

Ginny Kinne

Working in a state as big and broad as Alaska, it is not uncommon to work with students that are located thousands of miles away. As the Degree Completion advisor at UAF, I have a unique opportunity to work with students from very diverse educational backgrounds. These populations often include veterans, non-traditional, first-generation, academically challenged and rural students located in and outside of Alaska. Typically, I work with students who have either “stopped out” of university classes, or are unable to complete their original intended major. My job is to not only explore the many options available to them, but also help navigate re-entry, find a path toward completion and ultimately assist them until graduation. This is a perspective of Academic Advising that isn’t often faced by other advisors. I hope to bring this perspective to the Steering Committee and their work involving topics important to the region.

I have been a member of NACADA and involved continuously since 2008, whether it has been attending conferences, regionally and nationally, presenting at the 2010 Annual NACADA Conference or helping to plan the 2013 Region 8 conference in Anchorage, Alaska. The professional development, networking, ideas, research and readings available within the NACADA community have been invaluable to me as a growing professional in the academic advising profession.

I’m very much excited to increase my involvement in NACADA leadership by representing Alaska and helping to spread the word about the resources, knowledge and opportunity within the NACADA community. One thing I would like to do is put together an “Alaska NACADA listserv” to keep the state posted on NACADA news, important deadlines, ways to get involved and opportunities to share with colleagues around the state. My hope is also to get more involvement from the faculty academic advising community within NACADA as well.