what is going to be available and where the locations are. That way advisors can choose what would be most beneficial in a given year (as most of us are working with limited budgets).

---

Make it fun.

---

Is it possible to have a few scholarships for advisors to attend the National Conference? Many advisors work in institutions that are under-funded and never can come to a conference.

---

Even during the day, there should be time for informal talk with advisors from schools similar to mine. I learn more from the informal talk and sharing than anything else at conferences.

---

more opportunities for research that leads to hands on approaches not just theory

---

technology is a resource that we are not using to the max (i.e., video conferences) nice to see this electronic survey, hope you get a good rate of response

---

Use more faculty on your committees.

---

Thank you for your efforts and for your work toward a successful national conference. You are the greatest!

---

NACADA conferences are the best-run conferences I've ever attended.

---

Everything has been covered.

---

NA

---

Give the spirit give aways more time and have them be of a more equal value. Some items were costly (nice sweat shirts) and some were very inexpensive (water bottles).

---

I like the idea of Las Vegas in 2005. North Carolina is beautiful and has many locations for conferences in the Research Triangle. Atlanta is an excellent city, but not very centrally located. Please don't have the conference in Texas, Oklahoma, or in the Midwest any more!

---

It has been interesting watching the "traditional" membership of professional advisers become more and more open to the participation of faculty advisers, rather than seeing them as, at best, competition and, at worst, incompetent. Perhaps further workshops or sessions to continue that integration would be useful.

---

The contents of NACADA National Conferences are excellent. Attendance by my college may be due to budget cuts.

---

N/A

---

I find them very beneficial and encourage my staff to attend

---

The top reason I attend the conference, above any I ranked on the list you provided, is to see what other schools are doing to get new ideas and be inspired.

---

it's a wonderful opportunity!

---

It inspires!

---

Keep the price moderate. Receiving financial assistance from my institution means getting \$100

---

Please be sure your hotel/conference center can provide accurate, timely service, especially when replenishing items such as water and buffets. Those sessions tend to make one thirsty!

---

Keep the cost down!!!

---

Side notes: with respect to some questions neither option was totally accurate. 1. I would not have to present to attend but this increases the chances of approval to attend. 2. Our institution is a large community college - we offer certificates but also diplomas. 3. Re: question 19 - I am from Newfoundland, (eastern) Canada which is not included in the options, however, I did check Northeast. (Just for future reference it needs to read 'Quebec, Atlantic Provinces). Thank you.

---

no suggestions at this time

---

N/A

---

It is important to let the smaller schools voices be heard and recognized. It is easy for conferences to be taken over by big schools with large teams of attendee's . Also more discussion needs to take place about tensions between professional and faculty advising. NACADA belongs to both, but it is often times not apparent as faculty are too often dismissed at best and ignored at worst.

Informal meetings are very important, but they need some structure or they don't happen.

---

National conference can be overwhelming if you don't go with a group. Not that people aren't friendly - they are. REgional conference in Columbus was dominated totally by OSU folks. No one's fault, everyone just seems to have his/her own group. BUT will go to Cincinnati b/cause it's nearby and a whole bunch of CSU folks will go.

---

Thanks for asking. Good, user friendly, and thoughtful survey.

---

I feel that the conferences continue to be very professionally done and have been an asset to my professional development.

---

It seems strange, and I could be wrong, but the summer conferernces are more expensive to attend than teh National Conference. I am assuming this is because the numbers attending the summer conferences, which tend to be regional, have less people attending. I say this because many institutions, including my own, have been hit hard by budget cuts. Moreover, many upper level administrators do not deem attendance at NACADA events as important to teh professional development of their advising staffs.

---

There is a difference in "allowing to attend" and "paying to attend" a conference. My institution allows me to attend, but might not pay expenses if I weren't involved.

---

I would like to be able to communicate with individuals who have presented so in the future I may be able to present.

---

nothing

---

One of the most expensive confereances that I attend. Should have a better discount price for staffs. I have 8 full time people and it cost us \$3000 just to attend, not including plane hotel etc. great confence but very expensive. Also October is the worst time for a conference because most centers are in full swing of advising. 2nd week in Jan would be great as the students are not back

---

Currently, I feel it does nothing to improve/raise the status of academic advising as a professional field. It does not attract professionals from institutions that are highly selective in nature - probably because, like my experiences, the conference disappoints.

---

For those who are unable to attend in-person, some form of online participation would be great!

---

Conference theme should be relevant to current issues in advising.

---

I would like to have the conference information include evening or pre- or after-conference tours of the local area or at least information about the local area where the conference will take place.

---

I've attended a lot of conferences. I think you folks do a good job.

---

I'd just like the Task Force to know that I'd attend the national conference every year if it were possible. However, in this age of budget reductions, attending a national conference is not always feasible, so I'll only be able to attend every few years. I'm sure many others probably face the same type of situation.

---

Continuation of the webinar concept. I believe there are people who cannot attend due to budgetary restrictions, but who may be able to web-in on one or more seminars.

---

None

---

The conference is great; however, I feel that it is too lengthy. People tend to lose interest after the second day.

---

I feel that setting commission meetings at the same time as concurrent sessions works against participation in the commissions.

---

I usually skip the large meetings (ie keynote address and lunchtime speaker) and would prefer more networking time with my colleagues.

---

Trying to keep conference costs as low as possible. With budgets being cut, attending is getting more difficult with an average cost/person of about \$1500.

---

Important venue for professional development and networking

---

I am too new a member to have a constructive comment. At this point I am just glad that there is a professional format for academic professionals to interact. Give me a few years and I may have more constructive ideas.

---

For the most part, it is an incredibly well run conference. I was amazed, having never attended, at how smoothly it was run.

---

Try to have one on the West coast (California, Oregon, Nevada) at least every 5 years.

---

Good luck in your information gather. look forward to seeing what the changes will be for future conferences.

---

You forgot to ask if I enjoyed the conferences I attended, and the answer is "yes."

---

Plenary sessions should be shorter (based on 1 conference I attended, in SLC). It is SO DIFFICULT! to sit for a long time in a huge auditorium to begin with, but then people trickle in and out and concentration becomes even more challenging. Ok this is 2 things but you did a great job in SLC of providing us with tourist options so we could take advantage of a great location.

---

n/a

---

The costs associated with the conference are prohibitive to having your advising staff attend. If you have more than 2 advisors, it is too expensive, considering there are regional and other conferences you might want them to attend.

---

Financing going to the conference. My university/department does not have funds to let many people attend conferences.

---

Great work is being done by the task force and executive committee. Keep it up. From my experience attending previous conferences, it is so worthwhile and allows us to reactivate our enthusiasm for what we have been doing for so long. There is nothing in past conferences that would keep me from coming back!

---

If the NACADA national conference is like the regional, it promotes the idea that all advisors should have graduate degrees in student services. I strongly disagree with that philosophy and want no part of it. There are and will continue to be many excellent advisors who don't have those specific credentials. NACADA should realize that good advisors come from many life paths and should support that diversity.

---

I have not been to a single conference that I did not deem worthwhile. Perhaps not always in all aspects but certainly overall. The only difficulty is to keep up the enthusiasm and ideas after returning to the work

place.

---

Keep the costs of the conference low by having participants buy their own meals on occasion. You do not have to provide all meals as long as the conference is located near a variety of restaurants and eateries.

---

I've never attended the National Conference, but for my needs--I'd like to see more concurrent sessions on the "how to's" of advising. Many institutions just throw a person in there and tell them to advise students--without any guidance or direction.

---

Nothing in particular

---

The conferences are wonderful and an enormous benefit to members. I don't think there's anything "wrong"--just continuing to make improvements.

---

We, Academic Advisors/Counselors, continue to struggle with faculty and other administrators that we are a true profession. As a group of professionals, we have begun the road to establishing ourselves as a profession with the Certificate in Academic Advising. My question is how can we as advisors/counselors and the NACADA do more?

---

I would like to see a dinner banquet done seating people from different regions in order to allow better networking.

---

I have found it increasingly less professional -- reminds me of some public school teachers meeting. I don't know if it's the programming, or the participants themselves, but the content is simply not punchy enough. If I go to a conference, I want to feel as if I've attended a class, not been at a "warm, fuzzy" convention.

---

no

---

Cost of conference is becoming unreachable for small campuses like ours..

---

Have opportunities for groups from one college or university to work together to develop an action plan that can be implemented in their own college or university.

---

My institution will pay for one major conference a year. I can do national or regional but not both. I can also do local one-day conferences that I can drive to. This year I plan to attend the state (OHAAA) and national conferences. Next year I plan to attend national in Las Vegas.

---

I think they are really great and I have enjoyed attending them.

---

I have not been for several years because the national has seemed to be a place where schools "promote" their own programs rather than train people in new ideas or technology. This may be different now, but I attend another conference annually which is very expensive and does give me information in multiple areas. Since I have not been in several years, I don't know how the exhibits are, but that is always an important aspect as well.

---

It's an excellent conference. I wish I could go every year.

---

I would like to see a renewed focus on the "academic" part of "academic advising." Lately I attend more talks on student social and psychological development, but little focus on the content of what they take. What steps are advisors taking to know more about the content of the courses their students take (especially in areas outside the advisor's own academic specialty)?

---

National conference is wonderful!

---

Offer more instruction/suggestions for first time presenters. Or require some previous presentation requirements.

N/A

Perhaps it could be issues-based with presenters offering real-world solutions. One of our largest issues surrounds dealing with students whose first priority is not education. How you get them to take responsibility? Why is there so much apathy?

Keep up the good work!

For those of us who are "new" to advising administration in small schools where budgets are limited, some sort of support group would be welcomed.

Maybe the conference could alternate locations so that every other year it is in a big city.

My attendance is influence by my institution's travel budget. If they will pay, I will come. If they will not pay, I will not come no matter how interesting your agenda.

A single conference theme is fine! However, multiple themes/tracks may allow some individuals to focus on only one area of preference. This is already being done to some extent, but there is usually only one overall convereence theme. Try three or four concurrent themes with presentations related to each. Okay, this is a planner's nightmare, but what conference isn't?

Having an Institute in the same location prior to or after the conference so that both could be attended in one trip would be something I would enjoy.

The national conference provides opportunities to learn a wealth of information about advising and meet other colleagues in the academic advising. I enjoy the sharing of best practices and techniques to generate new ideas and creative thinking on my part.

I enjoy attending and am impressed with the professionalism of facilitators as well as participants.

Keep the commission meeting overlap to a minimum - good for networking and finding out about the current topics in that area. A frustration in the past few years is that it is hard to get dinner in and be back for evening sessions -- especially when having to travel away from the hotel area to get to restaurants -- this also limits networking time.

Don't have a non-pc comedian "star" as the closing act. After 2 days of positive information to end with a speaker who is inappropriate is disappointing.

Charlie Nutt is a fantastic ambassador for the organization.

I think the conference need to include a student panel to discuss advising issues. You can contact SGA's on college campuses to discuss advising from a student perspective. This organization needs to develop a peer advising system that prepares and recruits college students into the advising profession.

Conference needs to address the "burn-out" of counselors.

Informal attire!!!!

nothing

It just seems to be the same thing every year.....

---

If NACADA continues w/ concurrent sessions format, I would like to see more diverse topics by more seasoned professionals.

---

Cost is an important factor.

---

It has been exciting to see the conference grow so much over the last 10 years. It is a wonderful tool for anyone affiliated with advising and I am fortunate our institution recognizes the importance and supports it.

---

I have only attended one. Very much enjoyed going. Timing and money has kept me from returning.

---

Having attended every national conference since 1991, I've been happy with the conferences....content, facilities, location, etc. There have been "little things" with each one but nothing that would cause me not to return.

---

I personally prefer the regional conference structure rather than the national. The national involves so many people, sessions, options that it's more difficult to connect. I wouldn't mind if it were discontinued in favor of enhancing each regional conference. If that doesn't fly, then go to an every-other-year schedule for the national meeting. Regional meetings would then also be every other year. That's occurred with a number of other organizations (such as NAACP) and works.

---

You pretty much covered it, other than that in questions 9 & 10 I would have liked to have ranked more of the choices as #4, #5, etc., to let you know they are appreciated, also!!

---

n/a

---

There have been many times that I was disappointed that there was not enough room in a session for everyone who wished to attend. If there is a way to predict the most popular sessions, it would be great if they could be held in larger rooms.

---

Just a comment. I am now in my 46th of teaching and advising. I tried retirement once, it was awful. I was a director of academic advising for almost 20 years. Now I have an entry level job and love it. I wonder if some schools would offer entry level positions to us "old timers" just to help us keep mentally alert and up to date. Just a thought.

---

Use marriott hotel chain.

---

The one thing that HAS TO STOP is the charging of fees for projectors/LCD Panels. Technology in hotels and internet connections may be expensive, but conference fee is WAY UNDER market compared to similar orgs. The cost of technology is not so high that it would put the conference cost out of competitive range. The cost of technology should be paid for by NACADA, not by individual presenters and should be recouped in the conference fee.

---

I do like meals to be included. It helps me to break even. State budgets are not generous.

---

I do enjoy the company of others.

---

Can't think of anything.

---

I think this is a very comprehensive survey, appears to be how you do most things. I went to my first regional in March and am most impressed with your professionalism

---

Perhaps have more than one "conference hotel" in order to facilitate check-in on the initial day and to also offer options to attendees regarding price (perhaps one hotel would be the "ritzier" hotel with a lot of extras whereas the other might be something like a Days Inn).

-  
\_\_\_\_\_

I will probably be able to give more feedback after I have attended more than one conference.

NACADA conferences have always been worth the cost and the effort to attend. The only thing that limits my willingness/ability to attend is my institution's ability to pay for it. I have, on occasion paid my own way, but I am not always financially able to be that independent or determined. It would help if there were some assistance to help us find one another to share room expenses.

healthy eating and room for fresh air and destressing

It was well organized last year.

I would love to be able to vote on upcoming conference cities & themes, dates & hotels. While I would love to attend the National conference in Cinn. I'll have to change planes, have long layovers, and it'll take hours longer to arrive & get home than if the conference was in a city easy which was ease to get in & out. With many working parents, our time is very valuable. If I'd like to bring my family, I'd much rather bring them to a city with easy air or train access and more tourism opps

That it is run well, and for a conference of its size is very successful in meeting the needs of the attendees.

n/a

This is a great conference, and I always enjoy it. Some tweaking and some changes would be great - but overall I think it really is a good conference.

We need a Liberal Arts Commission!!

With planning done so far out, institutions & staff who commit may be gone or the climate changes. Unsure what can be done with that, but it sometimes shows in how well the conference is run. My college only funds one person, so I get reimbursed once every six years. I feel so strongly about the conference that I pay my own way the other five. It helps reaffirm I am on the right track, it is stimulating with new ideas, research, etc. Enjoy seeing colleagues whom I see rarely.

It is always held right at the worst time for our crunch time for academic advising.

Advising for non-traditional universities (DL students, non-traditional students, extended campus advising)

the level of appreciation most advisers have for the many who take the time to provide us the opportunities to attend, at all levels, not just nationally.

none

The Dallas conference was great, great location with lots to see and do, everything was in one hotel and the price was reasonable. Try to find other venues which are similar. Also, set up opportunities for people to connect for example set up a board with sign up sheets with different places to eat and people could sign up for a place. We all pay ourselves but it gives us the opportunity to eat with new people. Great when you don't know people.



Need an East coast location

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National conferences should be first and foremost, an entertaining time to network, enjoy each other's company, celebrate the successes of advising, hear about some great ideas, recharge, and relax. The primary purpose should not be see as 'work'.

---

In general, I think they are very well run. The timing (usually early October) works fine for my institution. I do have a problem with having to pay to use an LCD projector, however, if I'm doing presentations that require it. I think presenters should be strongly encouraged to bring their own when possible, or not to use them if not necessary, but otherwise projectors should be provided free of charge.

---

Question 12 was problematic. I can GO to a conference anytime I'd like; I just don't get any funding to do so unless I'm actively involved in the conference. It's all on my own dime if I'm not presenting or otherwise involved.

---

Maybe regional conferences could consider carrying through on some of the national conferencethemes. This would give those who couldnot attend the national conference the opportunity to stay abreast of national issues. A survey on regional conferences need to be done very soon.

---

Create more opportunities for graduate students to get involved (i.e., conference planning, graduate staff, etc.).

---

There needs to be a task force who ask for input on where the members would like to see the conference attending (what city or area).

---

It is very helpful if the national conference registration fee includes the annual membership fee as well - not as a separate item, but as a package.

---

Having sessions or meetings at 7 or 7:30 a.m. just so we can be done by 4:30 or 5 seems a little ridiculous. It also makes it very difficult for commuters to get to the conference on time. I'd rather the sessions go a little later in the day.

---

Thanks for all your hard work.

---

Try to keep it as cost effective as possible while moving it around the country.

---

The NACADA conference is always one of the most (if not the most) tightly run events that I attend. It seems to run flawlessly. Kudos go to the NACADA staff members who make everyone look good. Too, the atmosphere is one that embraces all people, ideas, and points of view. There is a spirit of exchange and cooperation that is all too rare, especially in more academically based conferences (the MLA, for example).

---

continue work on the professionalization of advising practice

---

If you must hold the conference on Friday nights and/or Saturdays, schedule what happens with sensitivity to those Jewish members who may have to miss them. Provide support (rooms, listings in schedules) if Jewish members wish to provide our own Sabbath activities which can be open to any conference participate who wants to learn and experience what we are about as a religious group and a cultural minority.

---

I have ALWAYS wanted to attend the NACADA national conference; however, our institution (like many) is going through hard financial times and cannot fund professional development for non-faculty. Thus, I don't have \$\$ support from my school and cannot afford to attend with my own money. We're hoping this will change as I used to attend/present at conferences annually in my former position here.

---

I have attended 2national conferences and several regional ones over the years. I have always been very satisfied with them and therefore do not have anything to add. thank you.

---

The last regional conference I attended (my first) was impressively coordinated and run. I have been to other organization conferences in the past and felt they were a waste of time and money. Overall I think NACADA does a good job. Keep the level of professionalism, excellent presentations, welcoming conference workers, and reasonable costs I have seen and I will look forward to attending many more.

---

N/A

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NA

---

The conference is always impressive and worthwhile. Keep up the good work!

---

Options not directly covered in the question about decision to attend include cost and timing. In a perfect world, the options covered would be what influences my decision to attend. However, it is really determined by the budget of the office along with the college calendar.

---

I think we're running out of "themes" -- they never seem really distinctive to me.

---

Overall, I think NACADA is a well-run organization but the conference fee is awfully high compared to many other professional organizations.

---

It is very lonely going to places I have never been and not know anyone. The cost forces us to only have one person attend. The first night at every meet and greet that I have attended, people stay in their own little groups and don't try to include the individuals that are alone. We need activities that will force all of us to include everyone attending. That is always the loneliest time I spend at the conferences. The rest is filled with sessions.

---

It is one of the best national conferences I have attended, in terms of structure, organization, and content.

---

having a NACADA member/non-member rate is great, but a student rate would also be greatly appreciated, since most of us have no school funding for travel, hotel, or registration fees, we have to absorb all costs out-of-pocket.

---

N/A

---

Even though the conference is our primary concern, because we often have the opportunity to travel to a new place, the tours that are available are also important to us.

---

I like to attend conferences that have a variety of attendees and schools and programs that are motivational and informative. Conferences that are "regional" in size are more appealing.

---

Have we ever considered having "panels" where several presentations on the same subject were given and then discussed. Granted the presentations couldn't be as long; but you might be able to include more presenters on each subject and get some useful dialogue. Sometimes currently the presentations are good but not substantial enough to fill the time devoted to them, so one feels shortchanged. If 2 or 3 brief presentations were done and then debated, it might work better.

---

I know that some conferences have mentoring opportunities, where new professionals can get a mentor for the conference and possibly carry it on throughout the year, etc. i'd be interested in working with new professionals.

---

The national conference is a wonderful experience for new advisors as well as "veterans". I cannot fathom

the amount of time and energy it takes to make each one of them as exciting and interesting as the one before it. I truly appreciate the work that's done by the national office, the board of directors, and the host institutions.

---

Keep building on what you have, for what has evolved is a great product.

---

The knowledge gained from attending anything given by or attended by the Past Presidents is a wonderful addition to the Conferences. I especially enjoy the Summer Institute alumni gatherings on the Friday evenings and the roundtable with the Past Presidents.

---

If we have suggestions for speakers, who do we contact?

---

to be able to choose a theme or topic in the "1-2-3" preference mode

---

I think it would be nice to have a little more time between conference sessions to get to the next session, or to network with advisors I don't normally get to see, or even to run to my room for a minute without missing out on the beginning of the next session or not being able to get a seat.

---

I love the national conferences!!!! Logistically, keeping the whole conference under one roof is a must!!! Sometimes, it would be nice to have the more popular sessions offered more than once during a conference.

---

I think the conference registration fee is too high. After factoring in travel, hotel, food, and registration fees, it often costs as much as \$600 to send someone to a NACADA conference.

---

No comment

---

Truly can't think of a thing!

---

The Program Committees should be made up of individuals from all types of institutions so proposals get a fair reading, and scheduling.

---

Asking questions relevant to brand new advisers

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How about fewer sessions but longer ones here and there? Say 90 or 120 minutes for some sessions, especially discussion panels. Really gives time to delve into issues.

---

Bring in a national leader who is not in advising directly but has a lot to say about the importance of advising. For example, Lee Noel a leader in college student persistence and retention.

---

Thanks for doing this and I hope you move the time of the Conf.

---

It has been of significant importance to me, both personally and professionally, for 19 years. I'd pay my own way to attend, as long as my institution gave me professional leave time. Keep up the good work. I really appreciate it!

---

People return to NACADA every year to see old friends. . .there just happens to be some presentations there as well. However, many of the presentations are poor. Perhaps better screening of the proposals or presenters would help. I never miss a NACADA National, but I don't believe the overall quality of the conference is very high.

---

Every NACADA event I've attended has been very vegetarian UNfriendly. We eat more than salads and greasy cheese-based items....

---

I am finding accountability for my actions becoming more scrutinized - and think that this is not unique. Advisors are not as able as before to participate regularly in conferences -- money, time, participation (ie need to present, participate, produce relevant value of conference, etc) are becoming more critical than in the past. I am not sure what is critically "wrong" with the national conference ...is there something?

---

I have always been impressed with the variety of opportunities NACADA provides. When staff members have attended National Conferences, they always return full of excitement and energy to implement an idea or concept that was learned! Thanks for all that you do for us in the field of advising!

---

Some pre-conference workshops are too expensive.

---

Choose a location accessible by train because that is often less expensive than flying, and a lot fewer hassles in terms of security.

---

The fee required to "rent" an LCD for a presentation is horrible... and I can't shlep mine - it's old and big - across the country. Need to find a way to absorb this cost. LCD projection is almost par for the course these days.

---

Nothing additional. I hope to attend this year's national conference.

---

I just joined and would be very interested in attending my first national conference.

---

I believe that this survey has covered the issue quite well.

---

Transportation is always a key to a successful conference. This is includes transportation options from/to the airport/hotel.

---

Given today's technology, I'd like to see the NACADA membership vote on future conference sites.

---

Nothing.

---

There are many programs that deal with specific recruiting/advising issues and it would be great to establish "special interest" groups within the organization for these special interest programs to collaborate and share ideas both within the group and with the organization as a whole.

---

I have never presented at a National Conference, nor have I attended a NACADA conference. Our funding to support this effort is limited and I would have to compete for money to attend one with our faculty. As I understand it, in order to get partial reimbuesment for conference expenses, I have to present. I would like more information on how to do this.

---

I belong to several national associations and try to attend their conferences each year. I am most impressed with NACADA's. Other than my comments about pre-scheduling, your conferences are always well organized, the people are extremely helpful and friendly. You make the new attendee and the experienced one alike feel welcomed.

---

N/A

---

I would like to learn more about advising models for non-degree (continuing education) students

---

I really liked the food-related events where we were able to sit with advisors from other institutions and share ideas, while making new acquaintances, and re-establishing old contacts.

---

The need for NACADA is great and the need for the resources that NACADA provides is ever-growing. I have learned a great deal from your website and publications. I do wish that there were some less expensive publications to purchase from NACADA, as I have to pay for my resources out of my own pocket. Best wishes to all at NACADA!

---

This may seem elementary, but it's a thought. Many institutions will only send advisors if they're presenting, because the institution views the conference as a "social gathering." Offer an "Advising Institute" (our current, concurrent sessions, roundtable, etc..sessions.) An attendee must participate in a % of sessions. Have the volunteer that hands the evaluations forms stamp a page that is part of the conference book. Issue a certificate of completion/training, etc.

---

Discontinue the Sunday morning sessions. Most people are heading to the airports.

---

Even though I loved the conference in Canada, most people did not like the fact in was on three separate facilities.

---

Department will only pay for one confernece so that greatly effects my decision to attend.

---

Not many issued related to counseling or the difference betwwen counseling and advising

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?

---

Since I do attend Regional conferences I enjoy the opportunity to meet advisors from other regions at National conferences.

---

Again, since I have yet to attend one, I feel uncomfortable recommending anything. Because I work at a small, private college the funds to attend conferences are VERY limited-- so expenses have a huge impact on whether we can attend any. Perhaps something akin to a lottery could be worked out within Regions that would allow 1 or 2 members to attend a national conference for free once in awhile.....

---

As a Canadian member, I have experienced the same challenges in NACADA that I experienced in the past with CASE: administrative approaches to U.S. colleges and universities can be quite different from Canadian universities. As Canada can never be made a high priority within NACADA (hey, you outnumber us 10 to 1), the challenge of we Canucks trying to relate to a not-quite-the-same educational system will be ongoing.

---

liked the optional tours as i did not have to research on my own ways to check out the city. liked having the conference in the hotel that i stayed at as convenient to go upstairs to rest..

---

Keep up the great work and stay Quality Programing minded! Thanks!

---

I'm glad there is a National Conference. Thank you for making it happen.

---

Cannot think of any.

---

The number of attendees shouldn't matter as long as the qualities of the sessions are good. The location should be economically accessible to all.

---

good survey

---

At the last conference in Dallas, I and many others were forced to eat the last luncheon on the floor. Not only was this unprofessional and unsanitary (my plate was literally on the carpet!), the process of getting down to the floor in a dress, sitting there without back support, and then getting back up without exposing myself initiated painful back spasms requiring medication and treatment. Please make sure there is

adequate tables and chairs to accommodate all participants.

---

None

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Nothing in particular

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I have been advising students for over twenty years. As Director of First-Year Advising and University Studies I work with students who are "undecided" and meet with families quite a bit. I have become interested in writing about academic advisement, but am unsure about where to begin and what audience I should address ie. the student, the family, faculty, administration, or all of the above. It would be nice to have some type of mentor or committee that could assist in answering these

---

Need new ideas presented as well as information for those who are just starting out. Information and practical ideas/forms on every aspect of how to assess effectiveness and what an effective advising center looks like. What universities should have in place to consider themselves a 'good' center. What to look for when hiring a new advisor. How to assess those qualities.

---

Need to have a midwestern U.S. location more frequently.

---

Needs to have more in terms of exhibits; needs to provide a few more social activities; can encourage vendors to provide hospitality suites; Too much to write here.

---

I was impressed at the Dallas conference at how organized the whole thing was. It seemed to go off without a hitch. Nice job!

---

NACADA is one of the best conferences to attend. The fact that you are doing this survey shows members that NACADA is dedicated to provide the best opportunities for its members. I wish I could go to every conference, but time and budget are my restrictions.

---

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the most satisfied, I am about a 4 with the NACADA events I've attended.

---

Perhaps opportunities to get new members more involved in presenting and participating in research in some way. We need to continually build and grow the organization and the field of advising.

---

I have attended two national conferences: Orlando, FL and Dallas, TX. I have enjoyed both and been very pleased with the what I have taken away from them.

---

The Summer Institute is a great opportunity, however, it is also the busiest time of the year as new students are admitted. Maybe consider the Summer Institute to also be offered at a different time of the year like December?

---

I'd rather see poster sessions carried out and/or displayed throughout the duration of the conference, rather than exhibitors being there the whole time. Perhaps NACADA needs revenue from exhibitors, but I feel I gain more from poster sessions; I don't have enough time to linger on items I find interesting. Plus, the people who work to create poster sessions might feel greater reward for their work by having it displayed throughout the conference. (No, I've never created a poster session.)

---

Simply, get detailed information out early. I would like to thank you for asking.

---

Keep up the good work.

---

No comment

---

That all you do and have done is appreciated. Thank you for making it possible to meet and interact professionally with advising colleagues from educational institutions everywhere.

---

I am finding the conference less and less helpful professionally. As an experienced advising administrator, I would like opportunities to meet other administrators to network and discuss common issues. One Advising Administration Commission meeting is not sufficient. We meet people and then don't see them again. The Conference has grown so large that its size makes networking difficult. Also, I would like an opportunity besides this one to give more complete feedback on the conference.

---

Please try to get dynamic and energetic keynote speakers. Otherwise, thank you for the terrific job you do!

---

I did not feel as though the Commissions and Interest Groups were very welcoming to new members at the conference. I was expecting more information about those and how to get involved/stay involved with those areas after becoming a member. I thought the conference would provide this, but did not find that it did.

---

I would like more opportunity to go from group to group or offer more topics instead of being confined to the same small group all week. Even though it was very helpful, we learned a lot about what our universities four-year public) were doing in a short period of time. I would have liked to be able to mix with advisors more from community colleges and four-year private schools as well.

---

what issues i am interested in learning more about

---

Though not the primary reason I go to conferences, I value the opportunity to rub shoulders with colleagues from other schools and vendors.

---

I think you pretty much covered everything. Thank you again.

---

I believe that conferences are vehicles for learning and networking, and I think that focusing on innovative and new directions would be of benefit to all. I also believe a better tie with academic affairs is essential. Finally, the concept of "professional advising" not faculty advising, but having trained professional advisors needs to be highlighted and given the respect that these professionals merit. Knowing academic content and having the ability to translate it to students is different.

---

Once again, less volume in programming and more quality programs.

---

Nothing

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ANY way to cut the cost of attendance would be greatly appreciated.

---

Since I have only attended one national, I don't feel that I have sufficient information about comparing different ones to give an informed opinion about this.

---

I'd like to go to one! And I'd like to present. Some things I have learned from other large conferences- a social event is good to have/ reception type thing. A computer area/access for attendees is very helpful. A posting area for messages, and a job board - advertising area and maybe interview space. Always have Charlie Nutt doing something!

---

I need more content geared toward distance and/or nontraditional students.

---

Too expensive for people who have just graduated, have loans, and make little \$\$\$!

---

Need more content focused sessions and less "feel good" sessions. I realize that there may be a need for some "feel good" sessions, but considering the expenses involved in attending a national conference,

attendees need to bring back good ideas and best practices.

---

Just thank you (NACADA) for being there to help our professional development and establish our worth to our institutions.

---

Not all administrators can take a week in the summer for an advising institute. The national conference should have sessions from the institute as part of its program.

---

There is occasionally \$\$ at my institution to attend with out either presenting or being involved...but RARELY. Summer Institutes are really bad timing for those of us involved with freshman testing and orientation programs. Ours lasts ffrom June 17 through July 21..EVERY DAY! And another one in Mid-August.

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I'd like to have a social event/mixer by Region.

---

The possibility of teleconferencing for those unable to travel to the site of the conference but who are interested in hearing the presentations

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In years of tight economy, alternative professional devlopment options are needed for advisors - a well presented teleconference, video of outstanding sessions/keynotes from national conference (this might also help "sell" the next opportunity to attend), drive-in conferences.

---

NACADA is a wonderful organization and I have enjoyed my involvement. The national conference would be enhanced by more opportunities for getting together outside of the conference----happy hour after the days events, morning walks or yoga sessions, "field" trips such as hikes in local nature areas or tours of local college facilities, etc.

---

I attend with colleagues, and because it is our one chance to get away each year, we do like to take a couple of extra days and combine a bit of R&R with the conference. The Ottawa setting was perfect, because there were many restaurants, shops, museums, and other things to see within walking distance. The Dallas site was not as condusive to that part, so while the conference itself was very good (as was the hotel itself), the overall experience was not quite as enjoyable.

---

The survey didn't cover overall conference cost. There is likely to be no money in Alabama for us to attend anything. Perhaps those willing to be presenters should have reduced or free registration in return for their service.

---

Send out "Save the date" announcements well in advance. My schedule can fill up even 6-8 months in advance at certain times of the year based on University demands.

---

A discount based on the number of people attending the conference is helpful. A tuition waiver for Administrators has encouraged our Dean to go more often with faculty to national conferences.

---

In my experience, the 10 plus conferences I have attended have been organized very well and were coordinated in a very professional manner. Great group or very capable folks in this organization.

---

More food ???????????????? Only kidding. It's the countdown to the end of the semester and the beginning of a hectic summer. Bye.

---

I think Louisiana is most closely aligned with the Southeast Region. Would like to see our state "reassigned."

---



I find the opportunities for optional activities appealing. Although I've not been to a national conference, I would want to take advantage of one of the sightseeing tours, etc. Although our primary purpose is to exchange ideas as a profession, it's also good to have maybe one change to enjoy the location, learn something about the environment we're in, and just relax and move around a bit!

---

nothing in particular

---

In Dallas, there was a list of participants available on-line by alpha or by institution. This was great! I was just at another organization's national conference and it was extremely frustrating not being able to find people from places where I had worked previously.

---

Do you offer any session for "newbies" dealing with the organization of the conference itself?

---

With state budget cuts - expenses like conferences are usually not within the budget. Is it possible to begin using online conferences for those of us who usually can't attend in person? For example - the keynote speakers address could be broadcast live - and online attendees could participate in some group discussion or workshops via web and telephone. This would increase attendance - and lower the expenses.

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d

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Can't think of anything not covered.

---

I would LOVE to have an afternoon free to explore the city that the conference is in. We often go so late that everything of interest is closed. That's disappointing when it may be the only time in my life that I visit some of those places. Just a personal issue, though.

---

Would be great if breakfasts were provided each day.

---

No comment.

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It would be helpful to more clearly explain in the program and promotional materials the difference between concurrent and discussion sessions .... I presented two discussion sessions in Dallas but was criticized for presenting for only 20 minutes and then opening up the session for discussion as I had been instructed to do by the National office. Some of the participants clearly had expected an hour lecture.

---

In tough economic times it's important to keep room prices, etc. pretty reasonable. There haven't been many pay increases in public information.

---

more research-oriented speakers/programs

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No comments

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I am most interested in sessions that present results of empirical studies on academic advising. I would like also to learn more the data gathering techniques themselves. For example, how to research and publish in academic advising.

---

How about a session identifying the upcoming and current issues in advising to set the stage for discussion sessions the following year.

---

Please be aware that some folks probably are not attending the national conference because of conflicts with arranging childcare or, in my case, eldercare, for relatives. Since 1998, I have been restricted in my travel because of problems finding help with my elderly, widowed mother when trying to be absent from my campus for more than two-to-three days. Maybe I can straighten this out for 2004, eh?

---

Take us to Hawaii' and Alaska- what a dream come true that would be! (I know- astronomical costs. Could it be done somehow? I know others on campus who've gone to conferences in those locations, so someone knows how...)

---

thought the one I attended in the past (2002 Salt Lake City) was well done

---

On-line registration would help the national office with their work loads. Overall, I enjoy the conferences and take away something from each and every one! Isn't that the idea?

---

There are probably more "first timers" as I am who will be attending. Is there a focus group or a session under consideration for advisors who are new to the profession?

---

I really enjoy the national conferences as they are right now and if you didn't change a thing, it would not bother me.

---

One idea you may consider including in the next conference would be a book talk--or journal talk. NACADA publishes book reviews in the journal, which some advisers may not have an opportunity to discuss after reading. I think having a "conference book" which is made available once a member has registered and then a session created to discuss the topics/issued covered in the book would provide an interesting forum for discussing advising issues as well as networking.

---

Schedule free time for attendees to see the city and it's landmarks with a guided tour as a choice. Safety and transportation should be a priority.

---

Please have some sessions for your smaller colleges and universities. Some schools have a population of 1000 or less students

---

NACADA has always offered the best conferences!

---

N/A

---

Cost is always a consideration for attending conferences. A flexible schedule, allowing attendees to "pick and choose" the appropriate sessions would be most beneficial. That way, persons could attend for part of the session if funds were not available for the entire conference.

---

I went to the national conference last year. It was probably the most affirming thing I have participated in to date. I came back to work revived and eager to try new ideas and share the conference with co-workers. On the down side, it is very difficult for professional advisors in our college to get the administration to 'buy in' to new ideas and new methods of delivery, so it is easy to get discouraged.

---

Our out-of-state travel is extremely limited due to budget cuts.

---

I did not attend the national conference so I cannot answer questions about the content or delivery

---

Try to spread out the schedule of similar workshops topics in order for a group to participate accordingly. I was told that advisors in my office the had difficulty attending different topics because they were all held at the same time.

---

Providing opportunities for informal interaction and issues of food that is provided.

---

My particular interest is in the advising of lesser represented populations with high drop-out rates. Minority and 'at-risk' populations in addition to retention/probation/advising those same populations.

---

Great conferences. I look forward to attending the Summer Institute in Porstmith, Va, in June.

---

Make sure the rooms are large enough to hold the people attending the session and that the presenters have enough hand-outs for all who attend.

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Would like more time to get together with other engineering folks.

---

Avoid scheduling the conference at the same time as the Jewish High Holidays.

---

I always learn something new. As my role expands, I'm able to educate myself by attending NACADA's national conference. Keep up the good work! See you in Oct.

---

If discounted arrangements can be made with airlines, it can help immensely. The American Associate of Adult and Continuing Education conference I attended last November in Detroit was able to do this.

---

The one I have attended was fabulous. I am really missing them and I feel the lack of this professional development opportunity, due to no travel money, will contribute to a change in profession for me.

---

Visual Fine Arts advisors need their own interest group -- present IG is dominated by large State institutions who do not have the same dedication and approach to Fine Arts as dedicated Colleges and Institutes, nor is their student body similar. Leadership of a Visual Fine Arts IG should be solicited from the dedicated body such as Chicago Inst; Savannah, Ringling. Several do not currently attend National because of dissatisfaction and disaffection.

---

Based on my very positive experience with my first NACADA conference (The mid - atlantic regional, March 2004) I expect it to be a wonderfully renewing experience, full of learning and comradery.

---

Often two or more sessions with similar topics are offered at the same time. For example, if two sessions on assessment are offered simultaneously, one has to choose between them. Topical tracks would be good to solve this; otherwise, if this could be taken into consideration when scheduling the sessions, it would be beneficial.

---

I think the survey has covered most things.

---

I appreciate the professionalism yet personalized attention I've received from members of the Executive Office.

---

I appreciate all that NACADA does to foster the development of its members!

---

I do appreciate time to share. However, if it is not structured the time often isn't productive. Therefore, lunch with tables of education advisors, undecided, other, etc. are helpful. Forums with new advisors paired with a veteran advisor might be possible.

---

I would like to see more content for faculty advisors. Many institutions have faculty in an advising and/or mentoring role and I'd like to see more to support them. Part of my position is to provide opportunities on our campus for faculty advisors and it would help me to be able to attend these sessions at national conference even if none of our faculty are able to attend themselves.

---

With current budgets getting tighter and tighter, the costs of attending a national conference are a key decision in whether or not I am able to attend. Where I work we are allowed to travel with college help every other year.

---

Along the same lines of getting people together to network, it would be beneficial to "suggest" a few optional events for each evening that would be entertaining to different age groups. Perhaps that would encourage more mingling and networking among individuals from different institutions.

---

Nothing else to add; thanks for seeking out this feedback.

---

We love your conferences!

---

At the last regional conference, during an advising exchange, there were a few light refreshments, but you had to pay for drinks (including water and soda) on your own. This was not appropriate.

---

Nothing at this time

---

I can't think of anything.

---

I think people should be encouraged to show their universities' identities. "Silent auction" might be one of the fun ways to know each other and to raise money for the needy.

---

Presenter should try to have enough handouts for their workshops

---

Every NACADA conference I have attended has been excellent. I really appreciate that NACADA has kept the conference fees much lower than other professional conferences. I also appreciate that the hotel fees are kept fairly reasonable.

---

I'm not sure if students were allowed to attend, but it would be good to have students participate in conferences such as these, since the topics of discussions are about them. The students' voices are what drives us to do what we do for them.

---

Consider making the individual sessions longer than just 60 minutes to allow for questions and/or discussion.

---

Be sure to explain how to get the most out of the national conference in multiple ways.

---

I think it would be most well attended to have it at either the west coast (pref the calif coast) or the East coast, NY or Boston. these are very desirable locations.

---

The emphasis on interactive presentation styles; asking attendees to introduce themselves, dividing into work teams etc.(while valuable) is overplayed and should not be encouraged. I come mainly to listen and I am happy to ask questions if I don't get something, but running around the room in participative excercises is a major turn-off.

---

There was not enough signage/directions/information on how to get to the session, etc. at the last southeast regional conference.

---

Look at ways to lower costs. I believe others would attend if they have to pay their own way. Many institution only budget for one or two people to attend.

---

You are doing a great job getting the word out and putting together good programs. Keep up the good work. Thanks very much for the opportunity to comment.

---

you've pretty much covered all bases regarding this topic!

---

My experience in Vermont was very positive.

---

For the two years I have been involved in academic advising and attending NACADA, it feels like the conference is well organized, facilities are quite good, and overall topics are germane to the needs of practitioners.

---

Many times state budget cuts directly impact the ability of many within a state university system to attend the many excellent conferences, seminars and workshops that are offered by NACADA.

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I am going for the first time and will be alone--I would like an opportunity to meet other counselors or administrators in the same position.

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I believe that there needs to be more done with articulation between the adviser and the rest of the campus, namely student development, faculty, athletic department for student athletes. Institutions that have developed successful methods of communications should be sought after to present.

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Ask for volunteers from other areas other than the host city for the conference ahead of time

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Can't think of any

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The conference planners need to make sure that there is enough room at the sessions. I had to sit on the floor & people left because it was too crowded. I didn't get the handouts and I couldn't hear or see the speakers. If I have this problem again I will not attend another conference. I paid too much and had to write a grant to attend so this was vupsetting. The session was on advising so they should have expected a larger audience. They should have an alternate plan/ room if this happens again

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The breadth of offerings at conferences has always been a draw; allowing for both seasoned professionals as well as new professionals to benefit. This I greatly appreciate.

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diversity issues should be covered

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Keep up the good work.

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Consider a different forum for the keynote address. Its incredibly hard to find 'one size fits all' when it comes to a speaker. Maybe the committee could consider other alternatives for folks who don't find a good fit with the speaker.

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none

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This is my first year as Director of Academic Advising, so I attended the national conference. It started very well with Richard Light's keynote presentation, however it went downhill from there. I had to dig deep to find more sessions that had appeal to faculty academic advisors and I became increasingly aware of a simmering hostility towards faculty advisors who were not professionally trained. I hope that this climate can be changed. The Administrators Institute in Florida was excellent

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I don't have to be involved or present at a conference to go, but it would definitely help my employment file. I need to collaborate more with my colleagues to get in on a presentation.

---

I would recommend tables instead of rows of chairs. While you can fit more people in with the rows of chairs, it is less comfortable and harder to take notes.

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Those of us who are serious about our profession do not need a lot of outside entertainment at conferences. With tight budget constraints I need work "bang" for my bucks - not social/tourist

opportunities. I've attended every national since DC and I am consistently impressed and amazed at the information I gather and share. One factor in location is assuring that there are eating establishments close to our location (difficult in KC). Please don't tinker too much with a winning formula!!

---

They are often too costly for me to justify attendance and again, the regionals suit my needs just fine.

---

It was incredibly invaluable to be able to bring back plans and directions for my institution. As part of my participation in the conference, I was required to present seminars on assessment. The conference workbook was a gem for preparing my talks. I liked the "nuts and bolts" information that the conference gave me.

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Since the majority of the members attending the conference are not from the hosting city, it would be nice if the planning committee provided a hot spots to visit map for people not wanting to go on the tours.

---

Have more emphasis on technology in advising

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This is the best national conference I've ever attended at the beginning of my career in advising. I have employed so many ideas and really learned a lot at the Institute. I later sent the Director of Advising. I think tracks for those who have been doing this longer would be attractive and as it relates to public, research I, private etc. institutions. Service knowledge back to the profession is important but keeping relevant in an information age is also something to keep on top of.

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With tight budgets, lower registration fee or have lower fee if skip one day.

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In Maryland, budgets were cut drastically and no funds for travel have been available for 2 years and counting.

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N/A

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The timing of Columbus Day weekend is not great for many people

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You do a good job by including meals. That is helpful for networking as well as costs.

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N/A

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None

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Build in opportunities for people to meet and socialize.

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Cost, cost, cost. With busy schedules a conference needs to be compact - could excellent pre and post conferences be worked into the regular conference format. It is a strain to be away from the office and/ or for more than three days. Thank you

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Are there many adjunct instructors at private technical colleges with NACADA membership? Adjuncts in these institutions often perform academic advisement duties, since the "representatives" are actually "sales people." Has there ever been a conference roundtable, workshop for adjuncts instructors?

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I would appreciate a conscious effort being made to see that panels have diverse representation.

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Conferences need to be more affordable. Advising is not a high paying job, so fees comparable to faculty conferences are unreasonable. The yearly membership fee to NACADA seems high (and comes out of my limited amount of money for travel/professional development). By the time I pay for membership, I can't afford to come to the conference.

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There should be lots of exhibits and demonstrations, such as online student schedule construction software like the one at <http://www.SouthwestRegistration.com> .

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Warmer months for touring. Larger city for large number of people and transportation. Lunch or break on all days.

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The facility affects the quality of the conference experience a great deal. While the conference in Salt Lake City was wonderful, and the two hotels were, too....it was nearly impossible to get from one meeting room in Little America to a meeting room in Great America in time to catch the beginning of the session. Please factor walking distance into your plans when scheduling sessions. Perhaps allowing more time between sessions would have worked at SLC.

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Presenters must pay \$100 for the use of a projector. This is outrageous! We must lug the lap top to the event and pay for the conference registration, why penalize us even further with a technology fee?

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That I'm looking forward to attending and presenting! See ya' in October!

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Since I've never attended a national NACADA conference I feel somewhat inadequate answering this question. I am awaiting follow up information on my registration for the Summer Institute in Portsmouth. My presumption is that this will be forthcoming. I appreciate detailed information in preparation for an experience of this type knowing that it will make the experience that much more meaningful and useful.

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Suggest task force consider how to make conference feel more inclusive. Possibly more structured discussions led by facilitators at the end of a group of sessions.

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None

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I've attended four conferences over a period of eight years (DC, Kansas City, Denver, Salt Lake) and I enjoyed each one. I think they are an important link to our continued development and recognition as a profession. I appreciate the hard work of NACADA. The conferences always run smoothly and I appreciate everyone's efforts and contributions. I think NACADA does a wonderful job of keeping us all connected, informed, and professional.

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Conference workshops should be relevant and well planned. Information about specific schools is not terribly useful. Keynote speech should be strongly tied to the conference theme. The time away from the office is a burden so the time spent at a conference should be productive.

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This will be my first national NACADA conference, this May, because it is in my location. I'm looking forward to this opportunity.

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I would like the conferences to include a leisure activity during at least one of the evenings, e.g. a theatre trip.

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Location I know is difficult in terms of accomodating many, however I have found the locations prohibitive to my being able to attend the National Conferences as they have been a real distance, The timing has been sometimes been difficult, but you have addressed that in a previous question.

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I appreciate the way the conference moves across the country. Rotating East, Central, West increases my chances of attending if a particular location is close enough to drive, or if it is an airline hub and flight costs are lower. Size of city does not matter if there are areas of interest that will allow even a one to two day break before or after the conference. Orlando -- great, Las Vegas?, Anaheim? too expensive?? Charlotte - - good, Kansas City -- good, D.C. -- good.

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Good work to all of those that work on planning a conference of this size. Whether a large, mid-sized, or

smaller city is discussed for a national convention, the bottom line will be, "Can my institution afford to send me to the conference?" One can always find outside activities to do in any sized city. I miss not attending the national conference and I wish that all individuals directly involved with advising could attend the national.

?

The volunteers and staff work tirelessly--I'm not sure they receive the recognition they deserve for their contribution to the conference.

The conference I attended in February tended to focus primarily on issues related to traditional schools. Although these were all very interesting and informative, I would like some sessions included in the next conference to focus on issues relevant to non-traditional private schools.

State the style of dress in the conference information.

Professional development funds are VERY LIMITED, and the cost to attend the national conference goes far beyond what our institution can provide. This is a major barrier.

Talks by experts who can enlighten (as opposed to talks that motivate) are high on my list.

Thanks, conference planners. You do an excellent job. (You can try but you can't be all things to all people.)

Enjoy the breakfasts and luncheon, but mass feeding is a real hassle often complicated by not enough food and seating.

Cost is a key issue for most. Budget cuts are making the decision whether individuals attend because those new to the field are typically not in the position to fund this themselves.

I think the weakest part of the conference is the way the luncheons, etc. are done. Usually, the food is not good at all and there is virtually no variety. In Dallas, it seemed like every single event had Mexican food. I know cost is a factor, but it would be nice to see more tasty food at the conference. Also, "snacks" in the afternoon would be nice....soft drinks, cookies, etc....

Scheduling is often a problem in determining which department members can attend conferences.

n/a

I continue to attend NACADA functions (including the National Conference) whenever possible because they are so well coordinated and valuable. I am sure tweaking is always helpful, but the conferences meet my needs quite well now. Thanks!

nothing

We can only attend when the topics discussed focus on an issue that we are addressing at our campus. We don't have to present, but must justify the time and money spent. As you can see, I have found the conferences to be helpful in the past and hope to keep attending sporadically when I can.

NACADA has a great national conference and any changes should probably be minor tweaks instead of major overhauls.

I always enjoy the awards, but I hear from other people that they think they will be boring and that the



awards reception is the only time on the conference agenda when they aren't missing a session that they need to attend. So, they use that time to go shopping and sightseeing. Can we make the awards more integrated into the big conference events so that people won't miss them?

nothing at this time

Nothing I can think of.

Finding ways to connect people who come alone is essential. I knew not a soul at my first NACADA conference, and never saw the same person twice. This was a MISERABLE experience, although I learned a lot. First day events, and colored ribbons on name tags, for commissions and interest groups, are both very helpful. Also a visible list of attendees arranged variously, e.g institution, commission, interest group - only on the web made it very difficult this year.

The keynote speaker should be a high priority as it sets the tone for the entire conference.

Nothing in particular.

I think NACADA is getting better and better with each passing year.

Would like to see structure activities for attendees guests.

I would be really useful for me to know where the late night or 24 hour drugstores/supermarkets are located near the hotel. Dallas downtown being such a business district, seemed to offer no such place nearby - that I found.

I haven't learned enough to know what I might be needing or missing.

It's a great way to meet and network with advisors from all over the nation. Maybe the National should be every two years instead of yearly. That way the regionals could increase in size. It's tough getting funding to attend both a regional and a national in the same year.

N/A

no real input at this time--sorry :(

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