Statement of Interest for South Carolina Liaison in Region 3

I am Twaina Harris, Director of Academic Advising and Campus Director for the Career Pathways Initiative at Claflin University. On October 20, 2015, Claflin University held its first South Carolina Drive-In Conference in Region 3 of NACADA. As organizer for the event, I worked closely with the advisors in the state and I developed a great working relationship with Kristen Goodenow (current South Carolina Liaison for Region 3). I learned a lot about NACADA and advising in South Carolina from this experience as organizer of the state drive-in conference. One thing I learned is that the drive-in conferences in South Carolina are attended by Predominately White Institutions (PWIs) and two-year institutions. As organizer, it became obvious to me that the other types of institutions in South Carolina (Historically Black Colleges & Universities, other minority-serving institutions, others, and even reputable for-profits) had little or no representation. I think the challenge for South Carolina is finding ways to involve these types of institutions; not only in attendance at NACADA conferences and other NACADA activities, but also, to lend their voices in decision-making and strategies of progression for advising. I am interested in working with the state to address this important challenge.