Looking Back, Moving Forward: Reflecting and Reimagining Advising

Tuesday, August 10th
Wednesday, August 11th
Thursday, August 12th

26TH ANNUAL UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING CONFERENCE

Instagram - @umdadvisorevents
2:00 PM - Virtual Breakout Session
Distress to Success: A Personal and Academic Approach
Taylor Sanders - School of Public Health
Renee Stokes - School of Public Health

Through this session, attendees will learn how the School of Public Health (SPH) supports and champions students from distress to success through a personal and academic approach. Many UMD students discover SPH majors while transitioning out of their initial major, and are often in academic distress. With no GPA minimum requirement, any student can declare an SPH major. As a result, the School has developed practices that focus on supporting these students and guiding them toward both academic and personal success. In this session, we will share two advising strategies for supporting struggling SPHL students: Curated Mandatory Advising and a 1 credit course, SPHL246: Terp Restoration.
2:00 PM - Virtual Breakout Session

Tech Talk: Communicating with Students Beyond their Inbox

Lindsey Winter - Kinesiology
Sarah Balcom - Animal and Avian Sciences

In advising, email and appointments are traditional methods of engaging with students. However, the transition to working remotely encouraged exploration and adaptation of more innovative strategies for connecting and communicating with students. In this session, panelists will share their experience using platforms like ELMS, tawk.to (online chat), social media, YouTube channels, and podcasts, and how this technology can continue to be incorporated into advising practices, even as we return to campus.

2:00 PM - Virtual Breakout Session

UMD, Neurodiversity, and the Academic Advisor

Amy Vaillancourt - Computer Science
Nancy Forsythe - University Career Center

More than 90% of students with accommodations at UMD are neurodiverse. In this session you will learn about neurodiversity, evidence-based practices to identify, connect with, and support neurodiverse students, and existing campus and other resources for advising neurodiverse students.

Learn what students need and how to create an accessible advising experience and empower neurodiverse students. Collaborate with others, ask questions, and learn strategies to support a community of students that is increasingly self-identifying and seeking community.
10:00 AM - Virtual Breakout Session
Testudo’s Journey to Graduation: Promoting Campus Engagement and Career Exploration through a Virtual Escape Room
Lindsey Winter - Kinesiology
Felicia Low - Public Health Science

After a virtual escape room implemented for transfer student onboarding increased students’ knowledge and confidence for registration policies and procedures, advisors created a sequel to promote student engagement and introduce students entering the major to the breadth of campus resources essential for degree completion. This interactive session will allow participants to access the escape room sequel, and presenters will share customizable options and implementation strategies for advisors across campus.

10:00 AM - Virtual Breakout Session
Advising International Students Post-COVID:19: Updates and Resources for Academic Advisors
Michael Waggoner - International Student and Scholar Services
Xinyu Zhai - International Student and Scholar Services

Returning to campus will be an adjustment for all, especially for international students who may or may not be returning to the US for the first time after the pandemic. This session will review important information that academic advisors should know about advising international students during the Fall 2021 return to campus. We will also explore mental health resources and cultural adjustment tips for international students.
10:00 AM - Virtual Breakout Session
TerpEngage 2.0: Leveling up Student Success with Centralized Advising Tools
Jason DeSanto Jones - AMP, Office of the Provost
Eric Johnson - Letters and Sciences
Brittany Johnson - Computer Science

Although 2020 left us all scrambling for solutions, the 2021-2022 academic year will bring a number of exciting developments with TerpEngage. What began as a tool for appointments and advising notes will emerge as a unified, student-centered, and data-driven portal. The presenters will provide an overview of these new initiatives, which include live advising reports, automated student success alerts, topics-driven appointment scheduling, group appointments/workshops, drop-in queues, and a centralized major change process.
2:00 PM - Virtual Breakout Session

Surviving Guilt 101: Supporting First-Generation College Students

Experiencing Family Achievement Guilt

Imani Burwell - Neuroscience

Family Achievement Guilt describes the regret that first-generation college students (FGCS) may experience as a result of having more higher education opportunities than their family members. In this session, we will examine the experiences of FGCS with guilt—what causes it and how it affects their educational journeys. We will then have an open discussion on how we can support FGCS experiencing guilt in our departments as we transition back to on-campus life.

2:00 PM - Virtual Breakout Session

Flying Solo: Strategies For Serving as a Sole Academic Advisor

Matt Wootten - Behavioral and Community Health

Kendyl Oliver - Family Science

Serving as the sole (i.e. only) academic advisor for an academic program presents many challenges. Two sole academic advisors from the School of Public Health, Kendyl Oliver (Family Science) and Matt Wootten (Community Health), will share the strategies they use to balance administrative tasks while meeting the advising needs of students. Matt and Kendyl will be joined by other sole academic advisors across campus in an advisor panel to discuss best practices in “solo advising.”
10:00 AM - Virtual Breakout Session
The Academic and Social Realities of Being a UMD Student During a Pandemic
Alia Lancaster - Academic Technology Experience, Division of Information Technology
Danielle Glazer - Institutional Research, Planning, and Assessment

This presentation combines results from three surveys about UMD students’ experience during the pandemic. Students’ living and learning realities shifted greatly, which impacted their academic experiences, connection to UMD, and mental health. We will end by discussing and brainstorming how this information can inform practitioners’ work.

10:00 AM - Virtual Breakout Session
Removing Barriers to Success for Women and Non-binary Students in Computing Pathways
Kate Atchison - Computer Science
Ron Padrón - Information Studies

This workshop will address the lack of representation of women and non-binary students in computing majors. The discussion will include national and campus-level trends in enrollment and retention and will center practices around interrupting bias and critical listening. Participants will learn about resources and practices for supporting students in these fields.
10:00 AM - Virtual Breakout Session
Fostering Terp Success at UMD: An Innovative Approach to Addressing Basic Needs Insecurity
Brian Watkins - Parent and Family Affairs
Jamila Aswad - Student Affairs

Fostering Terp Success (FTS) is an essential UMD program created to increase the academic and personal success of students who have experienced foster care, homelessness, or housing insecurity, and who are without a supportive family system. In this interactive presentation, we will discuss the program's development, highlight our campus support services, and invite UMD staff, faculty, and graduate students to participate in our volunteer opportunities.

2:00 PM - Ice Cream Social
Join us for an ice cream social at the Brendan Iribe Center cantilever located outdoors on the easternmost side of the building.
This presentation will discuss the Maryland Engineering Academic Probation (MEAP) Project, an ongoing research project investigating the experiences of engineering transfer students who were placed on academic probation during their first year at the University of Maryland. Presenters will provide an overview of existing programming within the Clark School designed to support transfer students and students on academic probation, the MEAP research design, and findings and implications from our research.
2021 Advising Conference Committee

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The Faculty Staff Assistance Program (FSAP) is an assessment, referral, coaching, emergency fund loan, consultation, and short-term counseling service available to all full and part-time employees of the University of Maryland.

Current University of Maryland faculty and staff can rent space in the Adele H. Stamp Student Union for weddings, parties, or family events and can receive 25% off the normal room rental rate for events taking place in January, May, June, July, August or December.

The College Park City-University Partnership (“CPCUP”) Home Ownership Program is part of an effort to increase the number of University of Maryland employees living in the City of College Park as outlined in the University District Vision 2020. Through this program, employees of the University of Maryland can receive $15,000 in down payment or closing cost assistance for a home purchase anywhere in College Park.

UMD employees receive a 20% discount off of purchases made in the University Campus Bookstore. Show your UID in order to receive a discount.