

Abstracts for Tutorial

Why Do I Have to Take This Class??!

Do students ask you why they have to take general education classes? Do they wonder why they have to take art when they are a business major? Do they understand the mission of your school or why it is important? In our quest for a better way to answer these questions, we developed the Comprehensive Education Plan (CEP). This academic advising tool provides a concrete way to explain how the school's mission and goals are connected to individual degree plans and co-curricular activities. This presentation will explain the development of the CEP, its integration into the First Year Experience, and assessment measures. Current challenges will be addressed as well as how the CEP was used in TLU's Institutional Quality Enhancement Plan for the accreditation process under SACS.

Advising as Teaching and Learning: Best Practices, Tools, and Tips

Effective advising practices are interactive, lead to student learning, and result in better advising relationships. Creating and maintaining these effective relationships requires certain actions on the advisor's part: preparation for onset of an advising relationship, building rapport, communicating clearly, identifying realistic goals, and demonstrating a connection between academic coursework, academic experiences and real life.

Improve your advising relationships by utilizing tools, tips, and best practices adapted from various institutions. You will learn about advising as teaching and learning and gain tools to adapt for your own diverse needs. Examples include: 1) academic difficulty analysis form; 2) advising syllabus; 3) cultural profile; 4) learning style inventory; 5) early academic alert; and 6) self-evaluation tool for students

This presentation is appropriate for advisors and administrators from both two- and four-year colleges but particularly those new to advising.

Applying the Glue that Holds Us Together: Building Trust through Effective Advising Administration and Leadership

Trust is the glue that holds an organization together and the most important means whereby organizational efficiency and effectiveness are obtained. Regardless of strategic planning, assessment, and other administrative skills, if a leader and a department do not experience trusting relationships both internally and externally, effectiveness is lost. To that end, this presentation will invite you to explore your own understanding of trust, its outcomes and importance, and its development and maintenance within the advising administration process. This will be accomplished through personal reflection, group discussion, the presentation of research and theory related to trust and leadership, and active participation. Come and explore with us the glue that holds us together.

Helping High-Achieving Students Develop Parallel Plans

Even academic rock stars get the blues! Talented students often set highly competitive goals for themselves. What happens when competition or a change in interests pushes them away from those goals?

They may become confused because the one focus of their future lives has been snatched away. Advisors can assist such students by encouraging them to make parallel plans, alternatives with emotional satisfaction equal to their original goals. In this discussion, advisors from diverse institutional settings will address parallel planning with high-achievers and offer strategies for showing them that an alternative does not have to be a compromise. We hope audience members will share their experiences with students who took a bend in the road and were happier for it. Join us for a lively exchange!