From the Director

by Karen Hauschild

Greetings CofC Colleagues,

The Academic Advising and Planning Center is excited to launch the first edition of our newsletter for our campus colleagues and partners. Inside you’ll find information about our newest addition to our staff: our Peer Advisors; the fall Majors Fair and information about NACADA’s regional advising conference, which is being held right here in Charleston, and other important initiatives. As our campus’s focus on retention continues to be at the forefront, we think it is important to share advising related programs that not only contribute to that effort, but also arm you as both formal and informal advisors in your departments to help students on their journey to graduation.

If you are interested in further developing your advising knowledge and skill set, you’ll want to be sure to look for an announcement soon about our Faculty Academy offerings for spring 2018. The Faculty Academy is a discussion-based advising development experience focused on advising related-topics. Any faculty, whether seasoned or new to campus, are welcome to participate. This is a great opportunity to learn about the art of advising, its nuances, and how to best serve students in this role.

As always, we are a resource for you. Don’t hesitate to give us a call if you have any questions about how to best advise your students.
NACADA is an association of professional advisors, counselors, faculty, administrators, and students working to enhance the educational development of students. NACADA promotes and supports quality academic advising in institutions of higher education to enhance the educational development of students. NACADA provides a forum for discussion, debate, and the exchange of ideas pertaining to academic advising through numerous activities and publications. NACADA also serves as an advocate for effective academic advising by providing a Consulting and Speaker Service, an Awards Program, and funding for Research related to academic advising.

NACADA evolved from the first National Conference on Academic Advising in 1977 and has over 12,000 members representing all 50 United States, Puerto Rico, Canada, and several other international countries. Members represent higher education institutions across the spectrum of Carnegie classifications and include professional advisors/counselors, faculty, administrators and students whose responsibilities include academic advising. NACADA is divided into 10 regions. College of Charleston is in Region 3. All employees of the Academic Advising and Planning Center are members of NACADA.

NACADA has been actively involved in CAS since 1981 and abides by CAS standards.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Clearinghouse
NACADA Store
The NACADA Journal
Academic Advising Today

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2017-2018 CofC NACADA Award Winners

The College of Charleston has 5 consecutive years of recognition for excellence in advising from NACADA.

- **2018 Region 3 award winners:**
  - Erin Beutel, Department of Geology, Excellence in Advising - Faculty Advisor Certificate of Merit
  - Maggie Szeman, Academic Advising & Planning Center, Excellence in Advising - New Advisor

- **2017 Region 3 award winners:**
  - Susan Balinsky, Department of Health and Human Performance –Excellence in Advising - Faculty
  - Laura Suggs, Academic Advising & Planning Center - Excellence in Advising- New Advisor

- **2017 National award winner:**
  - Cristy Landis, Academic Advising & Planning Center– Outstanding Advising Award- Primary Advising Role

2018 NACADA Region 3 Conference

When: May 28-30, 2018
Where: Francis Marion Hotel, Charleston, SC
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Rénard Harris, Associate Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer, College of Charleston
Conference Chair: Karen Hauschild, Director Academic Advising and Planning, College of Charleston

Register here. Early bird rates end May 7th.
2017 Majors & Minors Fair

by Wendy Stephens

The Academic Advising and Planning Center, in collaboration with the Office for the Academic Experience, the Career Center, the Charleston Bridge Program and the Student Government Association hosted the 5th annual Majors & Minors Fair on October 4th in Cougar Mall from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. The name of the fair was amended this year to include minors as to more accurately reflect the inclusive nature of the event. The response was record-breaking, as approximately 482 students attended the fair this year. Students had the opportunity to speak one-on-one with faculty, staff, and student representatives from seventy-three academic programs. Meeting in a central location allowed students to visit several academic programs and ask questions related to requirements, curriculum, and career opportunities. Faculty feedback was extremely positive this year due in part to great weather, delicious snacks provided by Office for the Academic Experience, and actively engaged Charleston Bridge students.

SGA and the Charleston Bridge Program provided King of Pops to students who voted for their favorite table display. The Department of Geology was the overwhelming favorite due in part to their mascot, Charlotte. They received the P.O.S.M. award and their name on a plaque that hangs in the Academic Advising and Planning Center.

This event would not have been possible without the support of our sponsors and the Majors & Minors Fair Committee (AAPC: Cristy Landis, Laura Suggs, Wendy Stephens; Career Center: Meredith Gerber, Tyler Till, Emma Waugh; SGA: Trisani Mukhopadhyay). We look forward to the Majors & Minors Fair 2018!

2017 Best Table Display

The Department of Geology won the 2017 Program of Study Award (P.O.S.M.) for best table display. Below, Dr. Timothy Callahan receives the POSM award from AAPC Director Karen Hauschild.
The Community Resource Guide (CRG) was created to help faculty, staff, and students navigate need-based support resources available both on-campus and through the greater Charleston community. The guide is intended to serve as a catalyst for response to unexpected or sustained financial hardship. When faculty or staff use the guide they are expected to complete a FAST report. This will alert campus resources and enable them to offer more comprehensive care.

The community resources were gleaned from the 2016-2017 Resource Guide created by Palmetto Community Action Partnership (formerly Charleston County Human Services Commission) and approved by the City of Charleston Mayor’s Office. We narrowed our guide to resources close to campus and contacted each resource regarding working with our student population. The guide was approved by CofC Legal Affairs and the Provost with the stipulation that it would reside behind the login of MyCharleston.

For now, it is located in the following locations in MyCharleston for your use:

- Advising tab in Advising Quick Links
- Faculty tab in Faculty Advising Tools

ART MATTERS

The AAPC held its 9th Annual ART MATTERS Student Art Exhibition opening reception on December 1, 2017. This year’s theme ties into the College’s focus on water sustainability, and is titled “Reflecting on Water.” The exhibit will be open to students, faculty, and staff through the end of November 2018. We hope you will stop by and celebrate the artwork of students from many majors and disciplines, while appreciating their creativity as it relates to water.
Peer Academic Advisors

By: Silvia Youssef Hanna

Peer Advisors (PAs) are students who have been selected and trained to offer fact-based advising services through the Academic Advising and Planning Center (AAPC). These services are offered through Quick Question Drop In (QQDI) at the AAPC and at Mobile Academic Advising (MAA) throughout campus (i.e., Residence Halls, Addestone Library, and Cougar Mall) Monday through Friday. PAs are intentionally trained to:

1) Assist in student adjustment and persistence toward attainment of academic goals.

2) Answer questions concerning academic rules and regulations found in the undergraduate catalog or departmental websites.

3) Serve as a positive role model for their peers.

4) Function as AAPC ambassadors building a bridge to advising and campus resources through peer-to-peer learning.

PAs promote informed decision-making among their peers during New Student Orientation and throughout the academic year. They do not serve as a student’s official academic advisor, a tutor, a counselor, or a recommender of “easy” courses or “good” professors. All interactions between a PA and a student are documented and shared with the student’s academic advisor.

Quick Question Drop-In is an opportunity to speak to a peer advisor about current semester issues and/or questions that are quick in nature, usually no more than 10 minutes. No appointment is necessary. QQDI is available Monday-Friday, 2:00 p.m. – 4 p.m. from the last day of the drop/add period through the end of the semester.

Pictured from left to right is our inaugural group of Peer Advisors for the 2017-2018 academic year: Tradd Tobin (sophomore Psychology major), Chakeem Blake (sophomore Accounting major), Mary Boyd Barefoot (senior Political Science and English major), and Elizabeth Buckley (sophomore Biology major).