

A decorative graphic consisting of a thin yellow circle on the left side, a thick yellow bracket on the right side, and a horizontal olive-green bar across the middle. The title text is centered within this bar.

# Graduate/Professional Students Advising 2006 Survey Results

Judith Goetz, Penn State,  
[jjg1@psu.edu](mailto:jjg1@psu.edu)

Kati Markowitz, Cal Berkeley,  
[kmarkow@berkeley.edu](mailto:kmarkow@berkeley.edu)

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# [ When, what, who ]

- On-line 1/23/2006 to 2/12/2006
- Three email notices
- 30-question survey; some with write in
- 81 of 388 (20.88%) of commission members completed it

# [ Broad themes ]

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- Demographics
- Organizational
- Professional
- Quality of “work-life”

# [ Comparison Surveys Used ]

- 2004 National Association of Graduate Admissions Professionals (NAGAP) Survey
- 2006 NAGAP Membership Survey
- 2004 ACT Sixth National Survey

# General Demographic Information

- Gender: 18.5% male; 80.25% female
  - '04 NAGAP survey: 29% male/71% female
- Institution types:
  - 63% public ('04 NAGAP: 40%)
  - 36% private ('04 NAGAP: 58%)
  - 1% n/a ('04 NAGAP: 2%)

# Institutional Size (total student population)



Less than 2,500	18.5%
Between 2,500 to 4,999	11.1%
Between 5,000 to 9,999	13.6%
Between 10,000 to 19,999	18.5%
Between 20,000 to 29,999	17.3%
Between 30,000 to 39,999	5%
More than 40,000	14.8%
N/A	1.2%

# Institutional Graduate Student Population



Less than 1,000	30.9% ('06 NAGAP – 31%)
Between 1,000 to 2,499	23.5% ('06 NAGAP – 24%)
Between 2,500 to 4,999	13.6% ('06 NAGAP – 19%)
Between 5,000 to 9,999	18.5% } ('06 NAGAP – 21%)
Over 10,000	11.1% }
N/A	2.4%

# Advisor's Student Type Constituency



Doctoral only	3.7%
Masters only	28.4%
Both Doctoral and Masters	12.4%
Professional (J.D., M.D., M.B.A., etc.)	8.6%
Undergraduate and Graduate	37%
Other	9.9%

# Advisors' Education Level

Associate Degree, Some College	2.5% ('04 NAGAP: 6%)
Baccalaureate	21% ('04 NAGAP: 18%)
Masters Degree	44.4% } ('04 NAGAP: 53%)
Professional Degree	3.7% }
ABD	8.6% } ('04 NAGAP: 23%)
Ph.D., Ed.D	18.5% }
N/A	1.3%

# Number of Advisees/Advisor

Between 1 to 10	18.5%
Between 11 to 25	5%
Between 25 to 50	3.7%
Between 50 to 100	22.2%
Between 100 to 150	8.6%
Between 150 to 200	13.6%
Over 200	22.2%
N/A	6.2%

(only graduate students?)

# General Advising Longevity

Less than 3 years	17.3%	('06 NAGAP – 32%)
Between 3 to 5 years	24.7%	}
Between 6 to 10 years	19.75%	
Between 11 to 15 yrs.	8.7%	}
Over 15 years	27.2%	
N/A	2.35%	

# Graduate Advising Longevity

Less than 3 years	34.6%	(sign of new profession, or movement within from undergrad advising?)
Between 3 to 5 years	30.9%	
Between 6 to 10 years	14.8%	
Between 11 to 15 yrs.	6.2%	
Over 15 years	9.9%	
N/A	3.6%	

# Respondents' Primary Roles

Faculty Advisor	3.7% ('04 NAGAP: ~7%)
Academic Advisor	48.2%
Advising Administrator	13.6%
Administrator over several Areas and Advisor	30.9%
Graduate Student	1.2%
Not Advising	2.4%

# Respondents Supervisors' Role



Academic Dean/Chair	43.2%	} (faculty supervisors prevail)
Faculty Advisor	3.7%	
Academic Advisor	7.4%	
Advising Administrator	11.1%	
General Administrator	25.9%	
N/A	8.7%	

# [ Salary (FTE/Year) ]

Under \$20,000	1%
Between \$20,000 to \$29,999	5%
Between \$30,000 to \$39,999	31%
Between \$40,000 to \$49,999	26% (average at \$48,715)
Between \$50,000 to \$59,999	11%
Between \$60,000 to \$69,999	5%
Between \$70,000 to \$79,999	4%
Above \$80,000	4%
N/A	13%

'04 NAGAP: Private institutions average \$52,555; public institutions average \$55,210  
Salary differentials: more males in NAGAP (10%), and more opportunities in private institutions (58% as opposed to our response of 36%)

# [ Organizational Issues ]

- Organization or network on campus
  - Yes: 36%
    - For undergrad advisors, but open to all
    - Some, not many, have specific graduate student advising organizations (started grassroots, or by Graduate Dean)
    - Listserves, informal meetings
  - No: 64%
    - What can be done
      - Set up listserves
      - Start informal meetings
      - Advocate to Graduate Dean for recognition

# Organizational Issues

- Professional development opportunities on campus
  - Yes: 38%
    - Institutional training: general subjects, FERPA, etc.
    - Workshops, retreats, local conference days
    - Monthly meetings and sharing information
    - Funds for outside opportunities
  - No: 62%
    - Networking with colleagues could lead to first steps
    - Proving that having on-campus opportunities costs less

# 2003 6<sup>th</sup> ACT Survey on Campus Training Availability

- 15% single workshop of one day or less/year
- 9% single workshop of more than one day/year
- 35% series of short workshops throughout the year
- 52% individualized training based on advisor needs (on the job training)

# 2003 6<sup>th</sup> ACT Survey on Campus Training Topics

- Informational
  - 69% regulations, policies
  - 59% referrals
  - 39% career, employment information
  - 59% use of information sources (transcripts, test scores, degree audits)
- Relational
  - 37% counseling skills
  - 27% interviewing skills
  - 28% decision making skills
- Conceptual
  - 54% importance of academic advising
  - 42% definition of advising

# Organizational Issues

- Available financial support for outside training
  - **Yes: 72%**
    - Conferences, seminars
    - Many mentioned encouragement from school to participate in NACADA
    - Note: **only** 38% have on-campus training/development
  - No: 27%
    - Budget crunch
    - Lack of response/understanding from supervisors
      - Try to submit presentation to conference; it usually works
  - N/A: 1%

# Organizational Issue – NACADA Commission

- Preferred communication
  - Email: 68% (62% interested in email Q&E sessions)
    - Monthly: 47%
    - Bimonthly: 30%
    - Quarterly: 22%
  - Web site: 36%
  - Electronic newsletter: 54.5%
  - Any type: 22%

# Organizational Issue – NACADA Commission

- Preference for Annual Commission Meeting
  - Combination of topical and organizational updates together with networking: 70.5%
  - No specific preference: 22.5%
  - Only topical updates: 7%

# Professional/Topical Issues

- Advisor training and development
  - **Highest and/or strong interest: 80.5%**
  - Some interest: 16%
  - No interest and/or N/A: 3.5%

# [ Professional/Topical Issues ]

- Defining faculty and professional advising (complements, differences)
  - **Highest and/or strong interest: 67%**
  - Some interest: 23.5%
  - No interest and/or N/A: 9.5%

# [ Professional/Topical Issues ]

- Help students balance academic and non-academic life
  - **Highest and/or strong interest: 63%**
  - Some interest: 25%
  - No interest and/or N/A: 12%

# [ Professional/Topical Issues ]

- Graduate student recruitment practices
  - Highest and/or strong interest: 63%
  - Some interest: 29.5%
  - No interest and/or N/A: 7.5%

# Professional/Topical Issues

- Electronic systems used in advising
  - Highest and/or strong interest: 62%
  - Some interest: 25%
  - No interest and/or N/A: 13%
- Electronic system templates to share?
  - Yes: 15%
  - No: 85%
- Need training in electronic systems?
  - Yes: 28.5%
  - No: 71.5%

# [ Professional/Topical Issues ]

- Comparison of advising practices across academic fields (humanities, natural sciences, social sciences, professional schools, etc.)
  - Highest and/or strong interest: 59%
  - Some interest: 27%
  - No interest and/or N/A: 14%

# [ Professional/Topical Issues ]

- Career development for graduate students
  - Highest and/or strong interest: 58%
  - Some interest: 34.5%
  - No interest and/or N/A: 7.5%

# [ Professional/Topical Issues ]

- Minority graduate student recruitment practices
  - Highest and/or strong interest: 55.5%
  - Some interest: 34.5%
  - No interest and/or N/A: 10%

# [ Professional/Topical Issues ]

- Graduate fellowships, grants, budget administration
  - Highest and/or strong interest: 52%
  - Some interest: 28.5%
  - No interest and/or N/A: 19.5%

# [ Professional/Topical Issues ]

- Graduate student advising policy and practice comparisons
  - Highest and/or strong interest: 47%
  - Some interest: 38%
  - No interest and/or N/A: 15%

# [ Quality of Work - Life ]

- Feel that work is valued
  - Highly: 50%
  - Somewhat: 36%
  - Neutral: 5%
  - Somewhat undervalued: 4%
  - Highly undervalued: 5%

# Quality of Work - Life

- Satisfied with current position
  - Very: 32%
  - Somewhat: 38%
  - Neutral: 15%
  - Somewhat unsatisfied: 7.5%
  - Very unsatisfied: 7.5%

# [ Future Plans ]

- Write article (1000 word count) for June 2007 issue of Advising Today
- Deadline for draft March 15, 2007
- Volunteers?  
Please contact Kati Markowitz,  
[ksmarkow@berkeley.edu](mailto:ksmarkow@berkeley.edu)