Rayborn’s Reflections

TennACADA community,

As my term as your illustrious (ha!) TennACADA President comes to an end, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the past year and express my gratitude to this wonderful advising and student success community.

When I began my term as President, I was excited but nervous. This was way out of my comfort zone, and the imposter syndrome was REAL—how would “I”, the painfully shy introvert, be able to lead and represent such a dynamic community of professionals!? Thankfully, y’all elected an amazing group of people to serve with me on the Executive Board. Christopher, Jake, Jeremy, and Keima: thank you so much for your hard work, dedication, and support. I don’t know what I would’ve done without y’all!

I’m so proud of the work that the E-Board has done this year—from revamping the newsletter (thank you, Jake!) to spending quality time making and delivering candy grams to creating new events like TennACADA Talks and more. I know that the incoming Executive Board will be eager to continue providing the community with more opportunities for engagement, so please be sure to let them know what types of programming you’d like to see!

My greatest hope for TennACADA is that it continues to connect back to its original purpose of serving as a forum for sharing and exchanging knowledge, ideas, information, and
experiences. Each of us has something valuable to offer, whether it’s expertise in a particular subject area, experience working with a specific student population, innovative approaches to advising, or just tips/tricks that get you through advising season. By sharing our experiences and insights, we can learn from each other and develop new strategies to better support our students. Collaborating also helps build a greater sense of community, which can be a source of support during challenging times. So, as the great philosopher, Vanilla Ice, said, “Stop, collaborate, and listen.”

In all seriousness, I want to thank the TennACADA community for your support, your commitment to student success, and for helping this shy introvert grow into a more confident leader. I look forward to seeing (and celebrating!) y’all at the upcoming TennACADA Awards breakfast.

Amber Rayborn
TennACADA President
Tennessee represented well at the NACADA Region 3 Conference is in Wilmington, North Carolina. Congrats to all presenters!

**Amanda Gandy, Margaret Huffstetler, Emily Rodriguez:** "Fostering Success: How to Support Students with Foster Care Histories in Higher Education Settings"

**Shanna Pendergrast with Colleagues:** "Is Advising Administration in Your Future? Directors Discuss Moving from Staff to Supervisor"

**Christopher Kelley and Meg Claxton:** "My Advisor Won’t Respond to Me!": Managing Student Email Expectations for Success"

**Jeremy Mobley:** "Conferences and Community: Centralized Engagement for a Decentralized Advising Model"

**Ashleigh Powers, Lisa Byrd, and Rochelle Nelson:** "Beyond the Helicopter: Connecting Home and Campus Support Networks for Student Success"

Super congrats to TennACADA’s future president, Christopher Kelley, for winning NACADA Region 3’s Excellence in Advising – New Advisor award!
eBoard Recs

Our recommendations for interesting readings!

Books:
- The I’s Have It: Reflections on Introversion in Student Affairs – Amma Marfo
- Dare to Lead – Brené Brown

Academic Journals (Advising Focus)
- The Future of Advising – The Chronicle of Higher Education (link)
- The Elevation of Advising as a Promising Practice – New Directions for Higher Education (link)
TennACADA Executive Board Voting

Voting is open for your 2023-2024 TennACADA Executive Board! Be sure to cast your vote by April 28th at 5:00pm. The new Executive Board will be announced at the TennACADA Awards Breakfast on May 4th from 8:30am - 10:00am in the Rocky Top Dining Hall, 3rd Floor.

TennACADA Executive Board Ballot

You can find descriptions and responsibilities of each position by reviewing the TennACADA Bylaws here.

Hey Vols! Video – Summer Classes Tips

Interested in taking a summer class offered at an institution closer to home? Learn how to determine if a course will transfer back to UT in this demonstration from Savannah Roth.

View the full Hey Vols! playlist here: Hey Vols! Advising Tips for Students
Fall 2023 Academic Advising & Student Success Conference

“Our Path Forward”
September 5-6, 2023

The call for proposals is still open!

Join your colleagues by leading an engaging and thoughtful conference session to advance the field of academic advising. The conference provides an opportunity to draw from our collective knowledge and reconnect with our community.

The Advising Professional Development Committee invites members of the academic advising and student success communities to submit program proposals that resonate with the conference theme of “Our Path Forward”.

While all proposals that connect with this broad theme will be considered, the committee is particularly interested to review submissions related to the following areas:

- Collaboration
- Innovation
- Inclusion

To submit a proposal, upload a PDF version that follows the submission criteria to the following link (Program Submission) no later than 11:59 p.m. EST on May 12th, 2023.

Join the TennACADA Slack!
TennACADA Talks Resources

If you attended the TennACADA Talks event, here are some additional requested resources related to Foreclosure:

NACADA Webinar Handout (Helping Students Clarify their Dreams: Advising the Foreclosed Student) (link)


Upcoming Events

**Spring 2023 DEI Book Club**
April 27th (Parts III & IV – 54 pages) – 11:00am – Noon

*Zoom links and calendar invites have been sent for those who RSVP’d last semester. If you are newly interested in the book club, please let Megan King (mhoak@utk.edu) know.

**Advising & Coaching Appreciation Week**
Save the date for next month’s Advising & Coaching Appreciation Week! UT advisors and coaches will be celebrated and gifted in appreciation of all you do for our Vols, the University, and Volunteer community.

May 1st – 5th

**TennACADA Awards Breakfast**
May 4th | 8:30am – 10:00am | RSVP ASAP

As part of Advisor Appreciation Week, TennACADA and the Division of Student Success are cohosting a breakfast to celebrate the amazing work that advisors and coaches across campus are doing to support the retention of our undergraduate students. During this time, we will also be announcing this year’s TennACADA award winners as well as the 2023-24 TennACADA Executive Board. We hope that you will be able to join us. Buffet style breakfast will be provided.

Interested in submitting an event or blub to be reviewed for the next TennACADA Times? Please fill out [this form](#).