

# ACADEMIC ADVISOR SPOTLIGHT

## LANE KENNEDY



When you enter Close Hipp, suite 381, home of Exploratory Advising and Academic Coaching at the UofSC, the first advisor's office you will pass is that of Lane Kennedy. Lane has been an Exploratory Advisor with the University Advising Center since June of 2019. Originally from Newberry, South Carolina, he earned a BS in Business Administration from Newberry College and MBA from Charleston Southern University. Lane has been with the UofSC since 2015, starting in the Division of Administration and Finance then transitioned to the Student Services Coordinator role in the Bursar's Office before taking on a role in academic advising. When asked about his career path to advising, Lane states,



**LANE KENNEDY**  
Exploratory Advisor,  
University Advising Center

“It is not a traditional one. As an undergraduate student at Newberry College, I was working towards a career in business and finance. I then spent the next six years in customer service and retail sales on the front line of a financial institution. While working in banking, I had the responsibility of directing an emerging financial literacy initiative which involved presenting on banking and personal finance to high schools within the areas we served. When I began working with students in an educational setting, I found this opportunity to be both rewarding and extremely enlightening. Ultimately, this led to me realizing my true calling and the pursuit of a career in academic advising.”

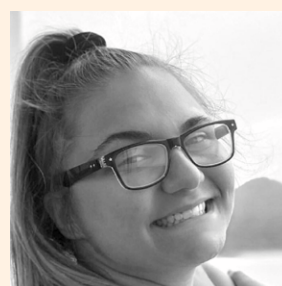


Lane's first advising role was as a Dean's Advisor in the College of Arts and Sciences supporting students in the sciences majors. This knowledge of multiple programs of study made for a relatively smooth transition to his current role in Exploratory Advising and most recently providing Academic Coaching for students in need of on-going academic support.

Morgan Joly, a sophomore Exercise Science major in the Arnold School of Public Health, was referred to Academic Coaching after a challenging first semester as a transfer student from Coastal Carolina. Joly shared,



“I went into my first Academic Coaching appointment kind of iffy about the whole thing, but truly I can say that it helped me more than I ever thought. **Having Mr. Kennedy as my Academic Coach was the best thing that happened to me at the beginning of the semester because he was there to help me when I thought I couldn't do it. Because of Mr. Kennedy, I was able to turn my second semester around. Instead of going in blindly like I had the first semester, I knew what to expect and what I needed to do to be successful.**”



**MORGAN JOLY**  
Exercise Science Major



“I worked really hard in our appointments to build her up and help her correct some bad habits”, Lane shared. Even so, he was intent on not taking credit for Morgan's successes. It is stories like Morgan's that remind him why he loves advising saying, “She is so proud of her recent success and deserves ALL of the credit for implementing and executing what we discussed in our time together.” He went on to say,



“**Witnessing a student implement and execute what we discuss in our time together and getting to share in their success both academically and personally is bucket-filling.** Even though we are not in this field for praise or recognition, it is such a rare and special moment when a student like Morgan recognizes how much you care for them as a person and reaches out to just say thank you.”

Morgan says she continues to update Lane on her accomplishments because,

“I want to thank him for always believing in me and motivating me to get back to where I was before. I'll always let him know how I'm doing with classes because I want him to see my success through till the end, just like he said when we first met.”

Academic Advisors and Academic Coaches like Lane Kennedy make a true difference every day in the lives of students. To learn more about the Exploratory Advising and Academic Coaching program please visit us online at [www.sc.edu/advising](http://www.sc.edu/advising).



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