

TennACADA Times

The Official Academic Advising Newsletter of
The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

TENNACADA WEBSITE
TENNACADA@UTK.EDU
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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy fall everyone!

I cannot believe that it is already November and that we are so close to the end of the semester finish line. Your TennACADA Executive Board is busy planning for next semester's events, so please let us know if there are any programs or topics you'd like to see in the Spring. I think we've got some great ideas for future events, but we really want your input as well.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at our next event about working with ROTC students and veterans. Please note the time and location change below. I definitely think this is a growing area of concern in our field and we want to ensure that we are serving our veterans, as well as preparing our

undergraduates for the reality of becoming veterans themselves. As we approach the end of Fall semester, remember what the great Dwight Schrute from *The Office* once said, "I am ready to face any challenges that might be foolish enough to face me."

Have a wonderful holiday season,
Kirsten Pitcock
2015 TennACADA President



Upcoming Fall 2015 TennACADA Events

**Effective Advising Strategies:
Veteran Students**
November 18th, 2:30-4:30pm,
Multicultural Center

Topics will include ROTC information, best practices for advising veteran students, and resources that provide support to veterans. This event will feature staff and a veteran student panel.

**Assisting Students with Mental
Health Challenges**
December 3rd, 3-5pm
HBB440

Speakers will be present from the UT Counseling Center, the University of Tennessee Psychological Clinic, and the Center for Health Education and Wellness. This event aims to assist advisors with short-term and long-term response strategies.

Honoring Veterans Day: Events

- **2015 Knoxville Veterans Day Parade**, Nov. 11th, 10:45am, Gay Street
- **The National Day of Remembrance Roll Call**, Nov. 11th, 10am-2pm, Circle Park



2015 UTK VOLFighters Student Organization

Events to Keep on Your Calendar!

As you look forward to the rest of the academic year, keep the following events in mind as excellent professional development opportunities!

- **2016 NACADA Region 3 Conference**, April 20th-22nd, Chattanooga, TN.
- **2016 Assessment of Academic Advising Institute** February 11th-13th, Mesa, AZ.
- **2016 National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students**, February 3rd-5th, Atlanta, GA.
- **2016 Academic Advising Administrators' Institute**, February 18th-20th, Mesa, AZ.
- **CSRDE Webinar** Success Programming for Minority Students, December 9th, 2-3pm, HCB 316

Keep Updated: Research and Theory

Want to keep up to date in the field? Don't have a lot of free time to browse for interesting articles? Take a minute to review a few recent and quick to read publications in the advising field, provided by [Academic Advising Today](#).

- **Dialogues for Dispositions: Promoting Professionalism through Advising**, by Travis Nakayama, [here](#)
- **At the Corner of Advising and Assessment**, by Steve Quinn, [here](#)
- **How Advisors Can Focus on Student Excuses to Prompt Behavior Change** by Alexander Kunkle, [here](#)
- **Intrusive Advising 101: How to be Intrusive Without Intruding**, by Jennifer Cannon, [here](#)

Get to Know Your Colleague! Spotlight on Krista Loken

How did you get into the academic advising profession?

Getting into student affairs happened to me, like most of you, by accident. I had a pre midlife crisis when I was about to finish my last year as a psychology undergrad. I thought I wanted to go into Clinical Psychology. While studying for the GRE, I realized I wanted to help people, but not so much in a clinical setting. I was working at the Student Union at the University of Utah, and my boss suggested going into the Master's in Educational Leadership and Policy Program. It seemed like a good fit. And he was right. While going through the motions of a broke grad student, I started considering what area of student affairs (or what seems like more academic affairs sometimes), I wanted to get in to, and academic advising kept coming up as an interest. In my last semester, the job search was in full swing for a great academic advising position. It took a solid three months to land this job, but I've found a great place at the

University of Tennessee in the Haslam College of Business.

Tell us about your proudest moment that has occurred while working with a student.

There are a lot of little victories we advisors experience with students, so it is difficult to narrow down to one moment. My favorite advising appointments are advising seniors whom I know have struggled some through their college career. It makes you feel good to see how elated they are that they can see the last remaining 14 hours of their college career. It makes it all worth it.

What is your favorite thing about working at UT-Knoxville?

My favorite thing about working at UT Knoxville is the high energy and spirit of this institution, and the amount of opportunities present. It's a great environment to be a student, faculty or administrator while providing several opportunities to get involved.



*Krista Loken, Academic Advisor
in Haslam College of Business*

What is your favorite quote?

"The only artists I have ever known who are personally delightful are bad artists. Good artists exist simply in what they make, and consequently are perfectly uninteresting in what they are." Oscar Wilde from *The Picture of Dorian Gray*

Tell us one fun fact we wouldn't know about you.

I applied to a reality TV show called *The Great Norway Adventure*. I got to call backs, but didn't make the cut. I'm determined to keep trying. One day I'll make it!

Get to Know Your Colleague! Spotlight on Virginia Stormer



Virginia Stormer,
Advisor in the
Chancellor's Honors
Program

How did you get into the academic advising profession?

I taught English at UT for a long time as I was working on my PhD here, and I realized that my favorite part of teaching was the one-on-one interactions I would have with my students and talking to them not just about my class but more generally about their life goals. That's how I became interested in advising, and then I was lucky enough last year to have the opportunity to work as the Coordinator for Undergraduate Research at the Humanities Center on campus where I advised undergraduate humanities majors on how to get involved in research, what to do with their research, and generally how to prepare for a graduate program in the humanities.

Tell us about your proudest moment that has occurred while working with a student.

Even before I became a professional advisor, I worked very closely with and mentored one of my English students through her career here at UT. She is now working on her masters in English at UGA with a concentration in Renaissance drama (my same concentration!). We are still in touch on a regular basis, and it's so much fun to see her growing and developing herself as a scholar through many of the same experiences that I had.

What is your favorite thing about working at UT-Knoxville?

I love the energy and atmosphere on a large

college campus. I am always amazed at the variety of things to do and see on campus! There is something for everyone here, and I think that is what gives UT its energy and makes it such a fun place to be.

What is your favorite quote?

"Be loud, let your colors show" —Avett Brothers, "Colorshow"

Tell us one fun fact we wouldn't know about you.

I love to travel to UT football games. I've been to Eugene, Norman, Tuscaloosa, Baton Rouge, Jacksonville, Athens, and Nashville, all to see the Vols play. And I'm already looking forward to trips to College Station and Bristol next season.

Have a wonderful holiday season!

-Kirsten, Courtney, Ashleigh & Sara