



UAFS

ARTS AND SCIENCES
ADVISING

CASAC MONTHLY

"ADVISING: OUR PASSION. YOUR SUCCESS: OUR REWARD"

College of Arts and Sciences Advising Center Newsletter

Special Issue Fall 2023

Volume 2 | Issue 1

What's Happening in the Center?

NATIONAL NACADA CONFERENCE IN PORTLAND, OREGON

Kristen Merritt Beck and Amber Berghold, advising coordinators for the College of Arts and Sciences, attended the Global Community for Academic Advising (NACADA) Annual Conference Oct. 23-26 in Portland, Oregon.

This conference's theme was "Building Bridges: Honoring our Past, Celebrating the Present, and Preparing for the Future." Kristen and Amber attended sessions that gave them the opportunity to recognize the perseverance and dedication that advisors have given to this profession while also looking ahead to where their paths lead in furthering academic excellence.

They attended presentations on topics such as culturally responsive advising practices, supporting students in periods of transition, bridging partnerships between faculty and professional advisors, and the importance of continuous development of advisors both professionally and personally.

Stay tuned for more information and reflection on what they learned!

PRIORITY REGISTRATION STARTS NOVEMBER 14TH!

Priority Registration is available to all current UAFS students, and occurs via my.UAFS. You are required to meet with your faculty advisor or professional advisor prior to registration. Priority registration is important because it helps you get seats in the courses you need!

Make sure you take care of all holds that will prevent registration prior to your registration date. To do so, log in to my.UAFS, click the "Students" tab, click the "Student Services" button, and then click the "Register Add/Drop" icon to view your holds. If you have a question about a hold on your account, please contact your CAS Advisor for help.

Other Important Dates

CLICK TO VISIT:

[2022-2023 ACADEMIC CALENDAR](#)

- Last Day to Drop with a "W": November 11
- Payment Plans Open: November 14
- Thanksgiving Holiday: November 24-25
- Reading Day: December 9
- Finals Week: December 10-16
- Commencement: December 17
- Final Grades Available: December 21
- Campus Offices Open: December 19-22
- Campus Closed: December 23-January 2

When am I able to Web Register?

NEED HELP REGISTERING ONLINE?

[CLICK HERE!](#)

- November 14 - Certain groups
- November 15 - 90+ credit hours
- November 16 - 60+ credit hours
- November 17 - 30+ credit hours
- November 18 - 0-29 credit hours
- November 21 - Nondegree seeking, transient, and concurrent students

Faculty Advisor Spotlight:

Dr. Elizabeth Momand

Professor – Voice, College of Arts & Sciences

My passion for advising students is driven by my unrelenting determination to see each one of them succeed. My goal for each student is the same – I want to see them happy, healthy, and feel confident and successful in their career journey. Many of our students come into the music program not realizing how demanding being a music major is. They might have been in choir or band in high school and it was fun so they decided to major in it. While our discipline is certainly enjoyable, it is also a lot of work. There are many, many hours of rehearsal outside of class, and many lonely hours spent in a practice room. When those realizations hit the students, as their faculty advisor I want to make sure they stay focused and have all the resources they need to make it through the degree.

My first bit of advice to students is to keep in touch with your advisor AND your professors. If you're struggling, reach out. We have resources to help. So often when I've asked students who their teacher is for a class, they have to look it up. Know your professors name and don't hesitate to contact them. We're not scary! We want you to succeed.



Also, don't try to go through this degree alone. Find a group of peers that understand you as a person. Surround yourself with people who will support you and raise you up.

Finally, take care of yourself – mentally and physically! Make time for keeping yourself healthy. You need all the mental and physical stamina you can get to perform optimally!

As for how I handle work-life balance, I keep myself engaged in many creative projects. I have a pottery wheel and when I'm super stressed, I work with clay. I also paint, make jewelry, do needlework, and make hand creams and lip balms, and I love to cook!

This is my 20th year at UAFS, and I am fortunate to work with people who are wonderful colleagues and who care deeply about our students. And that sense of caring is what makes UAFS a truly special university!

Apply for FAFSA and Scholarships

Apply for FAFSA (2023-2024): studentaid.gov

Lion's Share: Your gateway to UAFS Foundation scholarships. These scholarship opportunities are made possible through the generous support of private donors. Scholarships from the UAFS Foundation are a great resource to assist you in paying for college.

[Apply Here for Lion's Share](#)

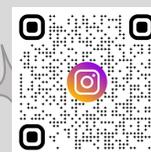
**Submit your application by February 5, 2023
to meet the priority application deadline.**

Questions?

Contact UAFS Financial Aid at scholarships@uafs.edu
or 479-788-7090.

Let's stay in touch!

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



INSTAGRAM:

@UAFSCASADVISE



FACEBOOK:

UAFS ARTS &
SCIENCES ADVISING

CASAC'S COMMITMENT TO STUDENTS

CASAC STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

1. Cognizance of the unique needs of transfer, first generation, and nontraditional students
2. Assist students in developing their academic goals and career targets while maximizing their gifts and talents to foster learning and growth
3. Refer students to institutional support, resources and materials to further their education transition to the workplace
4. Help students develop the intellectual time management and social skills necessary for mastering various tasks

1. Demonstrate understanding of your major (minor), general education, and graduation requirements
2. Communicate openly with your advisor by clarifying personal values, abilities, goals, and needs
3. Be proactive by seeking help and advice early in the semester.
4. Know your current GPA, enrolled credit hours, earned credit hours, and how that applies to your degree completion and/or financial aid.
5. Be aware of and follow academic dates and deadlines on the academic calendar.

Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better
 —Maya Angelou



ALEX TOBAR, MAJOR: CRIMINAL JUSTICE



What are your plans after graduation?

As graduation is just around the corner, I will be graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice. I plan on using the knowledge I obtained here at UAFS and putting it to practice in my career as a Police Officer of the Hot Springs Police Department. I will have the knowledge and experience I was fortunate enough to obtain, and I plan on passing it off to younger and less experienced officers.

Describe your advising experience at UAFS.

My experience at UAFS has been nothing but the best. My advisor, Kristen Merritt, has been a tremendous support in my time here. I was assisted when needed, and I am very thankful to all the UAFS staff that helped me along the way.

What was the best part about being a Lion at UAFS?

As an online student, and full-time employee, time management was key. Professors and advisors were flexible and understanding. They worked with and assisted me when I needed it. I would fully recommend anyone that is seeking further education, especially in the Criminal Justice field, to attend UAFS.

SYDNEY DU

MAJOR: CHEMISTRY WITH A CONCENTRATION IN BIOCHEMISTRY



What are your plans after graduation?

I plan to apply to UAMS pharmacy school for the fall 2023 semester. Hopefully I'll get accepted but until then, I'll continue working at the local pharmacy I'm currently employed at.

Describe your advising experience at UAFS.

Dr. Durchman has been an excellent advisor who truly cares about my career path. He has given me 100% into making sure I am taking what courses I need and planning them out. The advising department has also been amazing in assisting me with any questions I had.

What was the best part about being a Lion at UAFS?

The best part of being a lion was bonding with the diverse community we have. We're not as big as other campuses, but that has allowed me to have connections to many fellow students as well as closer connections to professors.

MACKENZIE SLUSSER

MAJOR: MEDIA COMMUNICATION WITH A CONCENTRATION IN MEDIA PRODUCTION/ & WRITING, MINOR IN RHETORIC & WRITING



What are your plans after graduation?

After I graduate in December, I plan on obtaining a full-time, communications-related job in Fort Smith!

Describe your advising experience at UAFS.

I have always had a great experience with UAFS advisors. My primary advisor Amber Bergthold has always been incredibly helpful and caring and I couldn't ask for anything more!

What was the best part about being a Lion at UAFS?

I have loved attending UAFS and I cannot believe that it is coming to an end! The Media Communication program is so unique and I feel so lucky to obtain a degree in something I have truly enjoyed. The professors that I have had each genuinely cared about their students and that has meant so much to me. UAFS will always be a special place to me.

SYDNEY ALEGRIA

MAJOR: MUSIC EDUCATION

What are your plans after graduation?

My future plans after graduation are to find employment in a secondary music program where I will be working with young musicians that share a passion for instrumental music!

I love teaching and being in internship this semester has made the dream I have been working for come to life. It is such a rewarding experience to teach and see students grow!

Describe your advising experience at UAFS.

My advising experience at UAFS has been an absolute breeze. With the help of the advisors I have had it has been very easy to understand how to navigate my course load with what I have been working towards. As a transfer student it is a stressful experience to start fresh at a new University however, I have found that advising has always been there for me. Any question I had or need was always met with great responses and information that has been incredibly valuable every step I have taken towards getting my degree.

What was the best part about being a Lion at UAFS?

I have absolutely loved my time at UAFS! The best part of being a lion in my opinion is having a sense of community and I have felt so at home. As a member of the wind ensemble and music department I have found my people, and I am very lucky to have participated in such a wonderful program. The community centered around music at UAFS and my brothers of Kappa Kappa Psi have made my college experience one that will have a lasting impact as I embark on my journey after graduation.

