



ADVISOR UPDATE

Indiana
Academic
Advising
Network

Newsletter

September 2002

From the President's Keyboard

From the President's Keyboard...

Congratulations to all of you for a great Conference and Annual Meeting. A warm thank you goes to our hosts under the leadership of Steve Wietstock in Bloomington. It was a day filled with camaraderie and shared knowledge. Participants left with new friendships, new professional contacts, new information and great door prizes. Next year's conference is set for May 16, 2003. Our hosts at Purdue North Central are already planning a stellar day for all of us under the leadership of Barb Birchfield. You don't want to miss this!

If you are not a member of IAAN as yet then check us out at <http://iaan.indiana.edu>. IAAN is going places and you don't want to be left behind. As you read the Advisor Update you can feel the excitement and visualize the great plans unfolding for academic advising in Indiana. I encourage you to think carefully about how you can be apart of this and volunteer your time and efforts. Contact anyone on the Board of Directors and see how you can help. Participation, no matter how small, is appreciated and will impact our success.

As the fall semester progresses, remember to take care of 'you'. Your strength, humor and good judgment is dependent on your good health.

I look forward to working with all of you and I think I speak for



all of the Board of Directors when I say, "Let us hear from you".

Joanne Evers
jevers@mgmt.purdue.edu



Joanne received her MA from Michigan State University in Child Development/Administration. She has taught in several childcare facilities including the MSU and Purdue Child Development Laboratories. Joanne has served as an academic advisor in the School of Consumer and Family Sciences for 15 years. Recently, she has joined the School of Management at Purdue, West Lafayette. Joanne was the recipient of the award for the "Outstanding Academic Advisor Certificate of Merit" at NACADA conference in 2001. She has been active in the PACADA and NACADA and looks forward to the upcoming experiences with IAAN.

IAAN Board of Directors

OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President - Joanne Evers, Purdue University, jevers@mgmt.purdue.edu

Vice-President - Deb Perkins, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis, dperkins@iupui.edu

Secretary - Joan Hoch, Indiana University Kokomo, jhoch@iuk.edu

Treasurer - Karen J. Sutton, Vincennes University, ksuttton@indian.viu.edu

Current Indiana/NACADA State Liaison - Kay Solomon, Purdue University, kssolomo@tech.purdue.edu

Incoming Indiana/NACADA State Liaison - Cathy Buyarski, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis, buyarsk@iupui.edu

North Indiana Regional Representative - Bill Bruening, IPFW, bruening@ipfw.edu

Central Indiana Regional Representative - Larry Ottinger, Ball State University, lottinge@bsu.edu

South Indiana Regional Representative - Mark Razor, University of Southern Indiana, mrazor@usi.edu

Committee Chairs

Communications:

Chair and Newsletter Editor: Sangita Handa, Purdue University, handa@science.purdue.edu

Webmaster: Steven Wietstock, Indiana University Bloomington, swietsto@indiana.edu

I-CARE Coordinator: Amanda Zimmerman, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis, ajzimmer@iupui.edu

Membership and Nominations:

Professional Development:

Chair: Kay Solomon, Purdue University, kssolomo@tech.purdue.edu

State Affairs: Vacant

This could be YOU!

2003 State Conference Chair:

Barb Birchfield, Purdue University North Central barbarab@purduenc.edu

2002 State Conference Chair:

Steven Wietstock, Indiana University, Bloomington, swietsto@indiana.edu

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UPCOMING CONFERENCES

IAAN STATE CONFERENCE 2003

PNC is gearing up to be the hosting institution for the 2003 IANN Conference. The theme of the conference will be "Are We Listening?" All of the advisors on our campus are working together to make this conference fun - filled and informative. We want to have speakers for the individual sessions that are pertinent to your needs as advisors. If you have any suggestions as to topics or individuals who would be available to instruct us, please email me at barbarab@purdue.edu. Thanks for your input and mark your calendars for Friday, May 16, 2003 to come to Purdue North Central located in Westville, Indiana which is in Northern Indiana on the banks of Lake Michigan. Barbara Birchfield, Chair of the PNC conference committee

Barbara Birchfield
Learning Center Director
Distance Education Coordinator
Purdue North Central
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Cathy Buyarski
Director of the University College Advising Center at IUPUI

IAAN Position: NACADA Liaison

Goal for Position: To help IAAN and its members take advantage of the resources and opportunities provided by NACADA.

DON'T FORGET !

NATIONAL NACADA CONFERENCE

Salt Lake City, UT

September 28 - October 2, 2002

UPCOMING!

1. **SPRING 2003— NACADA Great Lakes Regional Conference (Joint with North Central Region), Madison, WI**
2. **SPRING 2003— 1st Annual Academic Advising Administrator's Institute Feb 12-14, San Antonio, TX**
3. **FALL 2003—the 27th NACADA National Conference, October 2nd-5th, Dallas, TX**

IAAN BENEFITS FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN NACADA

By Cathy Buyarski

Under a new grant program established by NACADA Region V, IAAN will receive \$5 for every member who also becomes a new member of NACADA. NACADA membership includes a subscription to the semi-annual NACADA Journal; a subscription to the quarterly NACADA Newsletter; reduced registration fees for the National Conference, Summer Institute on Academic Advising, and Regional Conferences; access to the Member Career Services, eligibility for the NACADA awards program <<http://www.nacada.ksu.edu/Awards/awards.htm>>, scholarships, and research grants; discounts on NACADA publications; numerous leadership opportunities; access to a network of advising professionals; and numerous other professional development opportunities. The NACADA Membership year is September 1 - August 31 or February 28 - March. Individual membership dues are \$50 per year, \$30/yr for retirees, \$20/yr for students. More information on NACADA may be found at www.nacada.ksu.edu.

Programs in Action

A forum for IAAAN members (or non-members) to discuss and inform other members about programs at their institutions.

Living Together, Persisting Together

Barbara S. Clark
Director, Women in Science Programs
Purdue University

All students make decisions about persistence during their first college semester, but students in underrepresented groups have additional barriers to overcome while making those decisions. During these first few critical weeks, all students make decisions about persistence by asking themselves questions such as these:

- Am I competent enough to be in college?
- Do I really want to be in college?
- Do I fit in this particular college setting?

Our research has shown that students housed in a living/learning community with other serious students - who are either role models or are asking themselves similar questions - answer these questions more positively than a matched control group of students who do not live together. The Women in Science Programs (WISP) at Purdue University provides a living/learning community in Amelia Earhart Hall for females in science. Supportive services such as tutoring, mentoring, and monthly dinner/social programs with speakers enhance this living/learning community.

Even though the Earhart Residential Program is focused on freshmen, 4-year retention rates are significantly improved - both to Purdue and to Science - over a matched control group. After 4 years, participants who started in the School of Science in 1997 were retained to Purdue at a greater rate (81%) as compared to a matched control group (61%). As a point of comparison, the 6-year retention rate for all Purdue students who began in 1995 is 66%. This same group of students was retained to the School of Science at nearly twice the rate as a matched control group (43% vs. 23%).

The cornerstone of WISP is providing support, role models, and encouragement to females who are underrepresented in the sciences. We believe that this model can be successfully implemented with other underrepresented populations that face similar issues of isolation and lack of role models.



Recruiting High Ability Students

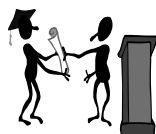
Catherine J. Sleeth, MA
Assistant Director of Admissions
(Purdue University, W. Lafayette, IN)

Since last year, Purdue University has made a conscious effort to recruit National Merit Semifinalists and National Achievement Semifinalists. These students enrich the student body and raise the level of excellence in every classroom. All Indiana Semifinalists received hand signed/ hand addressed correspondence congratulating them on their outstanding academic achievement and explaining the various scholarship opportunities available to them at Purdue University. They were invited to set up individual visits to talk to a professor, visit a class, take a tour and meet with an admissions counselor.

To keep Purdue University on the student's short list, personalized correspondence was sent highlighting numerous honors programs and opportunities available to challenge them intellectually. All the individual Schools have been receptive and extremely helpful in meeting with these students and helping set up their individual visits. This type of personalized attention dispels the myth of all students being a number in a university the size of Purdue University.

Our Admissions Department maintains a Student Information System that allows review of who has submitted an RSVP to various on-campus programs. This helps give personalized attention to the target groups and communicate to the different Schools a list of high ability students visiting them for any given program. The effect of walking up to a student and congratulating them on their National Merit or National Achievement status cannot be underestimated.

A personal touch is the most effective effort when targeting special interest groups. There is a saying I have on my computer that I believe expresses this best: "People will forget what you said. People will forget what you did. But people will never forget how you made them feel."



IAAN Mission

The Indiana Academic Advising Network (IAAN) is an organization of professionals from colleges and universities concerned with the intellectual, personal, and career or vocational advising needs of students within the State of Indiana. IAAN was founded to foster the personal and professional development of its members by promoting quality academic advising in the state. It is a forum for discussion, debate, and the exchange of ideas regarding academic advising and related areas of higher education.

IAAN Survey

Thank you to everyone who responded to the IAAN survey this past spring. There were 62 respondents to the survey. The results can be seen on the IAAN website -- follow the link for "Results of the 2002 IAAN Survey" in the left navigation bar. The Board of Directors will review these results this year and will use them as a basis for discussion as we move forward to reshape IAAN.

OpinionsA forum for your opinions and thoughts

Safe Zones in Indiana

by Criselda Marquez, Purdue University,
West Lafayette, IN 47907

Last semester I had some very 'gay' moments. One week I attended two diversity workshops and a student organization sponsored forum with gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) issues being the topic. That following weekend, I met with a few GLBT faculty and staff members as we began trying to form a social group for ourselves. Several shows that I watch regularly had a GLBT theme. Each time something would come up, I would try to figure out if all of these things meant something. Was I supposed to be doing something with all this? Recently, I finally got the answer.

For the second time, I had someone tell me that they had a gay family member. Unfortunately, this person has not felt comfortable enough to be able to tell anyone else at work. Apparently, I am the only one who has been told. I find this to be really sad. Why should this person feel as though they have to remain in the 'closet' because of a family member? Would they feel more comfortable to admit such things if they knew it was a "Safe Zone"? And, if a staff member feels it is not 'safe' enough to be open, what do our GLBT students feel?

Many colleges and universities across the country and in Indiana have Safe Zone projects. Essentially, a sticker or sign is made available for faculty, staff and students to display. The sign at Purdue West Lafayette reads: This zone is declared safe! Regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, and ability, you will be treated and respected as a human being. Ignorance, bigotry, harassment, and discrimination will not be tolerated. The stickers at Indiana University, Bloomington are very similar...at least according to their web site.

Purdue West Lafayette also has an organization called ALLY. Their website states, "the goal of this organization is to provide identified ALLIES to the GLBT community..." Once a person has gone through the training, they receive a placard to put on their door identifying them as an ALLY.

Both of these programs are very worthwhile. However, for some reason, the Safe Zone project 'died' recently and has not been revived. I guess that's why I haven't seen any of their signs around campus. It appears the ALLY Association is growing slowly, so I may begin to see their signs. But, why are there not more Safe Zone signs? Is it like this on your campus?

Are people scared that this would mean they believe in and condone those with a sexual orientation different from their own? That's not what the GLBT community believes. These types of signs simply mean to us that it is a place we can expect to be comfortable and not be judged.

One person posted in an online guest book, "I really do feel safe when I see a sticker as I am walking on campus or in my neighborhood." Because of this, I feel there would be a direct impact on the quality of the student-advisor relationship if these signs were more visible in advising offices. It would foster a sense of trust for the students, not only for our GLBT students but other minorities as well. They would be more comfortable coming to us with questions and concerns.

This would also affect our fellow advisors. Not only would those GLBT advisors that are not 'out' be able to relax a little more instead of having to be very careful with their vocabulary in conversations, but for those who are 'hiding' GLBT family members, it would help ease some stress for them as well.

I encourage you to look into whatever program may be available at your school. If one is not available, investigate starting one. Do it for your students **and** for your colleagues.



Outstanding Indiana Advisor Award

The Outstanding Indiana Advisor Award was created to recognize the importance of academic advising at colleges and universities in the state of Indiana. This award will be given to either a faculty advisor or a professional advisor that has made significant contributions to the field of academic advising through the criteria outlined in the nomination form.

Recipients of the award are recognized at the annual state conference and will be presented with a certificate of achievement along with a year's paid dues to IAAN.

The application form for the IAAN Outstanding Advisor Award is now available at the IAAN web site at <http://iaan.indiana.edu>. Hope many of you will nominate colleagues.

For further information, please contact:
Deb Perkins
IAAN Vice President



IAAN Professional Development Grant Program

By Kay Solomon,
Purdue University,
WL

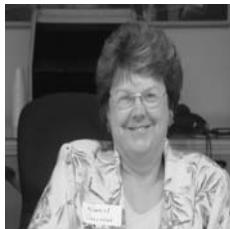


The IAAN Board of Directors would like to remind IAAN members of the professional development grant program sponsored by IAAN. Is there a book or monograph that would help you in your advising? A class you would like to take? A seminar you want to attend? IAAN has made \$250 available to IAAN members for professional development activities. Members can apply for the entire amount or any portion of it.

The application form is available on the IAAN web site.

<http://iaan.indiana.edu>

MEET THE BOARD !



Karen Sutton, Treasurer for IAAAN, is the Director of Continuing Education at Vincennes University. She earned a Bachelor's Degree from Indiana University and a Master's Degree from Indiana State University. Having been associated with VU for 31 years, she has had an opportunity to work with students as a faculty member, professional staff person, and as an academic advisor. While the majority of the students with whom she works are non-traditional or adult students, she is also Coordinator of the University's Project EXCEL program, a concurrent enrollment program that provides high school students with the opportunity to take college courses during their high school day. Her responsibilities in Continuing Education include scheduling and staffing on-campus and off-campus evening credit and non-credit classes, advising and registering students, and collecting and posting tuition payments. As Treasurer of IAAAN, she keeps a record of all income and expenses and provides financial reports at Board meetings and for the membership.



Amanda Zimmerman, I-CARE Coordinator, encourages you to use the list serve as a forum for information exchange.

We invite you to learn about some of our board members and their IAAAN-related goals here. Please get in touch with them, or other board members, if you have ideas or suggestions for IAAAN.



Steve Wietstock has been in academic advising for fifteen years, eight as a faculty advisor while he was on faculty at a small liberal arts college and 7 as a professional advisor in his current position at Indiana University. He became active in IAAAN to help increase the exchange of information between advisors on the various campuses within Indiana. **Steve's message:** I think that getting to know each other and each other's campuses will allow us to service our students better, especially students who are seeking to transfer between our various institutions. I am happy to be able to work with the leadership and membership of IAAAN in our common goals to enhance advising in the state of Indiana. We are constantly reviewing and revising the IAAAN website. Please take time to investigate our web site <http://iaan.indiana.edu>. We want to make this a useful resource for you, so please let us know of any additions or changes that you think would be of benefit to you or your colleagues. We are especially interested in expanding our links page (maybe it will become pages if we get enough information). So I look forward to hearing from you. You can contact us at iaan@indiana.edu.



Mark Razor is the South Region Representative. He is an Academic Advisor at the University of Southern Indiana and the Coordinator of the OPTIONS Program, a six year old program for academically at-risk students. He is a rookie at the academic advising game just completing his first year in this new position. Previously, he was an Instructor in the English Department at USI, where he still teaches one class each semester, usually a Rhetoric and Composition class. Before that, he was a graduate student at the University of Mississippi working at Rowan Oak, William Faulkner's antebellum home that the university now owns and operates as a museum. "With a background like that, it's not surprising that I'm excited about getting involved with the academic advising network—I want to learn as much as I can about academic advising, as fast as I can! Everyone I've met so far in IAAAN is a wonderful resource. I don't really have a philosophy on advising yet, unless it's something simplistic like 'always place the student's concerns FIRST.' But I'm looking forward to learning more about all of the theories out there. For now, though, my focus is going to be on contacting all of the schools in the South Region and trying to recruit new members from each school for IAAAN. It's true that 'two heads are better than one,' so as our numbers grow and as we pool our resources and put our heads together, we can only improve ourselves as advisors."



Bill Bruening has been a faculty member at IPFW since the summer of 1969. He received the NACADA Outstanding Advisor Award in 2001. He currently works as an academic advisor for the School of Arts and Sciences. His particular interest in IAAAN is to increase the number of faculty members who belong to both NACADA and IAAAN. He believes that the distinction between professional advisors and faculty advisors is an organizational one and not a distinction that makes sense in practice.



Joan Hoch received her B.S. in Mathematics from Purdue and M.S. in Education, from IU. She has taught math at IU Kokomo since 1971 and has been the advisor in the School of Business since 1990. Her hobbies are: travel, gardening, shopping. She is married - husband, Bob works at EDS. Children -Greg is 30, Asst. Prof of Biology at Concordia College in Moorhead MN, Heather 27, is an audiologist in South Bend.

Her IAAAN role?
"My role as secretary of IAAAN is to take minutes at all meetings of the IAAAN Board and membership and disperse them to applicable people. I would like to see more people involved with IAAAN, either as members or officers. It's a great way to get to know colleagues on campuses throughout the state and a way to have a voice with NACADA."



To become a member, or to renew an existing membership, please send e-mail to Karen Sutton at KSutton@indian.viu.edu



Central Indiana Regional Representative
Larry Ottinger, Ball State University,
lottinge@bsu.edu

Hi Folks,

This is that time of the year again when school has been in session for a few weeks. Most issues have been resolved for our advisees and we have some time to think of professional development. Please take some time to reflect about issues on advising, student development, and legislative actions and how they can impact our services to students.



Please feel free to express these thoughts either in the upcoming issues of ADVISOR UPDATE, or by sending an e-mail to the IAAN membership at I-CARE@LISTSERV.IUPUI.EDU.

This issue contains pictures of the IAAN board. The board wants your picture here too! We hope you will volunteer to send us your picture, introduce yourself, with a few lines about the notable work you are doing for education in your institution. Watch out! You may be picked on if you do not volunteer.

By the way, the position for State Affairs Representative is vacant. If you have an interest in how state legislature impacts education in Indiana, this office could be for you.

With best wishes for a productive semester
Sangita Handa
Science Counseling, Purdue University, W.Lafayette, IN

Please send your contributions for the newsletter, suggestions/comments to:
Sangita Handa, shanda@purdue.edu

REPORT ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING HELD ON JUNE 24, 2002

BY JOANNE EVERS, PRESIDENT OF IAAN

The Board of Directors of IAAN met on June 24, 2002 at IUPUI. Since this is a new Board, time was taken to welcome each other, introduce ourselves and gather a clear understanding of the role of each member. Minutes from the April Executive Committee meeting were approved and the minutes from the Annual business meeting were reviewed and prepared for membership approval in 2003.

The Annual State Conference was reported to be a great success with attendance and a balanced budget. The folks at Bloomington deserve our praise and thanks for a great day.

The IAAN treasury is on solid ground to assist us in our goals to serve the needs of academic advisors and their students in the State of Indiana. The balance is \$3033.92 with a membership of 70 and counting.

Look for results of the IAAN Interest Questionnaire and the Indiana Academic Advisor Award Nomination form on the web as well as the announcement of the recipients of the IAAN Grants for Professional Development.

The by-laws approved at the annual meeting were revised again according to the wishes of the membership. The revisions will be posted on the web for review and presented at the 2003 annual meeting for another vote.

Plans are underway by the folks at PNC, lead by Barb Birchfield, for the IAAN Annual State Conference and Business Meeting for 2003. Barb and her colleagues are creative and excited about hosting this event and look forward to seeing you all there. The date has been set for May 16, 2003. Please reserve this date to share with your colleagues across the state.

The Advisor Update will be sent via I-CARE this summer. Be alert you don't want to miss anything.

The Regional representatives will be working closely together to increase membership from their region and with the professional development committee to meet the needs of the advisors in each region.

The State of Indiana will be well represented at NACADA with Kay Solomon and Cathy Buyarski serving together until Oct. 2002 and then Cathy will continue until her term is completed Oct. 2004. At this time, Indiana NACADA members will elect the Indiana NACADA representative.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is on September 20, 2002. Please call or e-mail us if you have any suggestions for us.