

tennacada@utk.edu

tennacada.utk.edu

President's Corner

Greetings TennACADA!

It is hard to believe final exams are next week. I hope everyone has had a wonderful semester!!

The TennACADA Executive Committee and I would like to thank you all for your participation in our programs this semester. In October, our colleagues who attended the NACADA conference provided us with reviews of significant presentations from the conference. Additionally, we had the opportunity to share information about how to help our students move between colleges. The semester ended with us reflecting upon several advising approaches selected from the book, *Academic Advising Approaches: Strategies that Teach Students to Make the Most of College*. Our hope is that everyone found these programs to be informative and reflective!

As we wrap up the semester with freshman registration on Monday and Tuesday and classes ending next Tuesday, I want to encourage you all to think about topics you might be interested in discussing during a Roundtable Lunch in the spring. Remember, you can send the information to tennacada@utk.edu, and we will forward it to our members.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Holiday season!!

Shanna

Shanna Pendergrast
President, TennACADA
2014-2015



NACADA National Conference in Minneapolis, MN - October 2014



Back Row: Jake Roberts (HCB),
Jeff Elliott (A&S), Luke Garton
(A&S)

Middle Row: Penny Beasley (HCB),
Amy Anderson (HCB), Sidi
Kazungu (HCB)

Front Row: Nayasha Farrior (HCB),
Matthew McCarthy (HCB), Krista
Loken (HCB)

Meet the UT Advising Community: Dr. Dave Dupper

Dr. Dave Dupper joined the faculty in the College of Social Work in 1998. In July 2013, he became the BSSW Program Director at UT.

How did you get involved with academic advising?

In my role as BSSW Program Director, I meet with undergraduate students who are thinking of changing their major to social work. I also serve as advisor to a number of undergraduate social work majors. I have been an associate professor and professor in the College of Social Work since joining the faculty back in 1998. Prior to becoming director of our undergraduate program, I was Associate Dean at our Knoxville campus.

What do you like most about working with students in the College of Social Work?

I enjoy talking with students about their career goals and exploring how their career goals may or may not fit with what we offer in our undergraduate social work program. I really enjoy the idealism and passion of many of our undergraduate students. They really want to change the world!

What qualities and characteristics do you think are important for an academic advisor to be successful?

First and foremost, I believe that advisors need to be able to give each advisee their undivided attention throughout each advising session. I believe that being an effective advisor means being able to build relationships with diverse students. This can be very challenging for advisors given all the paperwork they have to complete and the number of advisees they serve.

Outside of work, what hobbies or interests do you have?

I have become very interested in mindfulness practices over the past several years, and I currently meditate each morning for about 30-40 minutes. I also enjoy listening to music and photography.



Meet the UT Advising Community: Jenna Russell

Jenna Russell joined the College of Nursing as an Academic Advisor about four months ago.

How did you get involved with academic advising?

I was first an academic advisor as a graduate student at Western Illinois University. I then worked as an advisor and coordinator in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Louisville for about seven years before moving to Knoxville.



What do you like most about working with students in the College of Nursing?

Nursing students are highly motivated and focused in their studies. During appointments, we discuss courses and program sequencing, but we also get to talk about the cool things they are doing and experiencing in clinical situations both within the college and in the community. It's fun to see our students get really excited about applying the information they have learned in class and getting a taste of what it means to be a nurse.

What qualities and characteristics do you think are important for an academic advisor to be successful?

A good advisor is one who listens but can also offer appropriate guidance and support to his/her students. We provide information to assist students while they progress through their academic path, but we are oftentimes just a shoulder to lean on when things might not be going the way a student had anticipated. It's also important to simply be invested in each and every student's academic and personal success!

Outside of work, what hobbies or interests do you have?

My 6-month old son, Benjamin, is my newest and most important "hobby" right now! I spend most of my free time with him and my husband, Brian, and I am constantly learning new things about him and how to be a mom. I enjoy reading, painting, and once upon a time, I was a runner, so I hope to eventually pick that back up again soon.

We look forward to seeing you in the spring!

~ Shanna, Nayasha, Luke, and Colette