

Hello North Carolina!

Thank you for taking the time to consider me to represent North Carolina for the NACADA Region 3 State Liaison position. I have been an Academic Advisor in the Poole College of Management at North Carolina State University for the past 4 years. In my current position, I am responsible for an advising load of approximately 500 students, teaching a course on Personal and Professional Identity Development, coordinating our college scholarships, senior class programming and a few "other duties as assigned." I have been an active member of NACADA since spring 2013 and have presented at both the regional and national level. One of the most impactful professional experiences of my career was co-chairing the Region 3 2017 NACADA conference in April. We had record breaking program proposals, attendance and presentations, but the best part of the experience were the people with whom I worked and met through the experience.

If elected, I would want to focus my energy on 3 key areas:

1. A Listening Tour: NACADA thrives when we have diversity of thought, experience and people who are actively involved in the conversations and decision making. As the Liaison, I would be committed to getting around our state to hear from advisors about the innovative approaches to advising that is already happening at their institution and in addition what are the challenges their institution is facing. We need to gather best practices, model programs, innovative solutions, stories and inspiration to inform direction for our organization.
2. Creating networking and collaboration opportunities: Professional development needs to be rethought at the state level. Working together, we can create a repository of professional development opportunities that can be offered in person or via webinars. Each year we have amazing presentations at the regional and national level – I am confident that many of those presenters would be willing to offer a webinar with the material or come to a campus to do the presentation.
3. Planning NC NACADA Drive-In conferences: This could take on several different "looks." We may want to consider doing a Drive-In for Community Colleges, Small Colleges and Universities, Large Universities, Historical Black Colleges and Universities, specific advising populations - the ideas are endless, but the decision will be based on information from the Listening Tour.

Rudyard Kipling said, "For the strength of the Pack is the Wolf, and the strength of the Wolf is the Pack." This is a favorite quote around my campus, but the sentiment is spot on. I will offer this version - "For the strength of NACADA is our advisors, and the strength of our advisors is NACADA". Each of our voices are important and critical in guiding the direction of NACADA and best practices in advising.

We have great work to do, it would be my honor to lead NC in these opportunities. Thank you!

Jennifer McLamb