An Introduction to the Foundations of Academic Advising

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Session materials available at
http://www.nacada.ksu.edu/About-Us/Executive-Office/EO-Staff/Marsha-Miller.aspx
Workshop Objectives

• Understand the three components of academic advising
• Become familiar with advising history and theorists whose work lays the foundation for quality academic advising
• Become familiar with approaches experienced advisors draw from when advising students
• Get a chance to practice
• Learn ways to effectively “work” a conference so you can make useful connections and take home and implement ideas learned.
WHO ARE WE?

- How long have you advised?
- Academic background?
- Institution type & location?
- Advising model?
- What one thing do you want to learn this morning?

Packet Overview
Three components of quality advising

❖ **Informational**
  - *What advisors need to know including*
    - internal information
    - external environment
    - student needs
    - advisor self knowledge.

❖ **Relational**
  - *The skills advisors need to possess in order to do their jobs effectively*

❖ **Conceptual**
  - *The theories advisors must understand to provide*

Roadmap to Excellence

Folsom’s New Advisor Development Chart

- Organized following the components
- Checklist/guide to development
- Today’s focus: Conceptual & Relational components
INTRODUCTION TO THE CONCEPTUAL COMPONENT

Always Has Been About Advising...

• The ten generations of Higher Education
• Sharpening the mind vs. vocational training
• Public good vs. private control
• Political vs. apolitical

A Brief History
1st Era of academic advising

• English/European Model - Colonial Times
  • In Loco Parentis

• 1820s – Kenyon College begins the 1st era of academic advising
  • Faculty as advisors

• 1870 – Harvard College
  • Ephraim Gurney, Dean of Student Conduct
  • Sharpening the mind

• Early 1900’s – Specialization
  • Personal
    • Mental Hygiene Movement
  • Vocational
    • Vocational Guidance
  • Academic Advising
    • Curriculum Guidance

Second Era of Advising

• Post WWII – Curriculum Issues/ GI Issues
  • Many new and diverse curricular changes.
  • Specialist needed to provide guidance.

• With changes in curriculum came the need for specialists.
• Advisors were unclear in role
• “Student Personnel Point of View” A.C.E 1949
Third Era of Advising

• 1970 to 2002
• Crookston and O’Banion. (1972)
• Burlington VT – 1977 – NACADA
• Advising as an “examined activity.”
• Access; begin to tie theory to practice
• Organization/Delivery models (Habley, 1983)
The Fourth Era of Advising

- 2003 to present
- Research, theory, practice
- Pillars of Academic Advising
- Advising Practice draws from a variety of theories to create “approaches”
- Completion agenda
  - Advising’s impact on retention, persistence, and completion (Klepfer & Hull; Ross & Kena, 2012)
  - Institutions invest in software that helps advisors proactively engage with students
Theories That serve as foundations for advising

The Conceptual Component
Why Theory Matters

CAS Standards for Academic Advising Programs (AAP) must be:

• integrated into the life of the institution
• intentional and coherent
• guided by theories and knowledge of learning and development
• reflective to needs of individuals, diverse and special populations, and relevant constituencies
Crookston 1972

• Advising is “concerned with not only the specific personal or vocational decision but with facilitating the student’s rational processes, environmental and interpersonal interactions, behavioral awareness, and problem-solving, decision-making and evaluation skills.”

Terry O’Banion’s Model (1972)

• Exploration of Life Goals
• Exploration of Career/Educational Goals
• Selection of Educational Programs
• Selection of Courses
• Scheduling of Classes

The Relational Component

Handout 2
“An excellent advisor does the same for the student’s entire curriculum that the excellent teacher does for one course.”

Marc Lowenstein
2005
Advising as Teaching

• Advisors teach students:
  • To value the learning process
  • To apply decision-making strategies
  • To put the college experience into perspective
  • To set priorities and evaluate events
  • To develop thinking & learning skills
  • To make choices

  • NACADA Core Values (2005)
Relational component

Advising Communication Skills

Advisor Checklist for Listening, Interviewing, and Referral skills
- Peggy Jordan
- *The New Advisor Guidebook*
Academic Advising Approaches

*Prescriptive
*Developmental
*Proactive (Intrusive)
*Advising as Teaching
Learning-Centered Advising
Motivational Interviewing
*Appreciative Advising
*Strengths-Based Advising
Self-Authorship
*Advising as Coaching
Socratic Advising
Hermeneutic
Narrative

* Introduced today
Traditional (Prescriptive) Vs. Developmental Advising

Prescriptive Advising:
• Authoritarian in Nature
• Knowledge is one-sided.
• There is a “right” answer.
Developmental Advising Approach

Terry O’Banion (1972)
1. Exploration of life goals
2. Exploration of vocational goals
3. Program choice
4. Course choice
5. Scheduling courses

O’Banion in Reverse

Patrick Cate (2013)
1. Schedule
2. Course choice
3. Program choice
4. Exploration of vocational goals
5. Exploration of life goals

ARE THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF DEVELOPMENTAL ADVISING UPSIDE DOWN?
Traditional (Prescriptive) Vs. Developmental Advising

Developmental Advising:

• Dialogue rather than monologue.
• Student driven.
• There are “good” answers.
Case Study 1:

• Lack of Academic Progress
• Vignette 2: *Scenes for Learning and Reflection, Vol. 1*
So which is it?
Developmental vs. Teaching

• It’s Both.

• From Burns Crookston:
  • “(Advising) is concerned not only with a specific personal or vocational decision but also with facilitating the student's rational processes, environmental and interpersonal interactions, behavioral awareness, and problem-solving, decision-making, and evaluation skills. Not only are these advising functions but... they are essentially teaching functions as well.”

Advising Approaches

Advising as Teaching

- Lowenstein (2005): “If Advising is Teaching, What do Advisors Teach?”
- Madeline Hunter’s (1982) steps:
  - Determine student needs (determine learning objectives)
  - Set expectations
  - Focus student attention on the objectives
  - Provide information needed so student can meet objective
  - Model steps to be taken
  - Check for understanding
  - Guided practice
  - Independent practice
Connecting Theory to Practice Helps Students find their Way

- **Realistic** - practical, physical, hands-on, tool-oriented
- **Investigative** - analytical, intellectual, scientific, explorative
- **Artistic** - creative, original, independent, chaotic
- **Social** - cooperative, supporting, helping, healing/nurturing
- **Enterprising** - competitive environments, leadership, persuading
- **Conventional** - detail-oriented, organizing, clerical
Advising Approaches

Proactive Advising

- Robert Glennen (1975) Intrusive advising
- Strategies for connecting with students prior to problems developing (Varney, 2013)
  - Data mine to determine ‘high risk’ student characteristics
  - Develop relationships with students (Schlossberg’s theory of mattering – see glossary)
  - Determine student strengths and deficits
  - Create positive, personalized messages
  - Determine critical outreach points.
    - Reach out at intervals beginning at 3 weeks
    - Vary delivery methods (e.g., social media, email, etc.)
Advising Approaches

Strengths-based advising

• Schreiner (2013) Five Steps:
  • Identify Students’ Talents
  • Increase awareness of strengths
  • Envision future
  • Plan specific steps to reach goals
  • Apply students strengths to challenges

• Martin (2011) Self-assessment questionnaire
  • Connects Proactive & Strengths
  • Handout 6

Handout 4 & 6
Advising Approaches

Appreciative Advising

- Bloom, Hutson, & He (2013)
- Six Phases
  - Disarm
  - Discover
  - Dream
  - Design
  - Deliver
  - Don’t settle

Handout 4
Advising Approaches

Advising as Coaching

- McClellan, 2013
- Advising-as-Coaching questions used with active listening
  - Identify dreams/specific problems
  - Examine previous efforts
  - Brainstorm ideas/solutions
  - Goal setting & planning
  - Seek support
  - Implementation
  - Follow-up

Handout 7
Approaches Comparison

• Strengths-based:
  1. Identify Students’ Talents
  2. Increase awareness of strengths
  3. Envision future
  4. Plan specific steps to reach goals
  5. Apply students strengths to challenges

➤ Appreciative Advising:
  1. Disarm
  2. Discover
  3. Dream
  4. Design
  5. Deliver
  6. Don’t settle

➤ Advising-as-Coaching
  1. Identify dreams/specific problems
  2. Examine previous efforts
  3. Brainstorm ideas/solutions
  4. Goal setting & planning
  5. Seek support
  6. Implementation
  7. Follow-up
Case Study 2

Ali, a second-year student, asks her academic advisor, about withdrawing from school: “I’m really not doing well this term. It’s not the courses or the professors—I just don’t feel like I fit in. A few of my friends left after last year, and I haven’t really found any new ones. My new roommates are not really like me, so they kind of stick together by themselves. I’m not in any clubs or anything like that although I do work off campus. Also, my parents and I have spent lots of money, but I’m not sure it’s worth spending more if I’m not that interested. What do you think I should do?”

Future of Advising

• What do we see as trends in our students?
• What do we see as qualifications for advisors?
• Who shapes the decisions on your campus?
During this conference ... Who

- V. Tinto
- W. Habley
- V. Gordon
- P. Terrenzini
- J. Gardner
- G. Kuh
- J. Dewey

... Check your glossary
During this conference ... What

• Other theories that serve as a foundation for practice
• Other approaches
• Advising Models (who advises, how advising delivered)
• Predictive analytics / early alert software
• Completion Agenda/ Performance-based funding
So What?

Suggestions to manage this conference

• There is much more to learn -- choosing your conference sessions.
• Making the conference work for you – Executive Summary (Handout 1.8).
• How do you find out more when you are home?
Resources

What is the Clearinghouse?
Digitized in 2002, the Clearinghouse of Academic Advising Resources features member written articles on 250+ subjects and over 100 resource pages organized by topic and applicable to academic advising.

Search Tips
Keyword searching is available using the search box. You may need to try several combinations to achieve the results you want. For a general overview, visit the Clearinghouse Index to browse subject areas that provide access to articles and resources. You can also browse advising topics to access resource pages with popular links.

Contribute to the Clearinghouse
If you are interested in writing an article for the Clearinghouse, please see our writing guidelines.

Search Clearinghouse

View the full list here: Clearinghouse Index
If you are needing additional resources, vital information, or unable to find the information you are needing in your research, email clearinghouse@ksu.edu
Putting it together at home

• Video case studies
• Executive Summary
• Advisor Core Resource Library

Handout 8
Discussion

Contact:

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Please evaluate this session

Good Luck &
learn a lot at the conference!