

2015 NACADA Administrators' Institute
Connecting Academic Advising Conversations about Student Success

Abstract

This session will highlight conversations taking place in higher education today about college completion, learning, and student success. Building on information presented in the plenary sessions, this concurrent will consider how advising administrators, as academic leaders on our two- and four-year campuses, can connect advising to these important conversations.

Much has been written about essential skills that students need in the 21st century. There has also been consistent criticism of higher education that has led state or provincial legislators, the federal or national government, and higher education critics to focus attention on learning, financial literacy and accountability, and degree completion. Academic advising has much to contribute to this conversation but advising administrators and advisors must commit to learning more about the Educational Advisory Board, the Lumina Foundation, the Gates Foundation, the Georgetown Center on Education and the Workplace, the Higher Education Academy, Complete College America, and other national and international groups.

Key questions for discussion:

What is the Completion Agenda?

How do the higher education conversations taking place in Washington, D.C., Ottawa, or London affect my campus?

Based on what is happening on other campuses, what impact will these new tools and techniques have on advising practices on my campus?

How do I steer my advising unit/advisors through this new terrain?

Participant Learning Outcomes:

- Define the term “Completion Agenda.”
- Know why it is important for administrators and advisors to be knowledgeable about higher education conversations that impact their campuses.
- Identify stakeholders in the national and international conversations impacting higher education.
- Describe how data mining and technology tools impact daily advising practice.
- Reflect on the ways that criticism of higher education raises important considerations for advising administrators.
- Value the role that advisors and advising administrators play in student success.