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Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 9:36 AM
To: MAAN-L@metis3.gmu.edu
Subject: Mason Academic Advisor Network Newsletter: Issue 16 (December 16, 2015)



December 16, 2015

Introduction to MAAN Website

A screenshot of the George Mason University Academic Advising website. The header includes the George Mason University logo and the text "Academic Advising Center for Academic Advising, Retention, and Transitions". A search bar is located on the right. The navigation menu includes "Home", "About", "Current Students", "Mason Advisors", "New Freshmen", "Transfer Students", and "Contact". Below the navigation menu is a grid of links to various resources such as "Mason Academic Advisor Network (MAAN)", "Advisor Mentor Program (AMP)", "Academic Advisor of the Year", "Advising Calendar of Events", "UNIV 100 Speaker Request", "Mason Advisor Certificate (MAC) Program", "I.Snap Videos", "Learn Over Lunch (LOL)", "Registration Awareness Week (RAW)", and "Professional Associations". The main content area features a photograph of a student working on a laptop, a stack of textbooks including "CRIMINOLOGY" and "SOCIOLOGY", and a photograph of students walking on a campus. A green banner at the bottom of the screenshot reads "Get Help Choosing Your Classes...".

Dear Mason Advisors,

In addition to our listserv and bi-monthly newsletters you can keep up with advising at Mason by visiting us online at <http://advising.gmu.edu/mason-advisors/maan/>. Here on our homepage you can learn more about MAAN's Mission, Vision, and History; Committee Goals and Membership; and keep up with our Advising Calendar of Events.

[About MAAN](#)

Our landing page is a great resource for background information and details about our network. Here you can find our mission and vision statements as well as our committee members and leadership.

[Advising Calendar of Events](#)

The MAAN calendar is powered by 25Live through events management. If you have an event that you would like advisors to attend, please check the box "for advisors" when scheduling your room through the 25Live system. This will ensure that your event will show up on the MAAN calendar. If you would like to share your event with Mason advisors and do not have access to 25live, please contact [Jason King](#) for assistance.

Committee Sub-pages

In addition to the committee information on our homepage we have sub-pages for the following groups:

[Advisor Mentor Program \(AMP\)](#)

The mission of the AMP is to expand new advisors' support network within the Mason academic advising community and foster continued professional development and increase sustainability of personal and professional well-being. In addition to mentor/mentee applications you can learn more about expectations and benefits of the program. The AMP Team is led by [Stephanie Barnett](#) and [Jon May](#).

[Learn Over Lunch \(LOL\)](#)

Check here for a list of upcoming and previous sessions. If you would like to suggest a topic for discussion then please contact [Assad Khan](#) with your idea!

[Mason Academic Advisor Certificate Program \(MAC\)](#)

Our MAC page provides detailed course descriptions for each module as well as a list of pre-approved electives to help you complete your certificate. If you have any questions about the MAC program please contact MAC co-chair [Liz Kalinowski Ohrt](#) or [Smriti Kansal](#).

[Registration Awareness Week \(RAW\)](#)

Next semester RAW will take place Monday, March 21 to Friday, March 25. Sign up for kiosks will be available in late February. If you have any questions about RAW please contact [Jason King](#).

Dr. Melinda Andersen's Visit to Mason



On Friday, November 20th, Dr. Melinda Anderson, Region 2 NACADA Chair, spent the day at Mason learning about the Mason Academic Advisor Network (MAAN) and all the advising related initiatives our group has been able to develop in recent years. In this video she speaks about the role NACADA can play in the development of academic advisors and what benefits NACADA can provide an institution. Link to Video of Dr. Melinda Anderson's Visit with Mason Advisors: <https://youtu.be/pLpQKdlbG50>

2016 University Life Student Success Symposium



The poster features a large graphic of a smiley face composed of colorful, multi-colored squares in shades of blue, purple, pink, red, orange, and yellow. The text is arranged in a clean, professional layout with a blue header and footer.

2016 University Life Student Success Symposium
Achieving Our Goals Together

The 2016 University Life Student Success Symposium will provide participants with shared learning, innovative practices and methods, increased awareness of national trends and research, and meaningful dialogue in identifying existing issues and considering future practice.

Now is the time for us to come together as higher education professionals to contribute to the overall success of our students by addressing increasing needs and demands of our students, as a result of increased enrollment and changing demographics.

The University Life Student Success Symposium is designed to explore ways in which we can best support and serve our students, while we strive to increase:

- Well-being, focusing on living a life of vitality, purpose and resilience;
- Engagement and student learning, utilizing the Patriot Experience pathways (patriotexperience.gmu.edu);
- Retention and timely degree completion, striving to increase our 6-year graduation rate for undergraduates; and
- Post-graduation success, preparing graduates for fulfilling lives and careers.

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY University Life

- Date: January 11, 2016
- Snow Date: January 12, 2016
- Deadline to Register: January 6, 2016
- Call for Program Due: December 14th at noon
- Location: Johnson Center, Dewberry Hall
- Web: ulsymposium.onmason.com

SAVE THE DATE for the 2016 University Life Student Success Symposium: **Achieving Our Goals Together.**

The symposium is scheduled for Monday, January 11, 2016 from 8:30am-5:00pm in the Johnson Center, Dewberry Hall.

Snow date: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 from 8:30am-5:00pm.

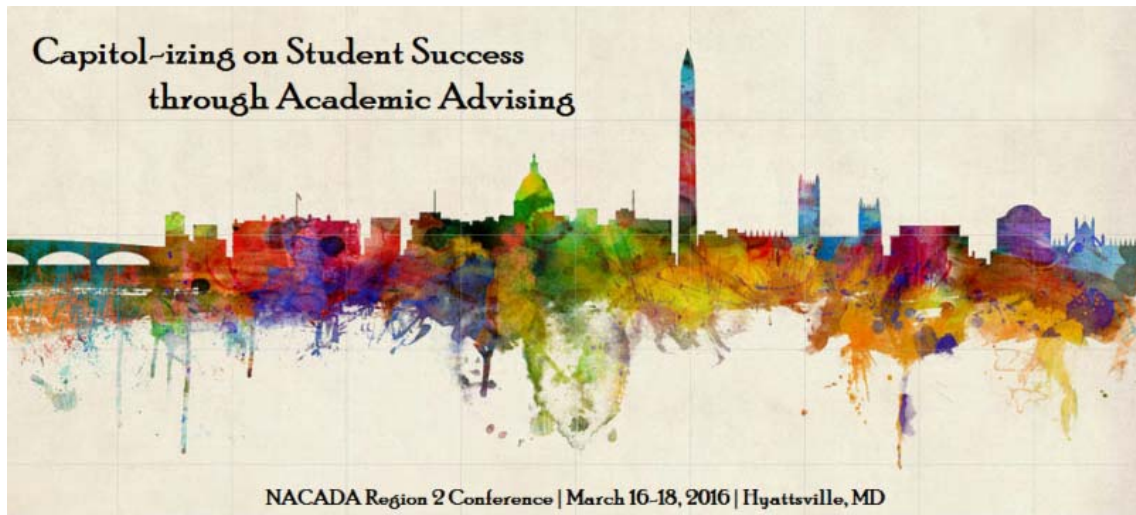
[Click Here to Register Online](#)

Spring 2016 Events

- Winter Break Closing, Monday Dec 21, 2015 - Friday, Jan 1, 2016
- **LOL**: Assistive Technology, Tuesday, Jan 12, 2016 (12- 1 pm, SUB 1 3A)
- First Day of Classes, Tuesday, Jan 19, 2016
- Last Day to Add Classes, Tuesday, Jan 26, 2016
- Last Day to Drop (33% tuition penalty), Tuesday, Feb 2, 2016
- **MAAN Coffee Connect**, Friday, Feb 5, 2016 (9-10 am, Nguyen Einstein Bagel)
- Spring Career Fair, Wednesday, Feb 17 - Thursday, Feb 18, 2016
- Last Day to Drop (67% tuition penalty), Friday, Feb 19, 2016
- **MAAN Coffee Connect**, Friday, Mar 4, 2016 (9-10 am, JC Starbucks)
- Selective Withdrawal Period, Monday, Feb 22 - Friday, Mar 25, 2016

- **Registration Awareness Week (RAW)**, Monday, Mar 21 - Friday, Mar 25, 2016
- **MAAN Coffee Connect**, Friday Apr 1, 2016 (9-10 am, NN Starbucks)
- **MAAN Coffee Connect**, Friday, May 6, 2016 (9-10 am, JC Starbucks)

Mason Advisor Certificate (MAC) Program - Spring 2016 Dates



Join us March 16-18, 2016 for the Region 2 Conference in Hyattsville, MD!
Save the Region 2 Conference Date!

[Call for Proposals are being accepted until November 30, 2015](#)

- [Schedule](#)
- [Registration Information](#)
- [Hotel Information](#)
- [Travel Information](#)

[Check out the Blog for lots of information about Region 2 !!](#)

Advisor Spotlight

What is your background/education? I am a proud two-time Mason Alum. I graduated in 2002 with a B.A. in Psychology and in 2007 with a M.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies for Higher Education.

How did you get involved in advising? For the Master's program I had to complete an internship in a Student Services area. I choose Academic Advising because I enjoyed talking with students and helping them figure things out in my previous positions at Mason. The internship confirmed my interest in Advising over other areas. I began my advising career at the University of Maryland, College Park in the Engineering School advising undecided engineering students. I then ventured out to the chilly mid-west to Indiana and Purdue University to advise in the First-Year Engineering Program before returning to Mason to advise in the Volgenau Engineering School. Coincidentally I've only ever advised Engineering majors (I didn't plan it that way).



What are your advising interests? Since I've only ever advised engineering majors I have developed an interest in STEM education and advising. I am also interested in specifically supporting first-generation students within STEM majors.

What are your career goals/aspirations? I aspire to develop and progress the advising program in VSE particularly for the undeclared population. I have been thinking about furthering my education and pursuing a doctorate in Higher Education, but it's only been a thought.

What is something surprising about you? I am an extreme college and professional football fanatic. It takes over my life September - February.

Current Issues in Advising



Report and commentary on Marc Lowenstein's keynote address at Penn State's 14th Annual Professional Development Conference on Academic Advising held September 11, 2015.

[Read more](#)

Advisors and Parents: Together Building Stronger Advising Relationships

[Read more](#)

Advisors are academics who play a major role in connecting the general education curriculum to the students' experience

[Read more](#)