



# THE **joy** OF ADVISING



**12:00pm- Welcome &  
Keynote:Dr. Victoria McGillin**

**1:00PM- AAC Business  
Meeting**



**1:20pm- Special Presentation**


**HAVING A SEAT AT THE TABLE: EFFECTIVE WAYS ACADEMIC STAFF  
CAN NEGOTIATE WITH UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION**

**Antoinette Cunningham-Biological Sciences**

**Corinne Forsys- Psychology**

**Kim Hunter-Biological Sciences**

During this presentation, we will discuss how the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) formed a formal committee known as The CLAS Academic Staff Collegial Committee (ASCC) to address needs and wants on behalf of all CLAS Academic Staff members. The ASCC Officers serve as the direct line of communication between the CLAS administration and CLAS Academic Staff. As Officers of the CLAS ASCC, we will discuss the historical background of the formation of the committee. We will highlight the growth and shared communication strategies that have been formed along the way that has led to successful outcomes for our Academic Staff. Ensuring Academic Staff gets a seat at the table is an important ingredient to the pie in making certain our voice is heard, ensuring employee morale, and most of all contributing to the university's mission for student success.





## 2:00pm- Session 1

### **ADVISOR JOY AND STUDENT SUCCESS: INGREDIENTS FOR AN INCLUSIVE ADVISING SPACE**

**Margaret MacKeverican- Public Health**

**Laura Hetzler- UAC**

The purpose of our advising office is to serve as a meeting space for both students and advisors with the goal of aiding the students' persistence and success. Advising spaces hold the potential to perpetuate dynamics of power and authority while also being viewed as the owned space of the advisor. The purpose of this presentation is to provide a recipe for an inclusive and welcoming advising space. First, we remove the power dynamics and barriers to student success. Then, we incorporate the well-building standard, accessibility, and the spirit of collaboration. Finally, add a pinch of personality for the pièce de résistance. Attendees will leave with the ingredients for the ultimate recipe for a shared space promoting student success and joyful advising.



### **NEW AGE RECIPES WITH OLD WORLD INGREDIENTS:**

#### **A FUSION APPROACH TO SUPPORTING ADULT LEARNERS AT WAYNE STATE**

**Amber Neher-UAC**

Working with adult learners is a lot like pulling together an old family recipe. There's the original recipe card, but over the years the directions evolve to meet modern tastes. Cooking times and temperatures crossed out and updated, ingredients are outdated, spaghetti sauce spills and obscures a few lines. As advisors, it's our job to pull these clues together into a cohesive "recipe" for graduation that's palatable to both the student and our institution. In this session, advisors will learn more about the adult learner population and what to consider when developing individual "gourmet" academic plans for these students, including:

- Cooking essentials: overview of adult learner theories
- Local ingredients: demographics of adult learners at Wayne State
- Spices and seasoning: resources available to adult learners at Wayne State
- Rare or well-done: what works and what doesn't (yet)
- Recipe swap: what has worked for you in supporting adult learners in your units



### **THE ANATOMY OF AN ADVISOR: USING INHERENT ADVISING TOOLS FOR STUDENT SUCCESS**

**LaSondra Dawn-Education**

**KaRie Jorah-Education**

There is no one characteristic that makes an individual a "good" advisor. Inherent traits along with academic, personal and professional experiences equip advisors with the knowledge and skills they need to provide students with engaging, rewarding experiences. This interactive presentation will explore the way personal characteristics of an advisor influence how well they build connections with students. Participants will engage in discussion and self-reflection activities that allow them to gain a deeper understanding of how using parts of the anatomy in academic advising can be a recipe for student success.



## 3:00pm- Session 2

### **TOO SALTY? TOO SWEET? GETTING THE SEASONING RIGHT IN YOUR ADVISING NOTES AND SUMMARIES**

**Kate Bernas-UAC**

Accurate and detailed advising notes are an important part of a student record. Not only do they detail the student interactions we have and the advising services we provide, but they offer a narrative of each student's college experience. This session focuses on the "recipe" of effective advising notes. What ingredients go into best capturing our student interactions? What words do we use to describe our students and our advising sessions with them? What role do notes play in supporting students, advisors and the University? What are the best practices and guidelines that should be adopted in the composition of strong, comprehensive advising notes? By considering these questions in this interactive presentation, we will explore how best to document our advising interactions in a way that adds only the best flavors, that helps support our student's success, and that reinforces our role, individually and collectively, as advisors.

**COOKING UP A RECIPE FOR MAJOR SUCCESS: HELPING UNDECIDED STUDENTS**

**FIND THEIR BREAD & BUTTER**

**Akelah Reese- APEX Scholars**

Oftentimes we are witnesses to students playing hot potato when it comes to choosing a major. Changing majors can lead to lower retention rates, stress, extended time in college, and funding issues for students. To alleviate these issues, this presentation will provide an overview of assessments advisors can suggest to their students to provide them with greater self-awareness and increased confidence in major selection. Attendees will learn how to assist students in better understanding their strengths, areas for growth, and the way they perceive and process information.

**4:00pm**

**Live Cooking  
Demonstration**

Grace Derocha MBA, RD, CDCES



Dr. Victoria McGillin is Associate Vice President at the Gardner Institute, a national leader in advancing teaching, student learning, success, retention, and completion in our work to advance equity, social justice and mobility in higher education.

She earned her B.S. and M.S. in Psychology from Pennsylvania State University and her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Michigan State University.

Vicki has served as a faculty member and academic leader at both public and independent universities. She retired after serving two terms as a chief academic officer, most recently as Provost at Otterbein University in Ohio and prior to that as Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty at Linfield College (OR). She has also served as Associate Provost at Texas Woman's University and Assistant Provost and Dean of Studies/Dean of Academic Advising at Wheaton College in MA. Before her retirement, Vicki worked with the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Ohio on developing academic collaborations among the 50 independent colleges and universities in the state.

Dr. McGillin's background with academic advising is deep. She joined NACADA in 1984 when she was appointed Associate Dean of the College/Director of Advising at Clark University. Within NACADA, Dr. McGillin has served on the Board of Directors multiple times as a Regional Chair, Chair of the Small College/University and Faculty Advising Commissions, Research Committee Chair and Vice President. She has served as faculty for the NACADA Summer Institute, founding faculty for the NACADA Assessment Institute, on the editorial board of the NACADA Journal and the national Grants Review Committee. Dr. McGillin has published and presented extensively on advisor development, academic leadership, advising assessment and on student risk and resilience.

Dr. McGillin's work at the Gardner Institute has focused on assisting institutions in the improvement of student academic success, retention and completion, coaching their teams through crafting equity-focused, evidence-based solutions to their challenges. She is one of the project co-leads for the Excellence in Academic Advising collaboration between the Gardner Institute and NACADA, the Equity in Retention Academy and the Governing Board, Equity in Student Success Project. Advising Wayne State University's EAA team as part of the Kresge project has been one of highlights of her current work.



## Cooking Demonstration:

Grace Derocha



Grace Derocha is a registered dietitian and a certified diabetes care educator and specialist. She is a health educator, health coach and registered dietitian at Marquee Health. She loves helping others learn how to live a healthier and happier lifestyle. She is passionate about educating others about nutrition, fitness, health, wellness and well-being, while guiding them through attainable behavioral changes. Grace was born and raised in Michigan. Mrs. Derocha attended Michigan State University and earned two bachelors of science degrees in psychology and dietetics. Later she earned her MBA from Wayne State University. ;) Grace is a National Spokespeople for The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. She has been interviewed locally, across the state of Michigan and nationally on the news, radio and a variety of publications. She is a wife, mommy of two, a puppy mom, Spartan, and avid Detroit sports fan. She loves music, dancing, food, cooking, shopping, reading, hanging with family/friends and smiling. ☺

