

Why am I an academic advisor?

How do I make a difference in the lives of students and colleagues?

How do I let my students know their lives matter?



Defining Your Advising Philosophy in Three Little Words

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Why a Personal Academic Advising Philosophy?

- Everyone already operates under a personal philosophy of advising
- Articulating it (according to NACADA guidelines)
 - Gives structure to sessions and provides foundation
 - Awareness enables us to examine and improve our work

NACADA Core Competencies



CONCEPTUAL

Core competencies in the **Conceptual component** (concepts academic advisors must understand) include understanding of:

-  C 1 **The history and role of academic advising in higher education.**
-  C 2 **NACADA's Core Values of Academic Advising.**
-  C 3 **Theory relevant to academic advising.**
-  C 4 **Academic advising approaches and strategies.**
-  C 5 **Expected outcomes of academic advising.**
-  C 6 **How equitable and inclusive environments are created and maintained.**

NACADA Core Competencies



INFORMATIONAL

Core competencies in the **Informational component** (knowledge academic advisors must master) include knowledge of:

- 11 Institution specific history, mission, vision, values, and culture.
- 12 Curriculum, degree programs, and other academic requirements and options.
- 13 Institution specific policies, procedures, rules, and regulations.
- 14 Legal guidelines of advising practice, including privacy regulations and confidentiality.
- 15 The characteristics, needs, and experiences of major and emerging student populations.
- 16 Campus and community resources that support student success.
- 17 Information technology applicable to relevant advising roles.

NACADA Core Competencies



RELATIONAL

Core Competencies in the **Relational component** (skills academic advisors must demonstrate) include the ability to:

- R 1** Articulate a personal philosophy of academic advising.
- R 2** Create rapport and build academic advising relationships.
- R 3** Communicate in an inclusive and respectful manner.
- R 4** Plan and conduct successful advising interactions.
- R 5** Promote student understanding of the logic and purpose of the curriculum.
- R 6** Facilitate problem solving, decision-making, meaning-making, planning, and goal setting.
- R 7** Engage in on-going assessment and development of the advising practice.

Definition

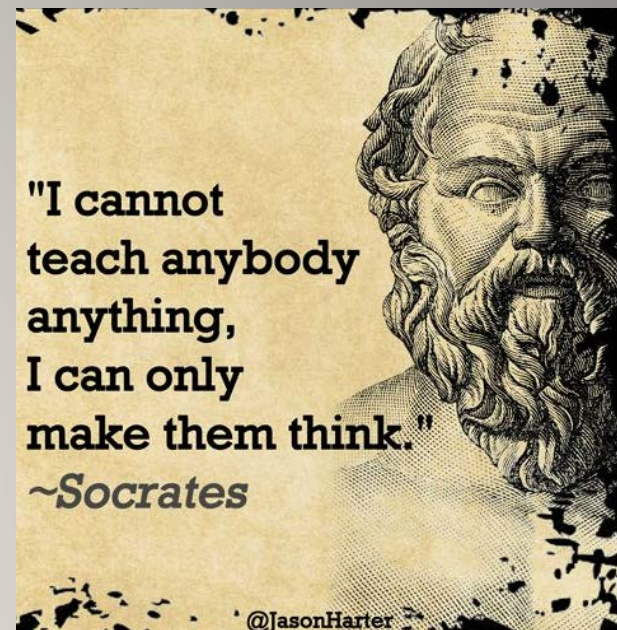
Personal philosophy of academic advising is...

- A positive, self-motivating statement of academic advising as perceived by the advisor
- Unique to each individual
 - No wrong answers
 - Can change/evolve
- Not easy or quick
- Uses theory for approaches
- Length matters less than quality of ideas and their significance to the advisor



Today's Task

- Identify Three Words from which to draw inspiration to formulate/articulate your personal philosophy statement
- Intentional reflection



...some examples

- Relate, acclimate, graduate
- Connect, support, transition
- Credibility, trust, relationships
- Empower, expression, freedom
- Educational excellence, global preparation, engaged
- Reach, learn, celebrate
- Fair, humane, loyal
- Caring, high standards, respect/empowerment
- Honesty, excellence, accountability, respect, teamwork

First Word

What is my approach to academic advising?

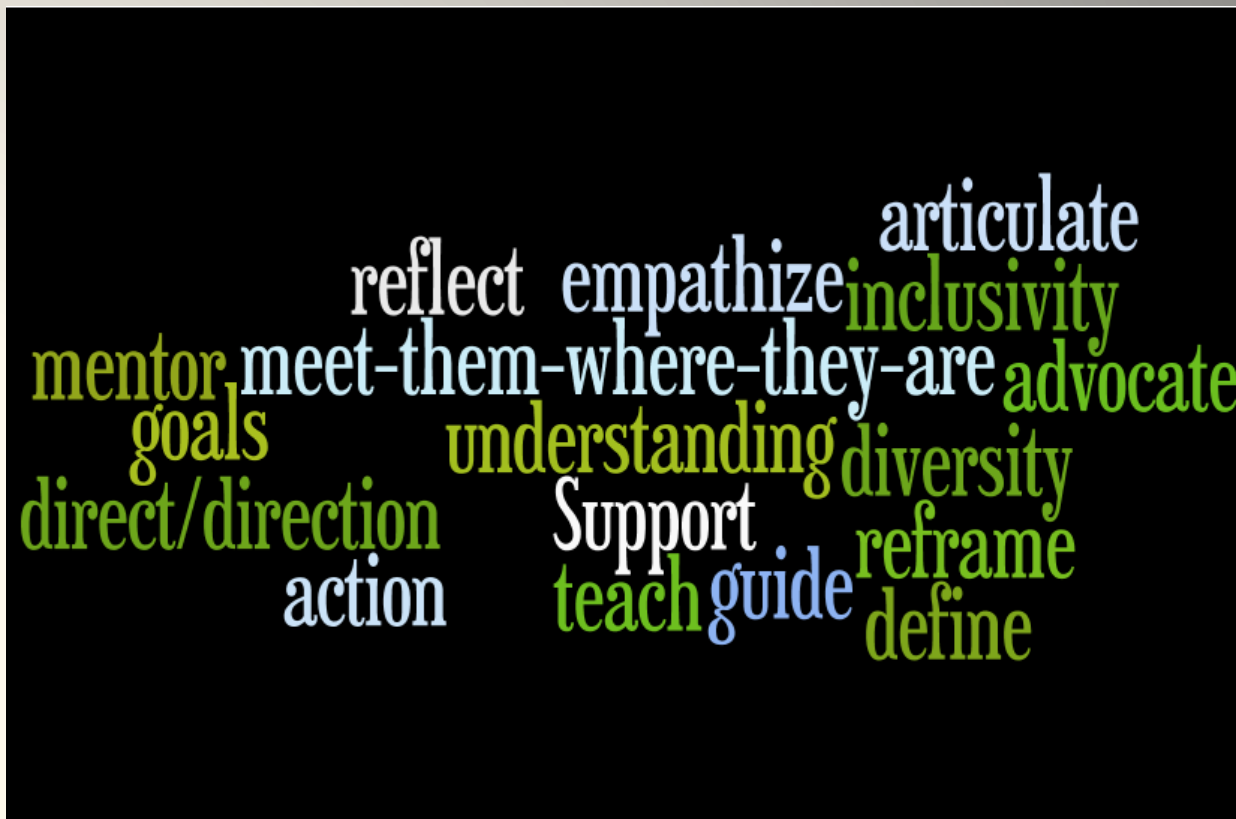
- Intrusive, developmental, informative, appreciative, prescriptive, community-based, etc.



Second Word

What theories shape my approach?

- Student development
- Human development
- Learning theories
- Helping professions
- Business/Management
- Multi-cultural
- Others



Theories common in advising

- Social Sciences
 - Developmental (psychosocial, cognitive, student, learning, person-environment interaction, personality, multicultural, etc. etc.)
 - Self-authorship
 - Identity theories
- Education
 - Constructivism
 - Social Constructivism
 - Curriculum theory
- Humanities
 - Hermeneutic Communication
 - Post-Modernism

Third Word

How do I make a difference?

- What are my strengths?
- Do I feel an affinity towards specific types of students?
- What do I find most rewarding?
- What do I do that no one else does?



Recap

- First word: Approach
- Second word: Theoretical lens
- Third word: Impact/outcomes

“My personal advising philosophy is based upon (first word), (second word), and (third word).”

“I find that (a genuinely caring) approach creates a (connection) with my advisees.”

“Using (person-centered) techniques help me foster a (supportive) and/or (trusting) environment and produce (empowering) outcomes.”

“I feel I have made a difference when a student (transitions) into a new phase and (overcomes) challenges they have faced.

Next steps

- Elaborate
- Evaluate
- Edit
 - Opinions change
 - Students change
 - We change
- Explore
 - Research, learn, develop, share, adapt



Positive impact

- Accomplishment
- Satisfaction
- Sense of purpose
- Starting point
- Provides ideals
- Contribute to the profession/comprehensive philosophy

Resources

- Business.com Editorial Staff. (2017, June 27). Popular Management Theories Decoded. Retrieved from *Business.com website*: <https://www.business.com/articles/popular-management-theories-decoded/>
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