

Region 5 Final Report

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

Text Response

Mindfulness. Session 5.

Laying tracks, helping one probation student at a time

C34 - the Only Way Out is Through: Conversations to Build Student Resiliency. Andrea Legato - Western University

Narrative advising

International Student Advising. Kent State University presenters (Amelia was one of them). 4th round of sessions.

C31: Group Advising: Utilizing Active Student Participation

Charlie's lunch meeting and the one on writing for NACADA.

The one about conflict!

C11, Bridging the Gap: Finding the "Sweet Spot" When Introducing Academic Information to New Students, Amy Anderson, Alexandra Davidson - University of Ontario Institute of Technology

C1 - I forget the other parts but she presented on her campus-wide advisor training/professional development program.

C34: The Only Way Out is Through, Andrea Legato

Amy Anderson "The Sweet Spot"

Appreciative Advising

C1 A University Wide Professional Practice Model, Laura Ubaldi

#31 - Group Advising - Utilizing Active Student Participation -- Lori Mardis, Ebony Porter,

Bridging the Gap: Finding the "Sweet Spot" When Introducing Academic Information to New Students Amy Anderson, Alexandra Davidson - University of Ontario Institute of Technology

Appreciative Advising Beyond the Student Appointment - Liz Freedman, Kelsey Cox, and Keely Floyd

Session #4: Laying the Tracks to Academic Success—One Probation Student at a Time, Colleen Brown and Cara Wetzel

#C37, Advising and Emotions: Strategies for Integrating, Kristi Kerford

Laying the Tracks for Academic Success - One Probation Student at a Time | Colleen Brown & Cara Wetzel

C31: Group Advising. Utilizing Active Student Participation.

They were all very valuable. I enjoyed the research session, the session on demonstrating our value, and mindfulness.

C9 - Shea Ellingham

The only way out is through: Conversations on Resiliency - C34 - Andrea Legato

C27, Laying the Tracks to Academic Success - One Probation Student at a Time, Colleen Brown and Cara Wetzel

Laying the Tracks to Academic Success - One Probation Student at a time

Bridging the gap: Finding the Sweet Spot when introducing academic information to new students.

C.27 Laying the Tracks to Academic Success—One Probation Student at a Time+ Colleen Brown, Cara Wetzel - Purdue University

Carlota Toledo and Kristen Lively (?) on student resiliency from Indiana.

C14. Shattering the Magic Mirror: Promoting Student Resilience Kristin Lively, Carlota Toledo - Indiana University School of Medicine

Advising through Curriculum Change

Andrea Legato C34

C3: Taking what students should "know, do and value" from theory to practice through assessment. April Thomas-Powell and Jason Pennington - Oakland University

C1. University-Wide Undergraduate Advising "Professional Practice Model." Lara Ubaldi

the only way out is through: Conversations to build student resiliency. Andrea Legato C34

C34 - The only way out is through: Resiliency - Andrea Legato

The mindfulness during the first breakout time in Day 2. The presenter was wonderful and it really helped me with a skill I need to work on personally to be less stressed and more present when working with students and colleagues.

Living Mindfully, Living Peacefully - Aaron Pryor

P2. Advising in Ontario: Roundtable Discussion about Current State Facilitated by OAAP, CACUS and NACADA Tim Fricker - Mohawk College.

C34: The Only Way Out is Through: Conversations to Build Student Resiliency

C5, Demonstrating Our Value: Creative Ways to Contribute on Campus, Angie Swenson-Holzinger and Jessica Weekin

I really enjoyed Friday morning's career and academic advising session with advisors from IUPUI.

#C1. A University Wide Undergraduate Advising 'Professional Practice Model' Lara Ubaldi, York University
Being Mindful-Aaron Pryor

C2: My Parents Won't Like That Melanie Buddle, Trent University

C34 - The only way out is through.

"What's wrong with you?" DISC behavioral assessment, session #C15, Lynda Cribari.

C#34, The Only Way Out is Through, Andrea Legato

C13. Integrating Academic and Career Advising - Some Successes, Miguel Hahn, Joyce Hunter

C34 The Only Way Out is Through: Conversations to Build Student Resiliency - Andrea Legato - Western University

The session that was most valuable to my situation was the one on supporting STEM students.

Tim Fricker's research

Andrea Legato, Resilience Session

C9, Advising Across the Campus: A Strategic Plan for Student Success, Shea Ellingham

Session 11. Bridging the Gap: Finding the "Sweet Spot" when introducing academic information to new students. Amy Anderson and Alexandra Davidson

C30 living Mindfully, Living peacefully by Aaron Pryor

Lynda Cribari- "What's wrong with you?"

C27: Laying the Tracks to Academic Success - One Probation Student at a Time, Colleen Brown & Cara Wetzel - Purdue University

Andrea Legato's session on resilience

C34, "The Only Way Out is Through...", A. Legato

Group Advising: Utilizing Active Student Participation (C31) Lori Merdis, Ebony Porter

#1 - Student Resiliency - VERY GOOD

Conversation with NACADA Leaders

C38 - Plan your stay: a guide to helping students stay in STEM

Session #C29, the Appreciative Advising Framework: Beyond the Academic Appointment Kelsey Cox, Liz Freedman, Keely Floyd

Challenge, Support and Disruption by Shannon Lynn Burton

Don't know the session number. It was the last session of the last day on establishing a peer mentor program.

Bridging the Gap, Finding the Sweet Spot. Amy Anderson and Alexandra Davidson.

C34. The Only Way Out is Through: Conversations to Build Student Resiliency, Andrea Legato

C32, Tell me your story! Narrative as practice in advisor/learner interactions by Jason Pennington

A combination between the common reading - very interesting and great to reflect back on. C11 - Bridging the Gap - Introducing Academic Info to New Students C43 - Achieving Active Balance in a Sedentary Career

C15 What's wrong with YOU? Lynda Cribari

C11 - Bridging the Gap: finding the "sweet spot" when introducing academic information to new students. Amy Anderson Alexandra Davidson

only way out is through

Purdue Universities Academic Probation Presentation

C15, "What's wrong with YOU? Behavioural style techniques to move from judgment to understanding", Lynda Cribari

C15 "What's wrong with you?", Lynda Cribari

C8, An Undergraduate's Tale: Advising and E-Portfolios in Three Acts, Alison Schmidt and Abigail Frank

C11 Bridging the Gap

Honestly, all of them were really good. They all related to my situation in different ways.

C31. Group Advising: Utilizing Active Student Participation Lori Mardis, Ebony Porter - Ohio University

C36 Challenge, Support, & Disruption: Managing Conflict with Students; Shannon Burton

C34, The Only Way Out if Through: Conversations to Build Student Resiliency, Andrea Legato

Many great sessions, but perhaps the coolest topic for me was narratological advising with Peter Hagan (C7). This is something that I think I do already, but it was useful to hear it discussed and to have a name put to the technique. It made me more conscious of the strategy and will help me to use it more effectively.

C11 Bridging the Gap: Finding the "Sweet spot" When introducing academic information to new students, by Amy Anderson and Alexandra Davidson

C34, the Only Way Out Is Through: Conversations to build student resiliency. Andrea Legato

Session# C15. "What's Wrong With YOU??"- Using Behavioral Style Techniques to Move from Judgement to Understanding

Living Mindfully, Living Peacefully - Session #C30 by Aaron Pryor

What do we want student's to get out of Study Abroad

Shea Ellingham Mount Royal University C9 Advising Across campus

Session C31, Group Advising: Utilizing Active Student Participation, Lori Mardis & Ebony Porter - Ohio University

C5 Demonstrating Our Value: Creative ways to Contribute on Campus. Angie Swenson-Holizinger, Jessica Wekkin

C15. "What's Wrong With YOU?" - Using Behavioral Style Techniques to Move from Judgement to Understanding MIACADA Best of Conference Lynda Cribari – Davenport University

C34, The Only Way Out Is Through: Conversation to Build Student Resiliency, Andrea Legato

Session 20, writing for NACADA

C2 My Parents Won't Like That

C27: Laying the Tracks to Academic Success - One Probation Student at a Time

C34 The only Way out is Through: Conversations to Build Student Resiliency - Andrea Legato

C6: Becoming a Culturally Competent LGBTQ Advisor: Advising Without Bias

C11, Bridging the Gap, Amy Anderson and Alexandra Davidson-University of Ontario Institute of Technology

Canadian Advising experience , Tim Fricker

2. Overall, I thought the Conference was:

| # | Question | Poor | Fair | Good | Very Good | Total Responses |
|----|--|------|------|------|-----------|-----------------|
| 1 | Advanced Mailing, Publicity, Etc. | 0 | 9 | 77 | 108 | 194 |
| 2 | Conference Location | 0 | 1 | 32 | 164 | 197 |
| 3 | Facilities | 0 | 4 | 43 | 150 | 197 |
| 4 | Meals | 26 | 72 | 68 | 27 | 193 |
| 5 | Registration Process | 1 | 8 | 55 | 132 | 196 |
| 6 | Keynote Speaker: Charlie Nutt | 1 | 7 | 32 | 146 | 186 |
| 7 | Opening Reception | 1 | 25 | 63 | 55 | 144 |
| 8 | Quality of the Concurrent Sessions | 1 | 13 | 93 | 88 | 195 |
| 9 | Closing Wrap Up | 3 | 27 | 59 | 36 | 125 |
| 10 | Overall, I thought the conference was: | 0 | 2 | 90 | 104 | 196 |

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

| # | Answer | Response | % |
|---|-----------|----------|------|
| 1 | None | 88 | 45% |
| 2 | 1-2 | 66 | 34% |
| 3 | 3-4 | 20 | 10% |
| 4 | 5 or more | 23 | 12% |
| | Total | 197 | 100% |

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

| # | Answer | Response | % |
|---|---------------------------------|----------|-----|
| 1 | Talking with a colleague | 92 | 47% |
| 2 | E-mail announcement from NACADA | 102 | 52% |
| 3 | Other: | 32 | 16% |

Other:

At National last October
 National Conference
 Advisor conference on our campus
 NACADA Website
 Previous experience
 OAAP
 last year's regional conference
 job related topics - people understood our role and didn't question it.
 National NACADA conference
 Website, Facebook
 Nominated for award
 OAAP
 Last regional conference
 From my Manager
 NACADA website
 my supervisor
 2015 Annual Conference
 postcard at a previous NACADA conference
 website
 OAAP newsletter
 OAAP
 Went last year
 google search
 It was offered by my dean.
 NACADA web page
 Encouraged to attend by our boss.
 OAAP conference
 NACADA Website
 Google
 Campus Involvement
 OAAP

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

| # | Answer | Response | % |
|---|------------|----------|------|
| 1 | Not at all | 0 | 0% |
| 2 | Some | 34 | 17% |
| 3 | Most | 109 | 55% |
| 4 | All | 54 | 27% |
| | Total | 197 | 100% |

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

| # | Answer | Response | % |
|----|--|----------|------|
| 1 | Faculty Advisor | 4 | 2% |
| 2 | Academic Advisor | 117 | 60% |
| 3 | Counselor | 0 | 0% |
| 4 | Academic Advisor/Counselor | 18 | 9% |
| 5 | Advising Administrator | 28 | 14% |
| 6 | Administrator with responsibilities over several areas, one of which is advising | 8 | 4% |
| 7 | Graduate student | 6 | 3% |
| 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 | 5 | 3% |
| 10 | Not affiliated with an institution of higher education | 0 | 0% |
| 11 | Other: | 9 | 5% |
| | Total | 196 | 100% |

Other:

- Academic Chair
- Student Success Specialist
- Retention Advisor
- Academic Advisor seconded to position that supports advising
- Director of Academic Achievement, secondary advisor to all undergraduates on academic probation
- International Student Advisor
- Academic Dean with responsibility for Academic Advising
- Career Services
- State service position that supports advising

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

| # | Answer | Response | % |
|---|--------------------|----------|------|
| 1 | Less than 5 years | 73 | 37% |
| 2 | 5-10 years | 61 | 31% |
| 3 | 11-20 years | 48 | 24% |
| 4 | More than 20 years | 14 | 7% |
| | Total | 196 | 100% |

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

Text Response

It was nice to talk with colleagues and to hear Charlie Nutt speak.

Invigorated me, provided me with a mentor, and most sessions were good

Energizing, reaffirming, brings current thinking and best practices to the forefront.

Networking with colleagues from an areas where I don't know many people.

The sessions focusing on career advising and international students were very influential on my work!

Location excellent, learned some new uses for technology (polling students through phone app - Session C14), personal (taking care of oneself - Session C43 - love it!)

Presenting

Great content; great networking.

Concurrent sessions, networking, and the common read were all great for my professional development.

Connection with colleagues, updated on best practices, confirmation of issues across higher education.

It was great to network and to view similarities and differences between a diverse group of institutions. I picked up a lot of useful and insightful tips to take back to my office.

The poster session allowed me to communicate directly with presenters and get a lot of information in a short time

Networking and learning from others

Good variety of sessions for the advising staff that I brought with me but also helpful in connecting me with professionals in advising administration and professionals who are active in research.

Made some good connections with other advisors in my area, got some ideas on how to improve advising within my department (team of 5) and within our faculty as a whole.

Networking with people from many institutions. Confirmed we are doing things better than most

The concurrent sessions

Informative, great opportunities for networking

learning from each other, each college and university has its own unique way of advising.

The presenters in my sessions were overwhelmingly willing to send supporting materials via email afterward, answer questions, etc. I think at smaller conferences like this it is just so much easier to network and get to know people better.

To see current topics and how other institutions are thinking.

It was valuable to speak to other advisors who have had the same issues we have had in our office. The most valuable sessions were the ones in which I learned strategies I can use with my students and share with my colleagues to make our office more effective.

I am a career consultant, and our office works hard to integrate career and academic advising. It was nice to gain some insight into the "inner workings" of the academic advising role, and to better understand how to combine the two.

There was a lot of great information and I enjoyed networking with colleagues at other institutions.

Being able to learn from other advisors from across the region.

All the sessions I went to were very good with one exception. Great job!

Learning new approaches to advising and what other institutions are doing

This conference was a good source of motivation to recognize the importance of Academic Advising.

Two of the sessions provided me with wonderful resources to bring back to my institution.

It is always helpful to meet new colleagues and network. Also enjoyed learning new things and broadening my skill set at the concurrent sessions.

Gave me real tools to use in advising, ideas to adapt for use in our office.

It provided a smaller scale networking opportunity that the larger national conferences did not.

Networking with other advisors outside my institution.

Networking, updated information and strategies. Currently working on a project to provide summer sessions and one of the sessions provided some information and insight in which I will be incorporating into the project.

Seeing that our colleagues (from Ontario and the US) face the same issues we do, and listening to their successes and failures in trying to solve them.

networking, inspirational

It's nice to meet and talk with a group of people that share your experiences from outside of your own institution. most conferences I attend are not this focused on advising and it was lovely. felt like I found 'mu people' lol concurrent sessions, networking, inspirational keynote (Charlie Nutt)

This conference served a great function of networking and rejuvenation for my work.

It was a real benefit to hear other people's perspectives on the same issues that we're all facing.

learned a lot. I liked learning the language of what I am trying to do and express at my institution

Learning about resiliency and self-authorship

I gained new insights and perspectives about how to be a more effective advisor. I gained a renewed sense of passion for my work. I developed a strong desire to collaborate with NACADA colleagues and to become actively involved in NACADA, perhaps even to publish. I gained a desire to share what I learned with my colleagues.

re-affirming the value of advising and it's importance to students

It got me thinking about my role and how to better support the students and the advisor role's visibility within the College. We aren't glorified schedule developers. We impact retention and KPIs.

Networking opportunity - sharing information and connecting to local institutions

Hearing from other academic advisors in the region about their experiences.

Networking and hearing new ideas in sessions

Understanding current trends in advising and talking with advisors in other institutions.

I enjoy learning about my profession. Networking and spending time with others who enjoy the passion of Academic Advising I also enjoyed the extra vendors in the hallway (CLEP, U of FLA, etc)

Good opportunity to network with other advising professionals. It was especially nice to be able to connect with so many Canadian colleagues.

Sharing information and best practices with peers at your own or other institutions is a worthwhile experience. It gives you a chance to reflect on how you currently do your job, it forces you to stop and think about whether what you are doing is effective or not. You can think about what you should probably stop doing, new elements that you can begin to incorporate into your advising practice.

I was really impressed with the quality of concurrent sessions at this conference. At past conferences they've often been hit or miss, but almost every concurrent session I attended was very well-done.

Helpful tips and strategies for incorporating career advising and narrative advising into my everyday practice.

Lara's session was absolutely amazing. I took so much away from her session that applies directly to my institutions goals.

I learned a lot about advising to guide my practice. I am a graduate student who's graduate assistantship is in advising and I found it to be a valuable experience to learn these things in the beginning when I am learning my advising style.

The networking and just getting a chance to discuss current issues in advising was amazing! It was also great to see how different advising is in Canada versus in the U.S.

I always gain assistance with understanding the latest ways to deal with the current generation's retention issues.

Networking, opportunity to share common concerns with others who understand

Opportunity to learn more about Nacada and learn best practices from other institutions

I was able to attend sessions that will strengthen my skills as an individual advisor as well sessions that introduced larger projects and programs that can be implemented in my home institution.

I'm very new to my role (6 months) so there were some great take-aways that I can apply to my work. Also nice to know that I'm not alone with some of the student issues I am dealing with.

learned new strategies for dealing with students; the importance of data; networking;

I was able to learn more about our profession as a whole, best practices that will allow me to support student success and an international perspective on advising.

To build on the professional aspect of Academic Advising

loved having it here in Toronto down the street from my college. It was not U.S. centric which is what I always experience at NACADA conferences

Interesting to hear from different universities/colleges about their procedures, etc.

connecting with others

Networking was the most valuable, as always
networking, discussions with colleagues
Networking with peers and learning more about advising theory as well as practices at other institutions.
discovering how other institutions are set-up, hearing potential solutions to some of the problems we face. Being
inspired to do better, to change, to advance, to continue.
Learning more about advising roles/responsibilities
directly related info
Great new ideas that I can implement in our office, confirmation of systems we have in place, reminder of the
importance of academic advising!!
Meeting colleagues, attending interesting sessions, learning more about NACADA as an organization
Opportunity to connect with other advisors. Committee (and Toronto) was very welcoming. Thank you for a
great time!
I am new in my advising position, so speaking and listening to other professionals in the field was very helpful
and informative.
Good ideas to bring back to my unit
Confirmation that all institutions seem to be dealing with the same issues. Lots of take away ideas to try and
incorporate in our office.
Leadership and networking
1. Networking with other members 2. Valuable information learned in sessions
Great to network with other advisors
Was able to speak to colleagues about similar student issues.
Hearing the various approaches that are successfully being used by other universities/colleges.
I enjoyed networking with colleagues from another country.
A lot of it was just networking with the other advisors. Hallway chats and talking before sessions was as
valuable as the sessions themselves.
Providing an opportunity to learn more about different Advising practices and hear about what others are doing.
Interacting with other advisors throughout the day and hearing at the sessions from people who have found best
practices for their institution that I can bring back to mine and adapt to our students' needs.
The exchange of topics and ideas with others.
networking, brainstorming and best practices
The information provided was meaningful and the possible tasks that I would like to implement at work is
motivating.
It gave me a jumpstart/refresher and a focus to utilize my professional advising skills and not simply my
regurgitation skills :) - certainly needed as I'm coming up on 10 years in my position .
I enjoyed learning about programs that other universities are implementing and will be trying to takes bits and
pieces to update and improve some of my programming.
good sessions, good networking, nice to catch up with colleagues from across the region
It was very valuable to learn from our colleagues in Ontario.
I enjoyed the opportunity to see other views and meet new individuals in my profession
Some great information on current issues related to advising
Networking
Networking and concurrent sessions were very helpful.

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

Text Response

I was basically talked at in nearly every single session I attended. Thursday was a LONG day of sitting and being lectured at. As educators, I think advisors should know better than to include absolutely no interactive components to sessions.

Better explanation of how to get around town and how to get from airport to hotel. Sessions on efficiency, time management, meditation. If it's not going to be a full breakfast, please identify it as a continental breakfast!! I think the opening reception should be "off-campus" and also I think there should be group dinner sign ups.

Dealing with students with mental health issues; safety issues

I think the closing session is a good idea, but poorly attended because many are trying to get check out of their rooms and start their transportation home. Makes more sense to have the closing during the business meeting during breakfast.

Better breakfast options. I wouldn't call it a breakfast. I should've gone out to eat the first day to get breakfast. Wasn't a sustainable breakfast, especially for someone who needs protein. Everything else was great! The lunch was fantastic!

Really, really, want to see some Canadian content; information on learning skills/study skills; taking care of the Advisor content. Interactive sessions; round-tables are helpful

Extend the conference into the afternoon of day two, so participants do not leave before the last sessions have concluded. In addition, split up the topics in each session time frame better. For example, all the STEM related sessions were the last session. I wish I would have been able to participate in all the STEM sessions instead of having them compete against each other.

Better breakfasts!!

Some more innovative sessions - i.e. invited panel presentations on hot topics; moderated debates on hot topics; pre/post-conference workshops on skills development;

Perhaps trying to find larger rooms for each session. Some sessions filled up before I could physically get to the room, causing me to need to attend another session.

Session rooms should have tables and chairs instead of just chairs

More skills based talks and round table discussions

Incorporate some mini-sessions in which advisors learn organizational strategies or see demonstrations of technology in advising. Health and wellness as it relates to the everyday practice of an advisors' role is another valuable topic I would like to see more of.

Have a talk on how to do group advising (without clicker information). Advisor safety is an issue that comes up a lot lately with school shootings and the like, but isn't one that is talked about a lot, so a presentation on dealing with students who make us uncomfortable and ideas for departments/campuses would be good.

Better food! The food was TERRIBLE. I couldn't believe the paltry offering on Friday morning for breakfast. I'd rather they either spend the money on one awesome lunch OR two amazing breakfasts. The keynote speaker could happen at either. Now, this comment does NOT include the reception the first night. That was GREAT. All the Canadian themed foods was totally fun and delicious!

if the conference were in Toronto again I would recommend more Canadian content (guest speaker).

The conference is very short. If there is a way to add one more group of sessions I think that would be perfect.

I attended 5 concurrent sessions. Only one included data and analysis, which is why I said the conference was fair.

It would have been nice to have two full days' worth of sessions, and the most interactive sessions were the ones in which I learned the most. For example, when there were questions or case studies we could reflect upon, or when we were asked to speak with fellow attendees.

More information on current research and best practices would be great. Charlie was wonderful!

Ensure that poster presentations are actually presentations and not exhibitors trying to get around the fee (Reboot 101).

I would be interested in something about our profession, more specifically why so many females get into advising. Males, especially white males are a dying breed in this profession.

consider including roundtable discussions

Assessment and Administration, but I think I will try to attend that conference in Florida next year.

Less theory/abstract more application to advising process

I found some of the Concurrent Session program descriptions lacking in specifics. I also found that the descriptions may not have really matched what was presented and in three of the sessions I attended (C3, C14, C18). In future, perhaps outlining the presenters goals in the description and in the presentation would be useful.

Better breakfast w/ protein option. Have poster session start 1/2 hour after breakfast starts so there is more time for people to wander through and look at posters.

When planning concurrent sessions, try not to put similar topics together. The Friday topics were mostly STEM which forced me to choose between several presentations. Spread similar topics out.

I think the opening session needs to be the most impactful. This session wasn't relevant for many people present and started the conference off on a weak note. For example, start off with Charlie to get everyone excited and ready to go.

I would like to see a stronger focus on take-aways from the seminars - most were expositional and vague; I would like to see more practical and experiential sharings/learnings

Supporting non traditional students including apprentices

The write ups on each session sounded very dynamic, however, the sessions themselves proved to be a little less so.

advising aboriginal students (unique concerns and approaches are needed). most aboriginal advisors attend the Ontario native education counselors association annual conference but that covers students k-12, and post high school which again has a different focus than nacada

it would be nice to have a Wednesday night welcome/kickoff/speech in addition to the social reception
Screening presentations for a wider variety of topics. I felt that everyone felt bottle-necked into 1 or 2 interesting sessions and everyone else chose second or third choices after the rooms were full.

Mental health issues - how academic counselling and mental health counselling seem to cross lines

I would recommend having a little heartier breakfast, as it made it difficult to start the day.

It might be good to talk about the non-standard students, international, Second Career students and the different needs and approaches to servicing them. Length of sessions were good. I only had one session that was not well delivered. I would also suggest doing something a little more engaging for the newbies session.

Overall it was a great conference.

Focus on working with first-generation and/or low income students and barriers they face that we can change
It did feel like a lot of sitting and being lectured at during the first day. It might have just been the sessions I chose, and interactive sessions are always harder to facilitate, but by the fourth breakout session I was struggling to stay engaged.

2 day conference - more concurrent sessions. No poster sessions.

I really appreciated the closing session with announcement of best poster and best concurrent session. Often those get announced weeks later when everyone has forgotten about them (or not at all). I would recommend continuing this! One other minor note: there didn't appear to be any free beverage options like water or soda at the opening reception, just alcoholic beverages for purchase.

Incorporate the poster session into a concurrent session or a little later in the day.

Some of the sessions didn't provide much for me that I didn't already know, but it's so hard to figure that out ahead of time.

Topics I would like: A session on the Advising Masters program from Kansas State; Distance Education advising; academic appeals/petitions/misconduct and helping students move past these road bumps

Hospitality: I would prefer to pay a bit more to have a breakfast. I need my protein in the morning!

Opening speakers should be more relevant to all participants. This year's felt very institution-specific and the topic wasn't universally engaging.

Concurrent sessions need to provide more application/take-aways

we need snacks, one in the morning and one in the afternoon to keep us going. Need more information on Mental Health. This is going to be a very big topic very soon. We need to be as aware as possible.

A Canada/USA higher education terminologies cheat sheet. While our systems are similar in many ways, we have different terms between the US and Canada, (ie. faculties versus colleges or schools). Because Region 5 is such a mix of US and Canadian institutions, this could be a helpful tool in the registration packet, for example.

- topic suggestion: Strategies for Delivering "No" to a Student. - mid-day break to stretch/walk would be appreciated; a lot of sitting with the current structure

if data is important, what consistent data should we all be collecting?

Sessions were great.

Personal Well being/growth and how it impacts our roles as Academic Advising.

Canada again!

More Canadian-based information.

do not have similar topics compete against each other in same time slot

figure out a better way to determine what are preconference sessions vs concurrent; provide better breakfast items (ie include protein at all meals provided - ie less sugar based options) -- continue great networking!

Have better "connections" the first evening reception - I felt like there was no content (ie no reason to attend).

Timing of sessions - at least 2 STEM were last session/overlap

coffee and/or scheduled breaks between sessions. Shorter sessions - one hour is too long. More Canadian content

Offering longer break out sessions for certain presenters.

Round table discussions, I loved the integration of both Canadian and American perspectives - I didn't feel this as much at the conference in Akron that I attended.

There were several times at which presentations on similar topics were at the same time. This limited my ability to pursue depth in certain areas, instead of breadth across the conference.

I thought that the morning welcome speech on Thursday could have been a concurrent session since the topic was so specialized. However, I found the overall program flow to be logical and time efficient. I enjoyed the sessions on student motivation/resilience, and resources for bridging the gap between career and academic advising. I would like to learn more about those topics.

You really need protein at breakfast. Sweets are unnecessary.

Either make the closing more formal (ie include keynote) or cut it. I felt like it was a bit nonsensical and dragged on.

The session descriptions are more accurate. Indicate that the conference fee is in US DOLLARS. The breakfast is heartier, no protein, lack of selection and pastries aren't for everyone.

Topic: communication system among advisors, faculty, students, financial aid, athletics, and student affairs, and administrators. Exhibitors: Can more publishers be added?

More program-specific advising sessions, and perhaps an academic appeals or how to deal with course complaints, etc.

I think there needs to be a balance between hearing Charlie and hearing other leaders in the organization.

More things like the walking tour of Toronto.

The concurrent sessions should have more practical, real-life examples by the presenters. From the conferences I have been too, it is always the same layout and some sessions do not provide concrete information/examples of what has worked for their office.

The first day (Thur 4/7) was a really long day of sitting and by the end my back was hurting. It would be nice to have a 30 minute stretch break scheduled in the morning and afternoon. Maybe this can be done by shortening the state meetings or adding it to Friday's agenda.

Choosing a location and/or meeting spaces that can accommodate the number of people attending. Both this year and last year, I unfortunately had to stand in one or more concurrent sessions.

more on technology - social media, in class polling, appointment bookings, audit systems, communication tracking

Everything was great for the perfect world/school with super supportive administration units who have ample budgets and small student to advisor ratios - I'm not one of those and it can be quite disheartening coming out of a conference and getting back to work, to reality where nearly nothing can be applied.

n/a

I would suggest eliminating the lunch and enhance the breakfast offerings to save costs.

Orientation session was a waste of time. I really thought they would break down the conference and give us an overview of the facilities. A website that stores all the presentations for attendees would be nice. Even nicer would be if the presentations had the presenter recorded so we could go back and review them.

45 minutes max

Consider having a closing speaker and a more structured closing

More external activities would be desirable.

Some sessions went over things that we already experience when we wanted tips on how to deal with those things. In the future, it would be helpful to add in more action takeaways in presentations

I would like to see themes to the sessions. I found that a topic I was interested in had 2 or 3 sessions happening at once. I would suggest running the retention sessions, for example, 1 per time period so someone who really wants to come away with a focused experience can attend as many of the sessions related to that particular issue or topic.

NAFSA has interest group meetings - I would have liked to have meetings with the interest groups within NACADA.

One commonality I noticed is the variation between US and CDN models; several of the presenters failed to recognize or acknowledge that the Canadian audience was present and has a different model from which we are working, so some sessions felt irrelevant without acknowledgement of this. I realize this is not intentionally exclusive but it would be awesome if sessions recognized the distinctions.

The first night of the conference was not worthwhile. Move the opening speaker from Thursday morning to Wednesday night, then follow that speaker with the reception.

As for my particular job, I'd like to see more on academic probation students. And perhaps some way of dividing into groups based on school size? I'm at a small liberal arts university and many sessions were geared towards those working at large universities 10 or 15 times my school's size. People were sitting on the floor in most of my sessions and there were not enough handouts. (cont'd below).

Bring back the Dinner Sign-up options! It was another way to meet other people from the region, who wanted to try food/eat with you. :)

More on community colleges

I really appreciate Charlie Nutt and his contribution to advising. If you've been in this business for a while, you tend to get to see him perhaps too much. George Kuh is a great presenter and is in Indiana. I believe he has messages that resonate with advisors. People outside of the profession - people who have made significant contributions to our field make great keynotes.

The existing format is great. concurrent sessions are an ideal length. Have many of the same people back because I missed a lot of sessions that were happening concurrently that I would have loved to attend.

Breakfast should include hot food

The format for this conference was excellent. I liked the length of the sessions.

Overall the conference was great! I enjoyed the location and the sessions. Charlie was a great Keynote! I would have preferred a hot breakfast even if that meant that the registration would have been more. I wish there were a few more planned activities to explore the area.

continue offering sessions on advising international students and studying abroad

Some of the sessions I was in needed more time, they were a bit rushed, the presenters could have scaled back their presentation to leave time for questions at the end. Maybe more networking and mingling not sitting down, Try to meet people not from your school. It would be nice if there were more sessions on best practices to advise.

Richard St. John: 8 To Be Great: The 8 Traits of Successful People Toronto based (#1 speaker on TED.com on success, targeted at 18-25, call me for more info

I would more forums where professionals from different institutions and with different experiences can share their perspectives on different topics.

Maybe consider themes or tracks for concurrent sessions

Increase length of sessions to one and a half hours

I wanted to get to everything so I found the one day very long. Maybe have less offered on the Thursday.

I think it might be a good idea to move the State Meetings. Holding them before the last concurrent session of the day might encourage more participation.

10. Additional comments:

Text Response

The conference was good. But both mornings were absolutely ruined because I was STARVING. I couldn't pay attention to anything else. If you are serving a light continental breakfast only, please let people know so they can eat in their room. A mini-muffin and some fruit isn't a full breakfast. And it really ruined the mornings to be light-headed and shaky.

Great job by the steering committee - super energetic, positive, and all around wonderful!

Breakfast should include some sort of protein. Lunch had entirely too many carbs (bread, pasta, breaded chicken).

Breakfast was VERY lacking.

Breakfast could have been more nutritional.

The breakfasts were too sweet

Lunch was great, as was food at opening reception. Only complaint is that breakfast (especially 2nd day) was poor. Just bread and fruit? Lots of people eat low-carb these days and there was nothing but high-sugar carbs. Great experience overall!

The conference was really great. It would be nice if the slides from all the concurrent sessions could be made available as many times there were multiple ones people were interested in but couldn't attend all.

Rooms were too small. Seating was very cramped. I was unable to get any feedback forms due to not enough copies. Facilitators were not expecting that many people so some of the in session exercises were cancelled

Lots to do within walking distance, which was nice.

If possible, serve a protien at breakfast.

Thank you!

Throughout the conference speakers said they did not want students or faculty to view them as only schedulers. If advisors do not collect data, analyze it, and change their practice accordingly, that perception of them will not change.

Charlie Nutt was the perfect keynote speaker! The entire steering committee was great at making us feel welcomed and comfortable, and they seemed (while stressed) to be having fun, too.

Great job. Enjoyed the conference and loved the location.

I enjoyed my time in Toronto and was inspired by the work of colleagues. I plan to incorporate what I learned into my work.

None of the sessions had mics. Please mic your speakers for the concurrent sessions.

The breakfast the second morning was not good. I ended up buying something later that morning.

Nice job w/ location and sessions. I really enjoyed this conference and give 2 thumbs up to the conference planners.

On the Friday, the breakfast should have been more with a bit of protein, many people were traveling after the session so it wasn't very filling. I would pay a bit more for the conference for this as it is a networking activity and convenient. This is just a small point, just to consider for next time.

Kudos to the organizing committee.

thank you for all your hard work. thank the world for Charlie Nutt who inspired the heck out of me :) and thank you for the poutine and beaver tail evening... yum :)

I really enjoyed the conference but was disappointed with the food - particularly what was advertised as breakfast, especially on the second day (cake and whole fruit). Perhaps charge us all \$20 more and offer a more complete breakfast. If not, then please don't advertise it as breakfast, but light refreshments. As well, it would have been nice to have some snacks available between the meals.

Please try to choose a location where WIFI is included in all rooms.

breakfast needs to include protein - not everyone eats pastries and fruit! Everyone was friendly and helpful - I so appreciated all the effort and time that went into planning and facilitating the conference.

I appreciated the complimentary meals. However, I would have been happy to give up some of the fanciness of breakfast for something more filling. I didn't know to bring my own protein to breakfast/morning sessions on the first day, so I had trouble concentrating (I also didn't want to skip a session to get food).

The facility was great. The one concern was food. The evening reception didn't offer a beverage (not even water) that didn't cost money. Typically there is at least a non-alcoholic beverage available at no cost. The breakfast was lacking both days. This should be listed as a "light" breakfast. With breakfast listed in the book, I can't get funding for breakfast. This wasn't truly breakfast.

The breakfast was not adequate. It would have been better to list it accurately as a light refreshment, so attendees were prepared. Since it was listed as a full breakfast, I couldn't get that meal covered. A piece of bread and some melon does not constitute a breakfast. Also, as an award recipient I never knew when the presentation was, which I almost missed while finishing the poster session.

Hotel was fabulous! Because the conference was a only a 1.5 day conference, I was expected to drive home the same day. I elected to get on the road back home early and did not have access to win a door prize. Give them earlier.

This conference was wonderful, and I am very grateful for all the work the planning committee did to bring us this opportunity! A minor suggestion: I did hear a lot of people talking about the breakfasts. I think people were surprised because previous conference breakfasts included eggs, bacon, potatoes, etc. Maybe specifying continental or light breakfast on the program would have helped?

expand options for breakfast, too many sugary options

Thank you for having it in Toronto. Otherwise I would have not been able to go. Given the success of this conference, I will now consider attending more in the future even if it means paying out of my own pocket.

I appreciate how affordable NACADA membership and the Region 5 conference are compared to other professional associations in higher education.

- more nutritious breakfast/lunch options (more veggies, fruit and protein; less refined carbs) - a couple more blank pages (for taking notes) in the conference booklet

it would be great if there was protein at breakfast.

Thank you...I had a great time.

breakfast was very poor....no choices at all for those avoiding sugar and carbs. Suggest last day breakfast always offer some type of protein since lunch will be so late.

The lunch was fantastic, best variety of food with fresh options that I have seen at any NACADA conference. Breakfast could have used a protein or something more filling (e.g. oatmeal, yogurt, etc.)

electronic handouts and slides - I attended sessions where handouts were all taken.

The breakfasts offered were insufficient (loaf and some fruit). It would have been better for them to not offer breakfast so that we could buy our own breakfast and be reimbursed by our institution (I will not be reimbursed for the breakfast I had to buy myself Friday morning).

The chairs were awful!! My back and hips were killing me after I left. Not your issue but the hotel should know that they are really bad.

Could there be coffee available in the morning presentations? It was also unfortunate that water was \$6 during the Opening Reception, if there is any way to provide that for free (I understand the alcohol).

This was my first time attending this conference, and I am hopeful that I will be able to attend again next year.

The location was great! Nice to be located right in the City!. Would have recommended Billy Bishop Airport for those that could fly Porter. We had a great experience flying in there and many of our colleagues didn't know of the option because it was not on the website as "recommended"

Great job on opening meet and greet! It was so much fun celebrating Canada!

1. Bring our students with us as presenters to conference sessions. 2. Bring our students, esp. from the conference team, to help behind the scenes.

The breakfasts needed to have some protein with them. Breakfast on Friday could have been better. Didn't have the smoothies that were available on Thursday.

I think more emphasis should be placed on sessions that can add a lot of value from real-life examples of what practices have worked for other advisors. Oftentimes I leave a session with not much to take a away and not many things to implement.

Conference was great! Toronto did a fantastic job! The facility was perfect: meeting spaces were comfortable and staff was very accommodating. Keynote speakers were well informed and motivating. I hope to be able to attend every year.

Additionally, the food was VERY disappointing this year.

the sheraton needs to pull it together. very disappointed in the hotel staff rather than the conference itself. Check in was a nightmare, service in the restaurant was poor, etc. Since next year's is at a sheraton too - I'd be sure to let them know that you (NACADA) are watching them

I thought the conference was very well done with lots of opportunities to learn. Charlie was awesome!, the facility was great and staff were very accommodating.

Overall very nice conference. A pre conference survey of "what sessions do you think you will attend" would have helped with room assignments. It seemed many of the rooms were too small for the people who wanted to attend.

Most rooms were cramped, I had to stand for some sessions or sit on the floor. Also, dietary needs were a struggle to be met with hotel staff

Members of my institution weren't able to register due to the limited size of the conference and the lack of notice re: registration filling up. Hospitality left a lot to be desired: Toronto is a great city, and very little was planned to showcase it. Last year's Indy conference did a much better job. Organized dinner options, events/networking opportunities offsite would have been good.

Toronto was awesome, I liked the 60 minute session format with 15 minutes in between each session

The food was very carby--would be nice to have options for those with diabetes or who, like me, are following a low carb diet.

Encourage presenters to do a bit of research on whether their topic might be relevant to both CDN/US audiences; if not, that's fine but would be great to mention the target audience in the notes. Breakfast was a snack! Simply mentioning 'fruit and pastries' would have been helpful so we could better plan to bring food or eat prior to coming. We need protein! Lunch was great :-)

The venue was confusing to navigate. The opening speaker Thursday morning was not worthwhile. Thursday's lunch buffet did not meet my expectations. They ran out of the vegetarian entree, and we had nothing to drink but water. Self-serve tea/lemonade would have been reasonable, as well. One pitcher of water for our entire table was not enough.

(cont'd) On the positive side, that means the conference (and certain sessions) were very popular. However, I was disappointed that after that happened in the first few sessions on Thursday there didn't seem to be any adjustments made. It's tough to change on the fly, but even an informal poll as people were in line for lunch about plans for later sessions could have informed quick room changes.

Everyone comments on food, but since my institution doesn't cover meals additional to what the conference offers when the conference offers food, it would have been nice if there was more protein options in the morning. Overall, the organizers did a wonderful job. This far surpassed last year's conference.

When offering a conference in Canada please identified that the funds should be in US. A few of us were taken back from the exchange.

I'm diabetic but didn't think that I would need to speak up that I needed something for breakfast that wasn't full of sugar. Order less pastries and get some yogurt, cereal, and bagels. I understand that a full breakfast with eggs and bacon or sausage could be costly, but an apple and a little pastry isn't going to work for people like me. Sorry, this is my only complaint about the conference.

Of the sessions I attended, not all of the presentations were correctly advertised in their synopsis. And some needed more time to get to their point, I left a few of them feeling like I was missing the ending. or they could have narrowed their focus more.

Thanks to all for a great conference.

There were lots of presentations about academic and career advising, but in one session two similar-sounding presentations competed against each other.

Loved it, thanks!

Outstanding conference

I know there was a need to keep costs down but at breakfast possibly offering boiled eggs as an option for participants

Content of two sessions were not as stated in the description and one of the presenters had not talked about her topic in over 10 years. She was very unorganized and hard to follow. I noted this on the session feedback form. Great job with planning and hosting!

It would have been nice to have accommodations in place for the poster presentations.

I was disappointed that Dr. Jenkins' session P7 did not run. I understand why it didn't but I would love if we can get that session at the next conference.

Special thanks to the host schools and conference planning committee - so much hard work goes on behind the scenes of a NACADA regional. We appreciate your efforts, hospitality, and visiting with colleagues while in the wonderful city of Toronto.

Enjoyable. Breakfasts were weak but lunch was lovely! Having something more like a Keynote happen right before the opening Reception on first night would increase participation at the reception (it was nice but poorly attended). Having separate fees for the Wed pre-conference stuff seemed silly and discouraged attendance, I think.

thanks. It was a great place to gather for a conference. Please give our thanks to the gentlemen who provided the walking tour. It was informative and allowed us to get a flavour of downtown TO.

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 | Response | % |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------|-----|
| 1 | Conference registration fee | 180 | 94% |
| 2 | NACADA Membership | 119 | 62% |
| 3 | Hotel expenses | 155 | 81% |
| 4 | Mileage and tolls | 118 | 61% |
| 5 | Airfare | 52 | 27% |
| 6 | Meal expenses | 142 | 74% |
| 7 | Other: | 18 | 9% |
| 8 | Further comments about your response: | 22 | 11% |

| Other: | Further comments about your response: |
|---|--|
| Conference fee covered by award | |
| None | |
| I work down the street, so only the fee was required. | |
| Professional expense account | |
| Train and partial membership fees. We were given a budget to cover 2 of us. We shared a room to help with costs | We have a professional development account as employees at Western that covers the remaining membership fees and registration. |
| None, but I secured a grant from another organization to cover my costs | |
| all of the above (train instead of air) | Thank you for all your hard work in organizing this conference! |
| Train ticket | |
| meals were covered when the conference did not include them | |
| train | |
| Transportation - GO bus | Thank you for a great conference! |
| transportation | |
| None | |
| This was a very enjoyable conference. | |
| Parking | |
| Train Ticket | |
| none | Self funded |

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>One of the advisors got an 'award' to cover the registration process</p> | <p>The one critique: the breakfasts really needed protein based foods. Thanks for the fruit and healthy smoothies but gave my advisors the 'per diem' for that meal because they had to stop over at Tim's to get a good breakfast.</p> |
| | <p>Did not stay overnight</p> |
| | <p>We stayed at a very cheap hotel and drove together so that more of us could attend. Price will be an issue for attending next years conference.</p> |
| | <p>You did a wonderful job on the planning committee</p> |
| | <p>Used my professional development allowance to attend</p> |
| | <p>I live in Toronto, this is why I did not have to worry about hotel expenses or meal expenses.</p> |
| | <p>My graduate student association covered flight and hotel and registration, my office actually covers our memberships to NACADA and MIACADA</p> |
| | <p>Had some government project funding for PD</p> |
| | <p>I've actually decided that if my institution will not pay for my attendance, I will not attend. It's important to be supported properly.</p> |
| | <p>Unfortunately the included breakfast was misleading... I needed to purchase food on my own</p> |
| | <p>Costs were low compared to other conferences; would have been open to paying more for better breakfasts and more organized events.</p> |
| | <p>only because I presented</p> |
| | <p>The above is for all three of us, not just me as an individual.</p> |
| | <p>Through an educational assistance program</p> |
| | <p>I am fortunate that my institution covers these expenses, but it is so expensive that number of staff allowed to attend is quite limited. I'm not sure if there is a reasonable way to lower the cost of the conference fee, but that would be enormously helpful. This was my first NACADA and I thought it was really worth the experience and wish more could afford to attend!</p> |
| | <p>i live within a 100 km, so no travel or hotel expenses.</p> |
| | <p>Medical school was extremely generous with professional development funding this year.</p> |
| | <p>Our institution funded us fully to attend</p> |