

**Melinda J. Anderson, Ed.D.**  
**Keynote Speaker**



Dr. Melinda J. Anderson has worked in academic and student affairs in higher education for more than 20 years. Her leadership skills coupled with her passion and commitment to student success – especially in the areas of student transitions, persistence, and retention – have propelled her to the helm of a worldwide academic association.

In July 2021, Dr. Anderson was appointed executive director of NACADA: The Global Community for Academic Advising, which serves more than 15,000 members. As NACADA executive director, Anderson is responsible for directing all of the association’s initiatives including its strategic efforts, professional development for members, programming, content creation, enhancement of NACADA’s consulting services, member engagement and growth, and defining its research agenda. In addition, Anderson holds a teaching position in the Kansas State University College of Education’s Leadership in Academic Advising doctoral program.

Dr. Anderson graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University with a bachelor’s degree in mass communication and a master’s in adult education. She earned her doctorate in higher education administration from the College of William and Mary. Originally from northern Virginia, Anderson currently resides in Manhattan, Kansas.

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