

UAA 2024

May 15th and 16th, 2024
Dixie Convention Center, St. George, Utah



Welcome to UAA 2024

Dear Conference Attendees,

On behalf of the Utah Advising Association (UAA) Executive Committee and Governing Board, welcome to the 23rd annual UAA Conference in beautiful St. George, Utah! We look forward to this time each year when we come together as an advising community to share our expertise, socialize, build connections, and support one another.

We would like to thank those who submitted presentation proposals. So much of UAA's success each year is due to the hard work and expertise that presenters and attendees share with all of us. Also, thank you to all those who took the time to submit a scholarship application or advisor of the year portfolio. It is always a difficult task for the committee to select from the amazing submissions and applicants each year – advisors do amazing work! We know that advisors are very busy so we appreciate every submission and application and are grateful for your contributions.

It has been my pleasure to work with the incredible representatives from each of the 12 major colleges and universities in the state, including the Utah System of Technical Colleges, to organize the 2024 UAA Conference. Thank you to all the members of the UAA board for your hard work and dedication, this event would not have been possible without each of you.

Also, a very special thank you to all of our volunteers and presenters, we appreciate your time and talents. We would also like to thank and extend a warm welcome to our keynote speakers, Daneka Souberbielle and Dr. Roger K. Allen. We are excited to have you join us for this year's conference and look forward to each keynote address.

We hope this conference will introduce new tools and skills to incorporate into your advising practice and will provide you the opportunity to network with and learn from your colleagues across the state. We hope you enjoy spending time together throughout the conference and take advantage of exploring beautiful St. George.

Best,

Stephanie Begaye

University of Utah

2023-2024 Utah Advising Association President

UAA | Utah
Advising
Association

UAA 2024



Table of Contents

Welcome from the 2023-2024 UAA President.....	2
History and Mission Statement of the UAA.....	4
Presidents of the UAA.....	5
2023-2024 Governing Board.....	4
Schedule at a Glance.....	7-9
<u>Program Schedule: Day One</u>	
Keynote Speaker: Daneka Souberbielle.....	10
Session One: 9:40am-10:30am.....	12
Session Two: 10:40am-11:30am.....	13
Session Three: 11:40am-12:30pm.....	15
Session Four: 2:00pm-2:50pm.....	16
Session Five: 3:00pm-3:50pm.....	17
<u>Program Schedule: Day Two</u>	
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Roger K. Allen.....	18
Session Six: 9:40am-10:30am.....	20
Session Seven: 10:40am-11:30am.....	21
Session Eight: 11:40am-12:30pm.....	22
Service Project: Red Cross Blood Drive.....	23
Convention Map	24

History of the Utah Advising Association

The Utah Advising Association traces its origin back more than 30 years to what was known as the Utah Advising Conference. In the beginning, there were several advising administrators throughout the state that thought it would be nice to gather the advisors together from their institutions for a conference to discuss advising-related issues and network with each other.

Over time, this informal conference grew to include new student orientation and became a great tradition among Utah advising and orientation professionals who looked forward to gathering each year in Park City at the Yarrow Hotel. As the number of advisors grew throughout Utah and as nearly all of the original conference organizers had moved on, it became clear that something must be done to maintain this great tradition.

On September 30, 1999, those serving on the conference committee voted to officially organize the Utah Advising and Orientation Association (UAOA) and a set of bylaws were adopted that would ensure that the opportunities for advisors in Utah would continue. Due to evolving structures among the majority of Utah higher education institutions, the UAOA governing committee voted on September 27, 2013, to remove Orientation from the name of the organization to more accurately reflect those who participate. Advising in Utah has never been stronger, and it is through the strength and organization of the Utah Advising Association (UAA) that Utah has not only maintained a valuable advising tradition, but has also hosted acclaimed regional and national conferences for the National Academic Advising Association.

The key to success for the UAA has always been in the wonderful advisors located at the Colleges and Universities throughout the state. The knowledge and experience shared among these colleagues has truly been amazing and is sure to continue indefinitely as we gather together each year.

Mission of Utah Advising Association

The mission of the Utah Advising Association (UAA) is to provide professional development opportunities for college and university personnel who serve as a part of the academic advising community. The UAA also serves as a vehicle to promote collaboration between representatives of institutions throughout the state of Utah.

Presidents of the Utah Advising Association

2023-2024.....Stephanie Begaye, The University of Utah

2022-2023.....Erin Bergeron, Utah State University & Cara Wiley, Brigham Young University

2021-2022.....Erin Bergeron, Utah State University

2019-2021.....Daniel Jensen, Weber State University

2018-2019.....Cara Wiley, Brigham Young University

2016-2017.....Mayumi Kasai, The University of Utah

2015-2016.....Camille Gooch, Weber State University

2014-2015.....Katya Konkle, Southern Utah University

2013-2014.....Gale Larson, Brigham Young University

2012-2013.....Vicky Larsen, Utah State University

2011-2012.....Jennifer Wright, Weber State University

2010-2011.....Clint Moser, Utah Valley University

1999-2009.....See www.utahadvising.org for complete list

UAA 2024

UAA 2023 – 2024 Governing Board

President:

Stephanie Begaye

The University of Utah
stephanie.begaye@utah.edu

Past President:

Erin Bergeron (Co-President)
Utah State University

Cara Wiley (Co-President)
Brigham Young University
cara_wiley@byu.edu

UVU Administrative Representative:

Clint Moser
Utah Valley University
clint.moser@uvu.edu
(*non-voting member)

Secretary:

Paula Nishitani
Utah Valley University
paulan@uvu.edu
(*non-voting member)

Board Members:

Tyler Barber
Salt Lake Community College
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Julie Christensen
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Hannah Davis
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Kelly Schoppe
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Cara Wiley
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Conference at a Glance

Tuesday, May 14th

7:00pm-8:30pm= Registration and Check-In, North Lobby

Wednesday, May 15th

7:00am-4:00pm= Registration and Check-In, North Lobby

7:00am-4:00pm= Sponsor Exhibits, Ballroom Hallway

7:00am-8:15am= Breakfast, Ballroom ABCD

8:20am-8:30am= Welcome & Announcements, Stephanie Begaye, 2023-2024 UAA President

8:30am-9:25am= Keynote Speaker, Daneka Souberbielle

Session One

9:40am
to
10:30am

Building a Comprehensive Advisor Training Program: From Foundations to Digital Certification Using NACADA Core Competencies | Shelly Kotynek, Mykel Beorchia | Utah State University | (P) | Ballroom E

Building Habits that Foster Positive Results
Jordan Truex | Utah State University | (B,P,I) | Ballroom F

Combining Care and Data in Advising
Ezra Mintz-Fernandez, Shane Gunn | Utah Valley University | (A) | Entrada BC

It All Starts With Me
Julie Christensen, Angie Payan | Weber State University | (P) | Sunbrook AB

...Should I Get A Masters?
Rebecca-Danielle Harrington | Salt Lake Community College | (P,I) | Auditorium

Session Two

10:40am
to
11:30am

Peeling Back the Layers: Discover the Core of the Student Issue
Daniel Dearden, Angela Palmer | Brigham Young University | (B,T,A,I) | Ballroom E

Queer Advising 3000: Supporting LGBTQIA+ Students as a NACADA Core Value
Amanda Feld, Richard Campos | Weber State University | (T,I) | Ballroom F

Paris, the Islands, or Zoom... Connecting Beyond the Office | Craig Lewis, Alexis Taeatafa, Noaese Taeatafa | Southern Utah University | (P,A) | Entrada BC

Students Using Atomic Habits Can Experience Nuclear Results
Melanie Burton | Brigham Young University | (B,T,P,I) | Sunbrook AB

Prioritizing the Adult Learner Experience
Wade Oliver, Kaitlyn Russell | Utah Valley University | (B) | Auditorium

Session Three

11:40am
to
12:30pm

As If: Can You Even Like Build a Relationship Through Texting?
Ashley Graham | Utah Valley University | (B,P,I) | Ballroom E

Pathways: A Revolutionary Approach to Academic Exploration | Shae Barber, Helaman Salas Hernandez, Kayla Havens | Westminster University | (A) | Ballroom F

Pre-Arrival Mentoring: Engaging with First Year Students from the Moment of Acceptance
Anjilee Ferguson, Rachel Liljenquist | Brigham Young University | (B,I) | Entrada BC

Supporting International Students: The Practice of Cultural Sensitivity
Miles Thacker | University of Utah | (T,P,A) | Sunbrook AB

SPONSOR SESSION: When Should You Consider Online Courses for Your Students?
John Kent | BYU Independent Study | Auditorium

Lunch, Advisor of the Year Award & Prizes: 12:30pm-1:50pm



Best Practices



Theory-Based



Interactive



Advising Models



Personal Development

Conference at a Glance

Wednesday, May 15th

Session Four

2:00pm
to
2:50pm

Navigating Diversity: Inclusive (and Legal) Academic Advising Practices in Utah
Lisa Giguere, Angela Baxter | Brigham Young University | (B,A) | Ballroom E

Supporting Students' Success & Well-Being: The Role of Mental Health First Aid in Academic Advising | Bryan Walker | Brigham Young University | (P) | Ballroom F

Doing Dignity & Demystifying Difficult Discussions
Katie Armstrong, Ami Comeford | Utah Tech University | (P) | Entrada BC

Life Lessons From Wrestling and How to Apply them to Academic Advising
Nick Bonomo | Utah State University | (T,P,A) | Sunbrook AB

Navigating Success: Insights and Strategies for Student Engagement and Retention
Lauren Bustamante, Kelsie Richards | University of Utah | (B) | Auditorium

Session Five

3:00pm
to
3:50pm

An Associate Degree: Who gets those anymore? Are they even worth applying for?
Jonathan Morrell | Utah Tech University | (B,A) | Ballroom e

Strategic Empowerment: Interactive Advisement for Student Resilience
Nancy McLean | Brigham Young University | (P) | Ballroom F

Empowering Futures: Cultivating Self-Efficacy in Graduation Planning
Nikki Dang | Utah Tech University | (B,T,A) | Entrada BC

Take Flight: Aviation-Inspired Lessons for Academic Advisors
Kaylee Roholt, Lisa Hunsaker | Utah State University | (B,P,I) | Sunbrook AB

Transactional vs Relational: Building Stronger Relationships (with the help of Pixar)
Jared Wilcken, Tina Calamity | Southern Utah University | (T,P,A,I) | Auditorium

Enjoy Dinner on Your Own



Best Practices



Theory-Based



Interactive



Advising Models



Personal Development

Conference at a Glance

Thursday, May 16th

7:00am-12:00pm= Registration and Check-In, North Lobby

7:00am-11:00am= Sponsor Exhibits, Ballroom Hallway

7:00am-8:15am= Breakfast, Ballroom ABCD

8:20am-8:30am= Welcome & Announcements, Stephanie Begaye, 2023-2024 UAA President

8:30am-9:25am= Keynote Speaker, Dr. Roger K. Allen

Session Six	9:40am to 10:30am	Building Bridges: The Vital Role of Academic Advisors in Cultivating Student-Faculty Bonds Sanja Pantovic Utah Tech University (B,P,A) Ballroom E
		Creating & Achieving Unit & Personal Goals: Co-creating the Vision, Focusing on the Unique Role of Each Team Member, etc. Mykel Beorchia, Shelly Kotynek Utah State University (T) Ballroom F
		EmpowHERing Women to Thrive in STEM Monica Eastman, Brooke Anderson, Jana Featherstone Brigham Young University (B,T,I) Entrada BC
		Preparing for Takeoff: Design, Deliver, and Don't Settle Rachel Terry, Emily Emerick, Becca Weidner Utah Valley University, Brigham Young University (B,T,A) Sunbrook AB
		Traffic Jam: What We Can Learn About Advising from Our Morning Commute Cyri Dixon University of Utah (P,I) Auditorium
Session Seven	10:40am to 11:30am	Creating Connection and Scholarship Through A Common Read Deborah Decker, Lindsay Dunn, RonJai Staton Utah Tech University (B,P,I) Ballroom E
		The Gains-Based Advising Edge Sarah L Cook Brigham Young University (B,T,P,A,I) Ballroom F
		Happily Ever After...or Not? Navigating Difficult Personalities in your Fairytale Workplace Tressa M. Haderlie, Laura J Holley Utah State University (P) Entrada BC
		Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders: Highlighting the Impacts of Student Peer-to-Peer Mentoring, etc. Nicholas F., Genesis V., Victor B., Emily R., Jackson A. Weber State University (B,T) Sunbrook AB
		Barriers to Student Success Tiffany Evans Utah Valley University (P,I) Auditorium
Session Eight	11:40am to 12:30pm	Advising the Fully Online Student: Navigating Challenges and Maximizing Success Clint Moser, Shalece Nuttall Utah Valley University (B,A) Ballroom E
		Words Matter: The Art of Empowering Language Kaylee Roholt, Randa Alvord Utah State University, Brigham Young University (B,P,I) Ballroom F
		Academic Advising the Disney Way: How to Bring the Magic of Disney to Academic Advising Mark Campbell University of Utah (B,P,A) Entrada BC
		The Artful Advisor: Mastering the Craft of Connection Andrea C., Clark S., Deanna P., Kristy G. John-David S. Utah Valley University (B,A) Sunbrook AB
		SPONSOR SESSION: USU MBA: Leadership Shelby Kennedy, Nancy Glomb Utah State MBA Auditorium

Lunch, Door Prizes, & Conclusion: 12:30pm-2:00pm

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Keynote Speaker**Daneka Souberbielle**
Southern Utah University

Daneka Souberbielle, currently the Vice President for Community Outreach & Engagement and Chief Inclusion Officer at Southern Utah University, is an inclusion strategist and facilitator. With a master's degree in Sociology from Brigham Young University and a BA in Psychology from the University of Michigan, Daneka has conducted training sessions, workshops, and delivered conference keynotes to over 1,000 individuals. She has also overseen inclusion and equity programs benefiting more than 3,000 first-generation, multicultural, international, LGBTQ+, and veteran students.

Beyond her professional life, she is a devoted wife and mother. In her scarce free time, she nurtures the Southern Utah Institute for Inclusion & Civil Discourse, fostering critical conversations in Southern Utah.

Day 1: Wednesday, May 15th

Session One: 9:40am–10:30am

Building an Advisor Training Program: From Foundations to Digital Certification Using NACADA Core Competencies

Shelly Kotynek, Mykel Beorchia | Utah State University | (P) | Ballroom E

A holistic advisor training and professional development program must meet the needs of new advisors beginning their practice and the continued growth of seasoned advisors. From this complex challenge, the University Advising Academy was created. The Academy provides training on foundational competencies for new advisors and continues to support advisors throughout their careers with a yearly digital badging and certification program. This program is designed to motivate and engage the advising community in ongoing professional development to improve practice and stay current on trends in higher education.

Building Habits that Foster Positive Results

Jordan Truex | Utah State University | (B,P,I) | Ballroom F

'Sow a thought, reap an action; sow an action, reap a habit; sow a habit, reap a character; sow a character, reap a destiny.' This session will outline habits that can increase productivity and effectiveness that with implementation of best practices, can strengthen student advising interactions, build meaningful student, faculty, and interdepartmental relationships, and fortify a healthy work-life balance that produces positive results. Building on NACADA Core Values and the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People in this process, you will find ways to make your process the most meaningful and effective for your individual advising practice, fostering results of increased retention, stronger student-advisor relationships, and successful departmental relationships.

This interactive session will include personal reflection, group discussion, and hands-on activities.

Combining Care and Data in Advising

Ezra Mintz-Fernandez, Shane Gunn | Utah Valley University | (A) | Entrada BC

As academic advisors, we stand at a crossroads. The roles we play extend beyond course selection; we are guides, mentors, advocates, coaches, cheerleaders, and more! As our society and our student populations rapidly change, developing an ability to use data-informed practices while still connecting with students as individuals is crucial. This session will advocate for a dual approach to academic advising—one that harnesses the power of data while preserving the human touch.

It All Starts With Me

Julie Christensen, Angie Payan | Weber State University | (P) | Sunbrook AB

As academic advisors, we stand at a crossroads. The roles we play extend beyond course selection; we are guides, mentors, advocates, coaches, cheerleaders, and more! As our society and our student populations rapidly change, developing an ability to use data-informed practices while still connecting with students as individuals is crucial. This session will advocate for a dual approach to academic advising—one that harnesses the power of data while preserving the human touch.

...Should I Get A Masters?

Rebecca-Danielle Harrington | Salt Lake Community College | (P,I) | Auditorium

Do you feel stagnant in your line of work? Are you in the middle of a mid-life crisis? Are you looking for career advancement in Academic Advising but not quite sure how to get there? Do you catch yourself asking the age old question "...Should I get a master's degree?". Come join this open forum where we will be discussing all the reasons why you should (or shouldn't) pursue a master's degree as an academic advisor. Advisors of all education backgrounds are welcome!

Day 1: Wednesday, May 15th

Session Two: 10:40am–11:30am

Peeling Back the Layers: Discover the Core of the Student Issue

Daniel Dearden, Angela Palmer | Brigham Young University | (B,T,A,I) | Ballroom E

Academic advisors often find themselves approached by a student seeking insight to resolve a concern. Unfortunately, a student's proposed problem is often the result of one or more underlying issues. This session will encourage participants to shift their perspective as they learn to relish peeling back the layers of a student issue. Approaches for interpersonal engagement will be taught and discussed using case examples. Application to professional experiences will be encouraged in a discussion format. Participants will walk away from this session with a list of interpersonal skills to implement in their advising practice.

Queer Advising 3000: Supporting LGBTQIA+ Students as a NACADA Core Value

Amanda Feld, Richard Campos | Weber State University | (T,I) | Ballroom F

College students are tasked with dramatic developmental challenges (Moseley, Ford, Wilkins, 2020). For some students, LGBTQIA+ identity can be an additional identity to mediate in emerging adulthood, impacting students academically, socially, and personally, while in the college environment (Hoffshire & Campbell, 2019). "Academic advisors honor the inherent value of all students" (NACADA 2017), making it our duty and privilege to respect students from the LGBTQIA+ community. Come to this session to learn how to best understand and support queer students as academic advisors, from the perspective of advisors in the LGBTQIA+ community.

Paris, the Islands, or Zoom... Connecting Beyond the Office

Craig Lewis, Alexis Taeatafa, Noaese Taeatafa | Southern Utah University | (P,A) | Entrada BC

Am I a ghost? A figment of your imagination? A blank face behind an advising door? No! I am a person who has dreams and enjoys life. Utilizing the social penetration theory as well as an understanding that having a strong connection with students assists in persistence, Southern Utah University advisors are experiencing the bonds and benefits of advising outside of the office through various experiences. From Paris, to the Pacific... From zoom to the office, SUU students are realizing that advisors are more than just another staff member, they are people who share joy and experiences with their students. Join us as we take a look at ways to connect beyond advising appointments.

Students Using Atomic Habits Can Experience Nuclear Results

Melanie Burton | Brigham Young University | (B,T,P,I) | Sunbrook AB

Effective and sustainable habits pave the way for college students to stretch themselves and rise to new heights of exponential personal growth, success, and self-actualization. Many of us find keeping goals and cementing habits long-term to be elusive, a frustrating and discouraging pipe dream. Based on specific ideas and strategies from the Atomic Habits program by James Clear, we will discuss how we as advisors can assist students to set and keep powerful academic and life goals. Tailoring and implementing the Atomic Habits principles and strategies both in our classrooms and advising appointments can transform the college experience; setting the stage for greater confidence and student-persistence in the face of barriers.

Prioritizing the Adult Learner Experience

Wade Oliver, Kaitlyn Russell | Utah Valley University | (B) | Auditorium

Jacobs & Hundley (2010) described adult learners as, "individuals who are typically over the age of twenty-five or who occupy social roles that would otherwise signal adulthood." Due to life circumstances and the fact that traditional higher education institutions are often not organized with the adult learner in mind, these students face barriers to success. This session will address several aspects of the adult learner experience including why they are important to institutions, their need to balance personal responsibilities with college demands, the importance of accessible resources and structures throughout their experience, and how Utah Valley University is offering support.

Day 1: Wednesday, May 15th

Session Three: 11:40am–12:30pm

As If: Can You Even Like Build a Relationship Through Texting?

Ashley Graham | Utah Valley University | (B,P,I) | Ballroom E

While many advisors feel clueless about how to use texting in their advising practice, this session will explore why we might we choose to implement individualized text messages, consider the benefits of communicating through text messages, and discuss some best practices for the future. By choosing to focus on one mode of communication, we will be able to dive into the different constraints and freedoms unique to texting. Through interpersonal communication and higher education research, advisor testimonials and experiences, and multiple case studies, we'll explore how to build relationships with our students through text messages. Don't 4get ur phone!

Pathways: A Revolutionary Approach to Academic Exploration

Shae Barber, Helaman Salas Hernandez, Kayla Havens | Westminster University | (A) | Ballroom F

Many students feel overwhelmed at the start of their college experience, especially when it comes to choosing a major. Westminster's Pathways were developed as the first step in a student's exploratory journey. Instead of choosing a major of interest, incoming students select a Pathway. Pathways do not limit any future decisions but are designed to help open possibilities; they are about the student's "why," not their "what." Once a student has selected their Pathway, they can use it to help them through course selection, provide an entry point to major exploration, guide them towards activities and events relevant to their interests, and find communities on campus. Pathways help create a comfortable environment to explore and ultimately lead students to feel more confident in the major they choose to declare.

Pre-Arrival Mentoring: Engaging with First Year Students from the Moment of Acceptance

Anjilee Ferguson, Rachel Liljenquist | Brigham Young University | (B,I) | Entrada BC

Are your first year students not feeling prepared to start college? Are they struggling to feel like they belong at your institution when they arrive? Would you like more student engagement in your program? The needs of incoming students are changing and we as universities need to adapt to help them. At BYU, we have created a Pre-Arrival Program to help address these challenges by creating a high-touch, modified plan that speaks to first year students' needs. Starting a week after they are accepted to our institution, they are assigned an individual peer mentor who reaches out to them via text to answer questions, give announcements/reminders for how to get started, and engage in meaningful conversation and reflection about the transition to college. By contacting them frequently and individually using contact methods they are more likely to use themselves, we have seen huge improvements for the mentoring office as a whole. Come hear about how we do it!

Supporting International Students: The Practice of Cultural Sensitivity

Miles Thacker | University of Utah | (T,P,A) | Sunbrook AB

With a growing number of international students entering the U.S., we will take a closer look at how academic advisors can identify cultural gaps that may cause misunderstandings among international students and apply strategies to help support our international student arrivals navigate the academic system in the U.S. We will delve into reasons why international students choose to study in U.S. universities, current trends of international student placement, and how to incorporate culturally sensitive practices to support these students on their journey.

Sponsor Session: When Should You Consider Online Courses for Your Students?

John Kent | BYU Independent Study | Auditorium

BYU Independent Study offers over 200 fully accredited and transferable online university courses. Students have the freedom to begin and finish at their own pace, with up to a full year to complete each course. With free tutoring and affordable tuition, BYU Independent Study is a great option for students who need just that – options.

Lunch Time: 12:30pm–2:00pm

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Day 1: Wednesday, May 15th

Session Four: 2:00pm–2:50pm

Navigating Diversity: Inclusive (and Legal) Academic Advising Practices in Utah

Lisa Giguere, Angela Baxter | Brigham Young University | (B,A) | Ballroom E

In today's diverse educational landscape, academic advisors play a crucial role in guiding students from various racial, religious, cultural, and other identity backgrounds towards success. Compliance with Utah HB 261 is essential to ensure that advising practices remain inclusive and legally sound. This presentation will explore strategies for advising students inclusively and in accordance with HB 261. It emphasizes the importance of understanding and respecting the unique experiences and perspectives of each student, while also adhering to legal guidelines. By fostering an environment of inclusivity, advisors can effectively support students from all backgrounds on their academic journeys, ultimately promoting equity and success for all.

Supporting Students' Success & Well-Being: The Role of Mental Health First Aid in Academic Advising

Bryan Walker | Brigham Young University | (P) | Ballroom F

With the pervasiveness of mental-health issues on campuses reaching historic levels, and on-campus counseling centers struggling to keep up with the demand, advisors often become first responders for students experiencing a mental health crisis. Come learn some of the National Council for Mental Wellbeing's basic Mental Health First Aid skills. Just as CPR helps you assist an individual having a heart attack, Mental Health First Aid helps you assist someone experiencing a mental health crisis. Come learn how to better identify, understand, and respond to these mental health challenge situations.

Doing Dignity & Demystifying Difficult Discussions

Katie Armstrong, Ami Comeford | Utah Tech University | (P) | Entrada BC

As Donna Hicks, a conflict-resolution researcher, outlines in her book *Leading with Dignity*, we "all, regardless of position in the organization or in our personal lives, want to be treated in a way that shows we matter." As academic advisors and higher education professionals, and in the work we do with students and colleagues, it is crucial to understand the differences between dignity and respect, the power of dignity overall, how we honor dignity, and how we can violate others' dignity. Citing the work of Hicks and other conflict management professionals, this personal development session will outline the ten elements of dignity, the ten temptations to violate dignity, and how the concept of dignity relates to conflict and having difficult discussions, along with steps to having productive conversations.

Life Lessons From Wrestling and How to Apply them to Academic Advising

Nick Bonomo | Utah State University | (T, P, A) | Sunbrook AB

We will explore ways to connect our own personal stories and experiences to Disarm, Discover and Dream with our students. The presenter's experience with college wrestling sets the stage for discussing ways to recover from mistakes and turn those challenges into a win-learn process. Lessons from college athletics including time management, goal setting, building confidence, and incorporating fun give students the tools to thrive on campus.

Navigating Success: Insights and Strategies for Student Engagement and Retention

Lauren Bustamante, Kelsie Richards | University of Utah | (B) | Auditorium

"Navigating Success: Insights and Strategies for Student Engagement and Retention" explores the impact of themed events and resource fairs on student development within the College of Science at The University of Utah. This presentation sheds light on retention initiatives in the College of Science, emphasizing a balanced approach for both incoming freshmen and transfer students. Participants will walk away with strategic recommendations that focus on belonging, targeted engagement, and continuous improvement and use of support services.

Day 1: Wednesday, May 15th

Session Five: 3:00pm–3:50pm

An Associate Degree: Who gets those anymore? Are they even worth applying for?

Jonathan Morrell | Utah Tech University | (B,A) | Ballroom E

This session will examine the TREND to bypass associate degrees and focus on earning a bachelor degree. This presentation will show data from the Utah Tech University Student Support Services cohort study from 1993 until 2022 using university records, transcripts and information from the National Clearing House to show the advantages and impact of earning an associate degree for first generation, low income and/or disabled students. The presentation will show the percentages of students who complete an AS, then moving to a BS and then graduate level, thus demonstrating the value of earning an AS that leads to more advanced degrees. The presentation will also detail how students who select a major their first year and then work on completion associate degree electives that include major requirement will graduate in four years.

Strategic Empowerment: Interactive Advisement for Student Resilience

Nancy McLean | Brigham Young University | (P) | Ballroom F

"Strategic Empowerment: Interactive Advisement for Student Resilience" offers an innovative approach to academic advisement, focusing on equipping students with the skills necessary to navigate their educational and personal challenges with confidence. This session highlights the importance of intuitive decision-making, embracing personal identity, and leveraging networks in achieving academic success. Attendees will explore interactive strategies that foster resilience, encourage personal growth, and align students' academic paths with their career aspirations. Designed for advisors seeking to empower students in a rapidly changing world, this presentation introduces practical tools and methodologies that facilitate a more engaged, personalized advisement experience.

Empowering Futures: Cultivating Self-Efficacy in Graduation Planning

Nikki Dang | Utah Tech University | (B,T,A) | Entrada BC

This presentation introduces a transformative course designed to enhance students' self-efficacy in navigating the complex landscape of graduation planning. Focused on empowering learners with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to take control of their academic journey, this course curriculum familiarizes students with a multitude of resources that have always been accessible, albeit not always apparent. Through strategic career exploration, knowledge sharing, and mentorship, students will develop a proactive mindset, fostering a sense of agency and responsibility in their educational trajectory. By addressing key challenges such as course order, credit tracking, and post-graduation planning, this course aims to equip students with the tools needed to make informed decisions about their academic journey, ultimately equipping them with the knowledge and resources to make well-informed decisions and empowering their evolution into competitive job candidates.

Take Flight: Aviation-Inspired Lessons for Academic Advisors

Kaylee Roholt, Lisa Hunsaker | Utah State University | (B,P,I) | Sunbrook AB

Delve into the parallels between aviation practices and effective advising strategies. Join two aviation advisors who will share valuable lessons drawn from the world of aviation. Don't miss this opportunity to gain fresh insights and elevate your approach to guiding students towards their academic and personal goals. Unlock the potential of aviation wisdom to transform your advising practice and empower student success.

Transactional vs Relational: Building Stronger Relationships (with the help of Pixar)

Jared Wilcken, Tina Calamity | Southern Utah University | (T,P,A,I) | Auditorium

In May of 2023, the US Surgeon General warned against a new epidemic - loneliness. The cure? Social connection! As advisors, we know our students are struggling with mental health challenges more than ever before, and we know that social connection can move the needle. In this presentation, we'll learn how to turn transactional appointments into meaningful relationships by studying some of the expert relationship examples that we find in our favorite Pixar movies (and that are backed by research in self-disclosure). In this session, you'll laugh, cry, and walk away with real world strategies to strengthen your relationships as you navigate social connection and self-disclosure.

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Keynote Speaker**Dr. Roger K. Allen****Author, Consultant, Executive Coach, Teacher**

Dr. Roger K. Allen, Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology, is a pioneer in human development and leadership. He co-founded The Human Development Institute (1980-1992) in Denver, offering innovative programs for interpersonal growth. Later, he co-founded the Center for Organizational Design (1992-2015) in Littleton, consulting for notable companies like AT&T Capital and Procter & Gamble. With partner Preston Pond, he's trained over 1,500 global consultants.

Currently residing in Cedar City, Utah since 2017, Dr. Allen focuses on writing and teaching on personal and relationship development, notably as a top Udemy instructor. He and his wife Judy have 4 children and 15 grandchildren. In his free time, he enjoys hiking, skiing, and running mountain trails.

Day 2: Thursday, May 16th

Session Six: 9:40am–10:30am

Building Bridges: The Vital Role of Academic Advisors in Cultivating Student-Faculty Bonds

Sanja Pantovic | Utah Tech University | (B,P,A) | Ballroom E

Student-faculty communication and collaboration significantly impact students' academic experience and success, and academic advisors play a crucial role in nurturing these relationships. Advisors often ask, "Have you talked with your professor about that yet?" recognizing that students sometimes feel intimidated or unskilled to approach their professors. This session aims to equip advisors with strategies to help students feel confident initiating and maintaining meaningful interactions with faculty. Through case studies and examples of effective advising practices, participants will learn strategies for fostering student-faculty connections. We will explore how advisors can challenge students' perceptions of faculty, encourage productive conversations, and provide students with the tools for successful engagement. Attendees will be encouraged to share their experiences and best practices in helping students develop relationships with faculty.

Creating & Achieving Unit & Personal Goals: Co-creating the Vision, Focusing on the Unique Role of Each Team Member, etc.

Mykel Beorchia, Shelly Kotynek | Utah State University | (T) | Ballroom F

How can advising administrators create environments where individuals and teams optimize opportunities for achieving unit and personal goals? In this session, presenters and participants will prepare to lead teams through co-creating a vision, focusing on the unique role of each team member, and developing clear expectations. The framework anchoring the presentation is Appreciative Administration, the aspirational practice of establishing trusting relationships, achieving personal and organizational goals, and engaging in positive restlessness (Bloom & McClellan, 2016; Elsberry, 2022; Elsberry et al., 2023). Throughout the presentation, participants can create the skeleton of an annual plan with strategies for working with and through teams to bring the plan to life.

EmpowHERing Women to Thrive in STEM

Monica Eastman, Brooke Anderson, Jana Featherstone | Brigham Young University | (B,T,I) | Entrada BC

Have you wished you could do something to encourage female students to contribute their unique skills and perspectives to the STEM fields? We will explore effective strategies for overcoming barriers that hinder women in the STEM field. From dismantling ingrained stereotypes to bolstering self-efficacy, academic advisors will strive to gain valuable insights into how we can empower women and encourage them to pursue successful STEM careers. This session will delve into the complexities that women face. Participants will collaborate and share practical strategies to foster a more inclusive and diverse STEM landscape. Discover the pivotal role of academic advising in reshaping the narrative and cultivating an inclusive environment where every aspiring woman can not only survive but also ultimately thrive in their contributions to their chosen STEM discipline.

Preparing for Takeoff: Design, Deliver, and Don't Settle

Rachel Terry, Emily Emerick, Becca Weidner | Utah Valley University, Brigham Young University | (B,T,A) | Sunbrook AB

How do you get past the Dream phase of Appreciative Advising? It's easy to share passion and excitement in the moment, but how do you get traction on student goals and plans? In this engaging and energetic session, we will delve into the Design, Deliver, and Don't Settle phases of Appreciative Advising, equipping advisors with the tools to guide students effectively. By fostering collaborative goal-setting and offering ongoing support, advisors can empower students to navigate challenges and realize their full potential. Through practical examples and real-life scenarios, we will troubleshoot obstacles and provide actionable strategies to help students bridge the gap between aspiration and achievement.

Traffic Jam: What We Can Learn About Advising from Our Morning Commute

Cyri Dixon | University of Utah | (P,I) | Auditorium

Have you ever been stuck in traffic, wanting to get through it sooner? Have you ever been frustrated by drivers not using their turn signal? As an advisor, have you ever wished you had more communication? Have you ever wondered the influence you can have in a position of limited power? In this fun interactive session of Traffic Jam, we will learn how communication and perspective can affect challenges, reflect on our advising practices, and work together toward a common goal in a low impact activity.

Day 2: Thursday, May 16th

Session Seven: 10:40am–11:30am

Creating Connection and Scholarship Through A Common Read

Deborah Decker, Lindsay Dunn, RonJai Staton | Utah Tech University | (P) | Ballroom E

"We read to know we're not alone." — William Nicholson In a world marked by increasing polarization and division, fostering a sense of community and shared understanding is more critical than ever. One powerful tool for achieving this is the implementation of a Common Read program within an advising team. This session seeks to explore the manifold benefits of such initiatives, ranging from fostering empathy and understanding to promoting critical thinking and dialogue. Participants will be given several examples of common reads and the associated activities that have been used at Utah Tech, a chance to brainstorm ideas of how this could work on their teams, and examples of roadblocks to look out for.

The Gains-Based Advising Edge

Sarah L Cook | Brigham Young University | (B,T,P,A,I) | Ballroom F

The Gains-based coaching approach in advising helps advisors and students shift perspectives and empowers students to appreciate their growth journey. "The Gap" represents the perceived distance between students and their academic or life goals. Conversely, "The Gain" focuses on students' progress relative to their past achievements. These concepts serve as powerful lenses to enhance academic advising practices.

In the dynamic landscape of higher education, academic advising plays a pivotal role in shaping students' trajectories toward success. This interactive presentation delves into the critical importance of Gains-based advising and introduces the groundbreaking work of Dan Sullivan and Dr. Benjamin Hardy.

Case studies and student success stories make this presentation come to life for attendees and interactive opportunities for attendees will leave them feeling confident to try Gains-based advising approaches with advisees and colleagues.

Happily Ever After...or Not? Navigating Difficult Personalities in your Fairytale Workplace

Tressa M. Haderlie, Laura J Holley | Utah State University | (P) | Entrada BC

Ever felt like your workplace resembles a classic fairytale, but with a villainous twist? From the grumpy trolls under the bridge (negative colleagues) to the sly wolves in sheep's clothing (manipulators), navigating difficult personalities can feel like an insurmountable quest. This presentation offers a captivating journey through common workplace archetypes, drawing inspiration from well-known fairytales.

Through interactive storytelling and practical strategies, participants will:

Identify the "Big Bads" of the office: Recognize personalities like the critical queen, the gossip witch, and the lazy ogre.

Develop coping mechanisms: Learn how to build resilience, set boundaries, and communicate effectively with challenging colleagues.

Craft your happily ever after: Discover strategies to foster a more positive and productive work environment for everyone.

This engaging session will equip you with the tools to transform your own workplace fairytale, ensuring a more collaborative and fulfilling happily ever after for yourself and your colleagues.

Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders: Highlighting the Impacts of Student Peer-to-Peer Mentoring, etc.

Nicholas Ferre, Genesis Vasquez, Emily Rupp, Jackson Anderson | Weber State University | (B,T) | Sunbrook AB

Mentorship is a critical component in student development and success. Most institutions implement two main types of mentoring programs: hierarchical and peer mentoring. In addition to facilitating relationships with faculty, staff, and student organizations. Positive outcomes can be influenced by mentorship programs from mentorship and faculty relationships from both mentee and mentor. This session will be highlighting the guiding research used to create and support the application of traditional and peer mentoring programs within the College of Social and Behavioral Science. Additionally, we will be highlighting best practices; program funding options, impactful unique student development experiences, and interdisciplinary department collaborations and partnerships.

Barriers to Student Success

Tiffany Evans | Utah Valley University | (P,I) | Auditorium

Join us for an insightful exploration into dismantling obstacles hindering student progress and effecting tangible improvements! Engage in an enriching experience aimed at enhancing the quality of student life by gaining a profound understanding of the barriers and hurdles students face. Discover effective problem-solving strategies that arise from a comprehensive awareness of the challenges students encounter. Your active participation is key to driving meaningful change!

Day 2: Thursday, May 16th

Session Eight: 11:40am–12:30pm

Advising the Fully Online Student: Navigating Challenges and Maximizing Success

Clint Moser, Shalece Nuttall | Utah Valley University | (B,A) | Ballroom E

This session delves into the nuanced realm of advising fully online students, offering strategies to address unique challenges and enhance student support. Attendees will explore tailored advising approaches, leveraging technology, and fostering meaningful engagement in virtual environments. The presentation emphasizes proactive measures to promote student retention, satisfaction, and academic achievement in the online setting. Practical insights and best practices will be shared to empower advisors in guiding online learners towards their educational goals effectively.

Words Matter: The Art of Empowering Language

Kaylee Roholt, Randa Alvord | Utah State University, Brigham Young University | (B,P,I) | Ballroom F

We all communicate and often encounter times when we must have critical conversations with others. Let's rise to the challenge! Join two seasoned advisors as we examine best practices in using praise and psychologically attuned messages to cultivate hope and motivation. We will explore ways to help both students and colleagues feel supported, rather than crushed and ashamed. In this interactive presentation, you will gain ideas to enhance your communication skills to improve relationships, enhancing everyone's overall well-being.

Academic Advising the Disney Way: How to Bring the Magic of Disney to Academic Advising

Mark Campbell | University of Utah | (B,P,A) | Entrada BC

The Walt Disney Company is one of the most successful businesses ever! But how did they do it? By following the dream of the great storyteller and innovator Walt Disney and this simple phrase: "Dream beyond the boundaries of today, believe in sound values, dare to make a difference, and then just go out and do it: Dream, Believe, Dare, Do". I will take this phrase, other aspects from the Walt Disney Company, and the six phases from Appreciative Advising to explain how they can be applied to the Wonderful World of Academic Advising. This approach will give advisors additional tools that they can put into their toolbox to further help students be successful on their academic journey and beyond!

The Artful Advisor: Mastering the Craft of Connection

Andrea Calaway, Clark Slater, Deanna Pitts, Kristy Giles, John-David Sorensen | Utah Valley University | (B,A) | Sunbrook AB

Academic advising is more than just a checklist of tasks; it's an art form. As advisors, we weave together empathy, expertise, and innovation to create meaningful connections with our students. In The Artful Advisor: Mastering the Craft of Connection, we will explore practical strategies and creative approaches that elevate advising from mundane to masterful. Join us as we share key aspects of connection that are important to our team: navigating pathways through career advising, enhancing student engagement by leveraging technology, crafting effective emails, building trust and rapport with students, and designing spaces for connection. This session will provide valuable insights and actionable takeaways. Together, we'll elevate academic advising to new heights!

Sponsor Session: USU MBA: Leadership

Shelby Kennedy, Nancy Glomb | Utah State MBA | Auditorium

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Lunch, Door Prizes & Conclusion: 12:30pm–2:00pm

Meet w/ Advisor Friday 2:30

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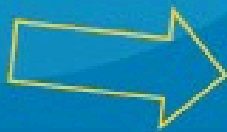
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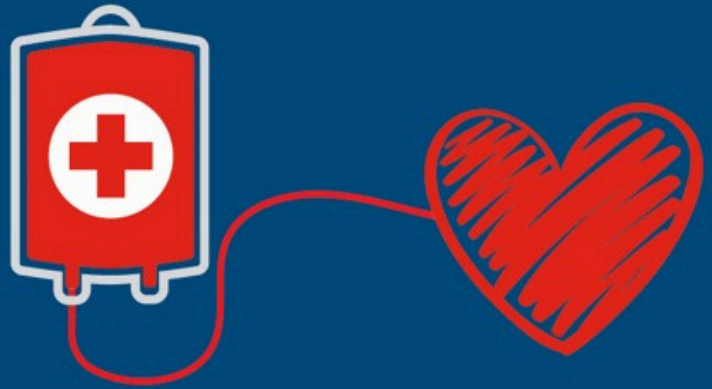


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