Helping students stay on the(ir) path...
Session Outline

• Brief introduction to the National Resource Center
• National picture of advising
  • Evolution of advising
  • National data on advising
• Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Post-Secondary Strategy
• Advising Success Network
Section 1:

Introduction to the National Resource Center
Formally chartered in 1986 (activity since 1982)

Mission: To support and advance efforts to improve student learning and transitions into and through higher education by serving as the trusted expert, internationally recognized leader, and clearinghouse for scholarship, policy, and best practice for all postsecondary student transitions

www.sc.edu/fye

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube
National Resource Center: About Us

Core Commitments
• Student transitions
• Connections between research and practice
• Inclusion
• Collaboration
• Lifelong Learning

Activity Areas
• Conferences and Continuing Education
• Publications
• Research, Grants, and Assessment
• Network communication and external partnerships
Section 2:

National Picture of Advising
Over the years the purpose of advising has evolved

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STANDARD</th>
<th>OTHER</th>
<th>LEADERSHIP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Introduction to advising and how it is different than interactions with counselors in HS</td>
<td>• Identity exploration and development through academic planning, major exploration, and career pathways</td>
<td>• Important node in social network of campus, esp between academic and student affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Academic planning, transfer timeline, and progression</td>
<td>• Skill development and competency building</td>
<td>• Purveyor of message to all constituents that college isn’t just about retention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Major exploration and selection</td>
<td>• Triage for mental health and emotional distress</td>
<td>• Move academic advising as an emergent HIP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Chart career pathways</td>
<td>• Stewardship for financial investment in college</td>
<td>• Tool for equity</td>
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<td>• Forge a connection between student and institution</td>
<td>• Mentorship</td>
<td>• Prime example of scholarly practice</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Student success tracking and early alerts</td>
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</table>
Over the years the focus and taxonomy of advising have evolved

- **Technology-Enabled Advising**
  - Technology at the center
  - Point-solution led
  - Silver bullet/ unrealistic expectations + lack of preparation

- **Advising Reform / Redesign**
  - Advising at the center
  - Positions it within a singular function
  - Can create anxiety among advisors

- **Integrated Student Support**
  - Institution at the center
  - Highlights need for cross-functional involvement
  - Input focused, sets expectations of work involved

- **Holistic Advising and Student Support**
  - Student at the center
  - Outcome focused
  - Institution wide motivation
  - Sets a vision for continuous improvement and adapting to evolving student needs
## FYE Initiative (2017 NSFYE)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiative</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First-year academic advising (ADV)</td>
<td>80.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early alert systems (EA)</td>
<td>79.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-term orientation (OR)</td>
<td>75.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-year seminars (FYS)</td>
<td>73.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Placement testing (PT)</td>
<td>65.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer education (PE)</td>
<td>62.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student success center (SSC)</td>
<td>55.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developmental/remedial education (DEV)</td>
<td>54.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General education (GE)</td>
<td>54.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convocation</td>
<td>52.6</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
80.4% of responding institutions offer first-year academic advising
**Contact with Advisors**

- Only once, during the first term: 17.0%
- Once each term for the entire first year: 39.8%
- 2+ times each term for the entire first year: 21.3%
- Not required to meet with academic advisor: 6.9%
- Other: 14.9%
Academic Advising in the FYE Constellation

Legend:
- Lines represent correlations $\phi > .25$
- Colors of boxes represent percentage of institutions reporting FYE program offered.

Dark Blue = > 70%
Royal Blue = 50-69%
Light Blue = 30-49%
Gray = < 30%
Academic Advising in the Sophomore Year

- Career exploration: 59.7%
- Academic advising: 57.9%
- Career planning: 52.2%
- Academic coaching or mentoring: 38.4%
- Leadership development: 34.6%
- Major exploration and selection: 34.0%
- Campus-based event: 32.7%
- Early alert systems: 30.2%

Source: NSSYI, 2019
Objectives of Advising

- Academic planning: 88.9%
- Career exploration and/or preparation: 34.9%
- Major exploration: 30.2%
- Academic success strategies: 30.2%
- Introduction to a major, discipline, or career: 27.0%
- Persistence, retention, or third-year return: 17.5%
- Discipline-specific knowledge: 15.9%
- Knowledge of institution or campus: 12.7%

Source: NSSYI, 2019
How often did you meet with your academic advisor this year?

- Somewhat often: 23%
- Frequently: 22%
- Regularly: 21%
- Occasionally: 17%
- Rarely: 12%
- Never: 5%

Source: Sophomore Experiences
Survey: Schreiner, 2014
Academic Advising in the Sophomore Year

Satisfaction with Advising

- Dissatisfied or Very Dissatisfied: 11.0%
- Somewhat Dissatisfied or Somewhat Satisfied: 32.4%
- Satisfied or Very Satisfied: 55.7%

Source: Sophomore Experiences Survey: Schreiner, 2014
“In the two decades of data collected nationally on sophomores, the campus experience with which sophomores are least satisfied is advising.”

(Schreiner, 2018, p. 17)
Section 3:

BMGF Post-Secondary Strategy
Solution Networks
A connected community of practice of key stakeholders that collectively advance and maintain the delivery of a solution among institutions of higher education to support student success. Most solutions are implemented through a network, which supports its delivery (and, in some cases, development) through the following stages:

### Availability
- Develop and curate key solution assets: Create and refine tools, resources, and practices to support the solution's adoption by institutions
- Build the evidence base: Collect evidence to show the efficacy of the solution, especially for low-income and students of color, and the feasibility of adoption
- Accelerate market maturity: Ensure sufficient and quality TA provider capacity to support solution adoption

### Awareness
- Provide field leadership and expertise: Serve as the canonical source of expertise, define solution boundaries, and connect solutions to the student journey and transformational frameworks being leveraged by the field
- Build awareness and connection: Increase field understanding of and demand for the solution
- Connect with PSS partners: Engage with institutions in the broader Gates’ PSS strategy for other purposes as needed

### Adoption
- Build market demand: Monitor and advocate for wider adoption of the solution in accordance with supply of TA
- Act as concierge: Connect network partners with each other and other BMGF PSS intermediaries
- Provide technical assistance: Provide tailored support to implementation partners and Frontier Set institutions that is integrated with transformation

### Efficacy
- Create greater efficacy and efficiency: Continuously test and refine existing tools, resources, and practices to find cost savings and/or opportunities for greater impact for low-income and students of color
- Manage standards: Ensure quality implementation and fidelity to the solution practice
- Monitor ongoing market trends: Monitor and act upon trends and shifts in the solution market

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**THE PURPOSE OF SOLUTION NETWORKS**

**Solutions**
Evidence-based interventions, including practices, technology products, policy changes, and change management, that address key loss points for low-income students and students of color in their higher education journey.

**Solution Networks**
A connected community of practice of key stakeholders that collectively advance and maintain the delivery of a solution among institutions of higher education to support student success. Most solutions are implemented through a network, which supports its delivery (and, in some cases, development) through the following stages:
Advising occurs throughout a students’ educational journey and is a critical component to ensuring a smooth and efficient entry, proactive support that leads to timely progression, and seamless transition toward their end-goals either to a transfer institution or into the labor market.

Core components:
- Course planning & degree audit
- Identification of at-risk students
- Caseload management
- Analytics & reporting

WHAT IS THE ADVISING SOLUTION?

Leveraging data and technology to enhance human interaction through advising support

Integrated Technologies

Actionable Data

Improved Practices

Real-time, multi-modal, personalized advising support for ALL students
Section 4:

Advising Success Network
American Association of State Universities and Colleges (AASCU)
- Leading organization for academic affairs
- Has access to institutional leadership and holistic transformation in the 4-year sector; currently reaches 2.9 million undergraduates across the nation.

Achieving the Dream (ATD)
- Supports a national network of 230 community colleges, reaching 4 million students, focused on achieving sustainable institutional transformation to ensure students have a better chance at realizing greater economic opportunity.

EDUCAUSE
- Largest community of technology, academic, industry, and campus leaders focused on advancing higher education through the use of IT. EDUCAUSE’s 1,580 institutional members serve over 16 million students.

NACADA
- The Global Community for Academic Advising representing 12,000 members, including professional advisors, counselors, faculty, administrators, and students working to enhance the educational development of students.

National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience and Students in Transition
- A trusted expert, leader, and clearinghouse for scholarship, policy, and best practice for all postsecondary student transitions.
WHAT IS THE ADVISING SUCCESS NETWORK?

**Mission**
To identify, build, and scale effective and equitable advising solutions across the field of higher education to ensure academic, career, and personal success for all students, with a focus on low-income students and students of color.

**Vision**
A transformed higher education landscape that has eradicated educational inequities through institutional transformation that produces a seamless, personalized, and proactive educational experience for all students regardless of their economic, social or racial background.
HOW THE NETWORK DEFINES ADVISING...

Advising is a critical component of student success, and a “bright star” in the integrated constellation of student supports at an institution. The advisor-advisee relationship supports students as they identify and attain their academic, career, and personal goals.
The Advising Success Network’s resources and services are based on 8 observed categories of institutional needs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leadership and Change Management</td>
<td>Strategy and Vision, Accountability and Buy-In, Investment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structures and Processes</td>
<td>Map Processes to Future Student Journey, Create Incentives and Structures, Align Structure and Process to Improve Student Experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engagement and Communication</td>
<td>Student Engagement and Utilization, Faculty Buy-In and Engagement, Structures and Processes for Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Selection</td>
<td>Assess Needs, Identify Resources Needed, Use Rigorous Selection Process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Management</td>
<td>Project Management, Privacy and Security Protocols, Cross-Functional Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Development and Training</td>
<td>Define Core Competencies, Develop PD, Develop Career Pathways</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Situational Awareness and Planning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizational Learning and Continuous Improvement</td>
<td>Set Metrics of Success and Process to Evaluate, Establish System to Capture Ongoing Feedback, Establish Culture Around Continuous Improvement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE NETWORK HAS IDENTIFIED A NUMBER OF APPROACHES TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES

- Broadening definition of advising
- Developing network equity principles
- Creating a vendor engagement strategy
- Creating an interactive website to share vetted and approved advising resources
- Develop case making materials for institutional leaders

- Identifying and filling current gaps in services in the field
- Conducting research and develop guidebooks to help institutions better integrate career and financial advising
- Creating a roadmap and service tracks that outline ways institutions can implement
WHAT DOES EVERYONE HAVE TO GAIN?

Field At-Large: An increase in clarity and shared understanding among practitioners and campus leaders on effective advising principles and standards

Institutions: Able to receive tailored services in a “one-stop shop” format that brings together multiple experts

Partners: Able to enhance and update current services offerings and resources and expand their reach to more institutions
THE NETWORK PRIORITIZED SEVERAL ADVISING RELATED CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS

- Inconsistency
- Inequities in advising
- Access and affordability of quality services and resources
- Integration of advising with other student supports
- Persistent myths
- Vendor alignment
- More information/insights needed on the “how”
THINGS TO COME…

- Will have a public website in early spring 2020.
- Continued commitment to equity and expansion of our principle document.
- Appearing at a conference near you! Sessions at DREAM 2020, AAC&U, and NASPA Annual are scheduled so far.
INSTITUTIONAL TRANSFORMATION AT SCALE: THE BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION POST-SECONDARY STRATEGY

Our theory of change illustrates how we can work with partners to help hundreds more colleges provide millions more students with high-value degrees or credentials while closing gaps in student success by both race and income.

Impact
Hundreds more colleges help millions more students obtain high value degrees or credentials while closing gaps in student success by both race and income.