

Initial Report

Last Modified: 04/01/2014

1. The session that was most valuable to my situation was: (Session #, Session name, Presenter name)

Text Response
Creating Self Efficacy for Readmitted Students, Cathe Nutter
Facebook is for Old People; Texas State
Finding Something to Laugh About: Comics in Advising by Shawn Rose of Oklahoma State University.
Peer Advising
This is like naming a favorite child. I have yet to figure it out but the session on Youblisher and portfolio needs was good for my thinking.
Is Your Bucket Overflowing? A Positive Reinforcement Approach to Improving Workplace Happiness. Laura McCullough
Driven to Succeed: Increasing Willpower in Your Professional and Personal Life
How Full is Your Bucket by Laura McCullough
Stand Up: Care for the caregiver by Juan Castillo
Dr. Randall Brumfield - University of Kansas "Keeping Score: Establishing Meaningful Accountability in Academic Advising"
Concurrent Session #2, Writing for NACADA: NACADA Journal, Academic Advising Today, Clearinghouse, Books and NACADA Blog
Friday, 10:15-11:15, A Step-by-Step Guide for Hiring and Training Advisors to Elevate Your Office to Greatness!, Adrienne Fink and Shannon Breske
Facebook is for Old People
Is Your Bucket Overflowing? A Positive Approach to Improving Workplace Happiness, Laura McCullough
Preconference Session: The Future of Assessment in Academic Advising. Presenter was Jermaine Pipkins.
I most liked the two sessions with the advisors from Texas Tech University. I know one of their names was Devin. I thought they were interesting!
Back to the Basics; Tin Can Phone Communication: Pairing Communication Theory and Appreciative Advising to Guide Undecided and Exploratory Students (Texas Tech Univ.)
Several were very good. But I cannot remember the specific titles of the presentations or the presenter names.
Hovering to Helpful
Session #1, Learning how to Learn: Applying Kolb's Learning Styles to Academic Advising, Rene Couture
The session about Willpower.

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	21

2. Overall, I thought the Conference was:

#	Question	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Total Responses	Mean
1	Advanced Mailing, Publicity, Etc.	5	8	35	31	79	3.16
2	Conference Location	1	1	19	63	84	3.71
3	Facilities	2	3	15	64	84	3.68
4	Meals	1	14	22	42	79	3.33
5	Registration Process	0	8	25	50	83	3.51
6	Keynote Karen Myers, St. Louis University	2	13	32	24	71	3.10
7	Keynote DeAngla Burns- Wallace, University of Missouri	0	5	26	44	75	3.52
8	Opening Reception	5	5	32	30	72	3.21
9	Quality of the Concurrent Sessions	0	7	34	40	81	3.41
10	Closing Wrap Up	2	11	31	25	69	3.14
11	Overall, I thought the conference was:	2	1	39	41	83	3.43

Statistic	Advanced Mailing, Publicity, Etc.	Conference Location	Facilities	Meals	Registration Process	Keynote Karen Myers, St. Louis University	Keynote DeAngla Burns-Wallace, University of Missouri	Opening Reception	Quality of the Concurrent Sessions	Closing Wrap Up	Overall, I thought the conference was:
Min Value	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	1
Max Value	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Mean	3.16	3.71	3.68	3.33	3.51	3.10	3.52	3.21	3.41	3.14	3.43
Variance	0.73	0.30	0.44	0.66	0.45	0.63	0.39	0.73	0.42	0.63	0.42
Standard Deviation	0.85	0.55	0.66	0.81	0.67	0.80	0.62	0.85	0.65	0.79	0.65
Total Responses	79	84	84	79	83	71	75	72	81	69	83

3. How many REGIONAL conferences have you attended before this conference?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	None		35	42%
2	1-2		28	34%
3	3-4		13	16%
4	5 or more		7	8%
	Total		83	

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	4
Mean	1.90
Variance	0.92
Standard Deviation	0.96
Total Responses	83

4. How did you learn of this conference? (Mark all that apply)

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Talking with a colleague		41	49%
2	E-mail announcement from NACADA		45	54%
3	Other:		20	24%

Other:
MACADA Conference
national conference
State Conference
MACADA
NACADA national conference
KAAN
NACADA website
Our Kansas conference
My boss
campus advising administrator
supervisor
MACADA website
searched for it on the NACADA site.
Supervisor let us know about the conference
web
State Conference
Nacada Website

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	3
Total Responses	84

5. To what extent did the conference meet your expectations?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Not at all		2	2%
2	Some		13	15%
3	Most		42	50%
4	All		27	32%
	Total		84	

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	4
Mean	3.12
Variance	0.56
Standard Deviation	0.75
Total Responses	84

6. Which of the following best describes your primary role at your institution?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Faculty Advisor		1	1%
2	Academic Advisor		61	73%
3	Counselor		0	0%
4	Academic Advisor/Counselor		5	6%
5	Advising Administrator		8	10%
6	Administrator with responsibilities over several areas, one of which is advising		2	2%
7	Graduate student		3	4%
8	Institutional position supports advising i.e. Registrar, admissions, financial aid, etc.		1	1%
9	Affiliated with a college or university but not in any of the roles previously mentioned		0	0%
10	Not affiliated with an institution of higher education		2	2%
11	Other:		1	1%
	Total		84	

Other:

Testing Coordinator/ Academic Advisor

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	11
Mean	3.04
Variance	4.28
Standard Deviation	2.07
Total Responses	84

7. How many years have you been in advising? (as an advisor, administrator, or faculty member)

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Less than 5 years		35	42%
2	5-10 years		30	36%
3	11-20 years		14	17%
4	More than 20 years		4	5%
	Total		83	

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	4
Mean	1.84
Variance	0.77
Standard Deviation	0.88
Total Responses	83

8. In what ways was this conference valuable to you?

Text Response
I always appreciate professional development and learning about new trends in Academic Advising. I also enjoying hearing about what new implementations have been successful at other higher ed. institutions.
The concurrent sessions I attended were very helpful to me as an academic advisor.
I thought the concurrent sessions were very good.
None. Pre conference communication was extremely hard to come by - I tried to contact the co-chairs multiple times with no response. The conference itself was very disorganized, and the keynote speaker was not very engaging.
As administrative staff, it opened my eyes to the advising world and inspired me to possibly go back to school for my Masters in Higher Ed.
Variety of topics & location. Much closer to me than my own regions meting.
Networking with other advisors in the area, some sessions
Networking, learning about current issues/topics in advising
It was nice to meet other advisors and to see how they are handling issues across the region at different institutions.
I attended two concurrent sessions that was informative. Conference was not valuable enough to return for another Region Conference.
Opportunities to netwrok and hear of new ways to improve my advising.
Networking and connecting with other advisors who work in my nitche area.
The experience of presenting was highly beneficial. It was also nice to meet individuals from within the region and share experiences.
Enhanced my leadership skills, allowed me to network, and grow personally and professionally.
I learned some valuable information that I could bring back to my position and hopefully make some improvements in our advising process(es).
It was a good opportunity to network with advisors from a region other than my own (region 3) and to gather different perspectives from them. There was value in each of the sessions that I attended and I thoroughly the luncheon speaker.
I am just open to learning new and different ideas from those around me. A person sitting next to me for breakfast asked me how my school handled transcript acceptances from other schools. I told her. She had never heard of our way of doing transfers. Just made me value where I was working.
I was able to receive some information to implement a couple programs at my institution.
Sessions were reflective and drew lessons beyond mere show and tell.
Networking, New ideas
Great opportunity to present my ideas Great address by Burns/Wallace Fine sessions Great facility
Provided several ideas that I could implement right away in my own advising practice
Learning how other institutions utilize technology and peer advisors in academic advising.
Networking, bringing back tangible ideas to implement and assess within my current practices
It has been several years since last attended a regional conference. (I'm so glad our current leadership promotes professional development.) I was just very happy to have the chance to talk to advisors again from other schools (even my own school), and to learn from the sessions I attended.
Connecting with colleagues from other states.
I was able to take valuable info back to my colleagues who di not attend.
Lots of great information from the concurrent sessions.
Ability to network and learn new trends and strategies in advising.
Professional development and networking
validate current adv methods.
Ideas for workshops and activities on our campus
Opportunities for professional development (by presenting and watching presentations), team development, and networking
Concurrent session topics were excellent.
networking, concurrent session topics
i was able to network with advisors within my region, learn new information to take back to my campus, and get more presentation experience
The session were very helpful for the most part. The preconference and poster session topics were well chosen also.
It did more for my morale than anything else. It was great to see so much youth in the field. It is always uplifting to see that others are battling the same things that we are at my school.
It "refreshed" me! It made me remember how much I love advising :)
Being a new advisor, I can benefit from any and all information. Presentation and variation of information was excellent. Also, loved the "World's Fair" theme, and the entertainment Thursday night.
As a first time attendee, this conferenced allowed me to achieve a better understanding of what the advising field really consists of. It was great to meet other advisors from a variety of different types of institutions to see how I can use some of their best practices in my role as an advisor.
Variety of sessions. Knowledgeable presentors. Sharing ideas and best practices. Sessions were a good length, not too long.
Opportunity to network and learn best practices
Good sharing of information.
The conference provided me with valuable information that I was able to take back to my institution and implement.
Good information, great networking.
It was interesting to meet others who are in an advising role.

Networking

This Conference was valuable because it showed my peers the importance of being involved in NACADA.

Networking

location and cost enabled a lot of our staff to attend; very well organized and professional

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	51

9. My recommendations for future conferences include:
(topics/speakers/external activities/type/length of sessions, etc.)

Text Response	
Have the pre-conference sessions planned early and available. We kept checking but nothing was listed nor could a rep from the conference tell us what to expect. We made our travel arrangements with the intent to not attend. Once we saw the list it was too late to rearrange our travel.	
More breakouts or larger rooms- great breakouts, but standing room only in about half I attended.	
New student orientation Advising first-generation advising on a tiny budget advising philosophies keeping advising interesting Ethics in Academic Advising Transfer resources Community college Advising How to be effective without caseloads Developing Rapport and Career exploration	
More energy for MCs - final session was extremely boring. I know most people had left but more can be done about making the larger sessions more engaging!	
Have more than just dessert for the opening session.	
If you're going to host a conference in St. Louis, stay away from the sketchy riverfront. I did not feel safe in that area.	
more on adults learners and traditional learners who have children	
Some of the pre-conference topics were really interesting, but due to budget restraints/time away from work, I was unable to attend those sessions.	
Topics - addressing needs of adult learners	
I felt like there wasn't much there for veteran advisors, I attended more of the more "admin" sounding sessions such as the securing data session, but they all tended to be very basic and really focused on things new advisors should consider. There wasn't much for veteran advisors to chew on and take home.	
Meeting rooms that are big enough to seat everyone; no one should have to sit on the floor. NACADA members working the conference to direct you and visible to ask questions. Vendors, this is the first conference I have attended with no vendors except the couple vendors there. Drinks Please!! Only water (which the water containers were always empty) coffee/hot tea is a bad idea.	
The people running the conference need to be more professional. There were too many times where they are not speaking into the microphone so we can hear (introducing speakers, giving announcements, raffle, etc).	
I am completely unhappy with the evaluation process for presenters. The evaluations ask question which are too generalized. Often the audience makes comments related to things that the presenters cannot control (location, size of room, visibility within the room, number of chairs, etc.). Better guidelines need to be in place for the evaluation process.	
Have a deluxe breakfast. I felt like the breakfast meals offered were barely continental, and could be improved.	
One-Stop Shop, Online programming (what works best), Best Practices in Advising Centers	
Advising issues specific to GLBT students on campus.	
I don't know what to ask for. When I don't know what I don't know, it is hard to ask. Maybe schools could be given a questionnaire of how they do this or do that. Compile the answers and let people know that what works for one may work for another.	
NA	
More information regarding Community College level.	
My interests are in faculty advising and advising's broader role in our institutions.	
Evaluation tools for unit/dept. assessment of advising; administrator/management sessions; collaboration with student affairs or academic affairs units.	
I think it's very helpful to have "how to" sessions for the latest trends and technology associated with advising -- along with sessions that focus on advisor well-being.	
Including additional sessions and keynote speakers knowledgeable about mindfulness and positive psychology.	
N/A	
A less fancy location so that more meals could be provided.	
Need to have more sessions or workshops targeted at private colleges/universities. Everything I saw and everyone I met were from larger state institutions. Most private institutions like mine do not have access to the funding and resources that the state institutions do.	
Technology programs interacting with academic advising procedures.	
snacks and caffeinated drinks throughout the day	
Having sessions presented more than once so if there is two sessions at the same time that you want to attend you have the opportunity to go to both.	
If there's a way to be sure for the potential presenters to be more specific in their proposals so that the session abstract matches what they intend to discuss in their presentation. There were a few sessions that seem to overlap topics and did not meet my expectation based on the abstract outlined in the program.	
Allow more sessions topics. Not only for advisors to get experience presenting, but also because it gives more session topics for attendees.	
Enough seating for meals; I ate outside on the patio twice with no utensils and when the food staff was asked to bring us utensils both times they did not come back	
I really thought this conference was professionally executed and allowed for a first-time attendee to feel comfortable. I would suggest finding some way to help first time attendees build connections before the conference ever begins. One possibility would be to help with sparking an e-mail conversation to those who note that they are first time attendees.	
More space in conference rooms. It seemed that if you ran to the restroom, then went to your session - it was full! Also, the keynotes were not exciting or uplifting. I would prefer a keynote to be motivating.	
N/A	
Speakers need to have a good message AND be engaging.	
Try to solicit at least one break out session ofr each commission group.	
Any speaker that is willing to talk about Assessment.	
presentations that address working with non-traditional populations (older working students vs. traditional 18yr olds)	

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	39

10. Additional comments:

Text Response
Overall I thought the conference was great and loved the facilities! My only complaint had to do with the meals. Breakfast was more of a continental breakfast - the only item of substance was eggs but there was no meat or potatoes. Also, iced tea was not served for lunch which would have been nice as well.
As a researcher, I was appalled at how the poster presenters were treated. They had to compete with a literal circus! People did not take the time to go talk to them and acknowledge their hard work because they were more intrigued by the belly dancer and loud music. I did not return for the subsequent sessions because of this. Research is what furthers the field, so don't shove it in a corner.
Struggling with the wireless connection was really frustrating, having it in one room but not the next was really distracting.
Lunch speaker should be a motivational speaker. Cold drinks, especially with lunch. I hope you did not spend too much on entertainment, they were terrible!! NACADA represented and opportunity to purchase books. Research good speakers and presenters for the sessions. I was not impressed by the presenters, one groups from Texas should not have been allowed to present. Very Disappointed!!
It is absolutely unacceptable for audience members to evaluate presenters based on age. Stating that a presenter is too young to be presenting is unprofessional, ridiculous, and rude. NACADA is supposed to be an organization open to growth, academic research, and the sharing of best-practices. Age has nothing to do with that.
I had to sit on the floor in several sessions so that was my only complaint about the facilities.
St. Louis was a great, centrally located spot for the conference. I hope to attend there again in the future.
NA
Please provide more information on student involvement and student engagement at the Community College level. More information regarding military Veterans.
Overall a pleasant conference to attend. I look forward to taking part in New Orleans next year. As a tip, given some of the conference rooms were too small, if it were possible to 'reserve' a space for a session upon release of the schedule, that might help plan for larger rooms if needed.
Every presentation room should utilize a microphone. Handouts were not given for many of the sessions I attended. I realize the resistance to do so because of printing costs, etc., but even just a one-page document with bullets for main topics, website addresses, and recommended book titles would be helpful. Some of the visuals were hard to read (blue print on a black background, for example).
It was kind of sad that there was no award or recognition for the best of region presenters - they kind of just awkwardly went up to the stage.
I frankly thought it was ridiculous to have to sit on the floor during most of the sessions I attended. With the exception of one or two of sessions, I had to sit on the floor. I had to literally leave sessions early and run in order to not sit on the floor in the ones I got a seat in. I expect better preparation from NACADA. Very disappointing.
Some rooms were not large enough to accommodate crowds for presentations. Perhaps the rooms should have been set up without tables for attendees?
The opening evening ceremonies were chaotic and distracting. Most conferences have light music and refreshments, which is appropriate for mingling, networking, etc. The entertainers distracted from the poster presentations.
GREAT conference and experience in St. Louis! I had never been before!!!
Overall I thought this conference was exceptionally ran and I was very impressed with how it turned out. Thank you to everyone who played in a role in making this conference a great experience.
N/A

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	18

11. What conference costs were covered by your institution? In the comments section, indicate other sources of funding or any explanations of your answers to help us in our future planning.

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Conference registration fee		78	98%
2	NACADA Membership		64	80%
3	Hotel expenses		63	79%
4	Mileage and tolls		51	64%
5	Airfare		19	24%
6	Meal expenses		61	76%
7	Other:		1	1%
8	Further comments about your response:		7	9%

Other:	Further comments about your response:
	Sorry for the negative comments, but this was not a well-planned out conference. It appeared to be very cheap for the cost of the conference.
	St. Louis based
	I live in St. Lous, so hotel, travel and food expenses were n/a.
	They would have covered hotel but stayed with a friend
	i covered the remaining costs on my own
	I had to use my own faculty development money, but this is exactly what is intended for.
	Registration, meals and hotel were covered by my department, and mileage/travel was covered by our Associate Provost's office since I was presenting.
Transportation to, from airport	

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	8
Total Responses	80