

Fall 2020 Session Proposals : Entry # 590

Working Session Title

Risky Business: Cultivating Academic Risk-Taking

Presentation description (short paragraph)

Most college and university students strive to do well in classes and co-curriculars they consider necessary for their academic plans and future careers. As advisors, we regularly encourage students to challenge themselves and engage in opportunities that extend their knowledge, such as internships, study abroad, and rigorous classes. But too often, we hear from students that they are afraid of the extra demands. In this session, we will examine how students will often stay in their “academic comfort zones” to protect their GPAs and why they may be short-sighted by not participating in co-curriculars that would potentially increase their skill sets. Building on current research about academic risk-taking, our session explores how advisors can ease students’ doubts and help them decide what challenges are worth the risks.

Learning Outcomes (2-5)

This session focuses on both student and advisor development. As a result of this presentation, participants will be able to:

- 1) Define academic risk-taking and who participates in it
- 2) Understand circumstances where academic risk-taking could be encouraged
- 3) Understand student viewpoints about failure when taking a risk
- 4) Reflect on how they can use this knowledge in their advising practice

Presenter(s)

Presenter Name (first last)	Presenter College/Unit	Presenter Email
Natalie Stepanov	Honors	nstepan2@utk.edu
Amanda Gandy	Social Work	agandy3@utk.edu

Is your presentation UT specific?

NO

Is Your Presentation Directly Related to Academic Advising?

Yes

NACADA Pillars (select all that apply)

- Informational
- Relational

Advising Model Component

Self-Exploration

Type of Session (select one)

Presentation

Session Needs (select all that apply)