

*Promote student success
through advising focused on
student learning and engagement.*

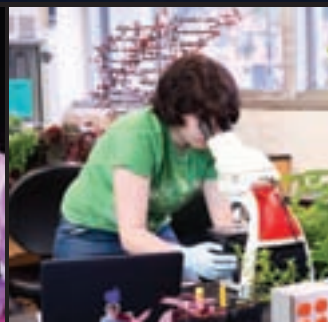
*Provide advising leadership
at the University of Iowa,
regionally and nationally.*

OUR VISION



**Academic
Advising Center**

ANNUAL REPORT
2016-2017



We take a leadership role in developing initiatives that improve the student experience, assist faculty and support departments on every corner of campus.

Collaboration Across Campus

The AAC provides **141 liaisons** to academic departments, colleges and university offices, connecting information from hundreds of sources to ensure a steady flow of data and details about students and curricular planning.



Campus-Wide Involvement

- Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Committee
- Campus Inclusion Team (CIT)
- Campus-Wide Early Intervention Team
- CLAS Course Planning & Monthly Meetings
- Co-Leader of MAUI Advising
- Early Intervention Team
- Excelling@Iowa Leadership Committee
- General Education Curriculum Committee
- International Student Advisory Committee
- Liaisons to Offices, Departments and Colleges
- Orientation Planning
- Path Forward Operations Team, Ad Hoc LLC Committee
- Provost's Enrollment Management Committee
- Student Success Team
- Success at Iowa Steering Committee
- Summer Hawk Tuition Grant

MISSION

To facilitate each student's transition to the University by developing and engaging in meaningful academic plans and activities and to advocate for policies and programs that create an environment conducive to student success.

"Faculty members appreciate the AAC's attention to the whole student and the big picture of the undergraduate experience, while we can focus on our discipline-specific course and career advice."

Dr. Cornelia Lang
Associate Professor
Department of Physics & Astronomy

"I am very thankful that my academic advisor took the time to explain classes and certain aspects of the University to me. I believe that she gave me good advice for my classes but ultimately let me make all of my own decisions."



We are at the heart of academics on campus, listening closely to what students and departments need in order to meet their goals.

Advising

Academic advising is, above all else, a teaching relationship. As such, we challenge students to grow and think critically about their University experience and themselves. All AAC advised students are required to meet regularly with their assigned advisor. This continuity allows advisors to develop relationships with their students and to focus on the unique needs of each student.

While advising is based on student needs, our understanding of student development, as well as our subject matter expertise and continuous communication with campus partners, provides us with the tools needed to help guide students.

Departments rely on us to teach first-year students to explore and discover their academic and career interests. These students learn about the resources available to them and how to navigate the university prior to moving on to the department for advising.

Most students—as many as 80% in some surveys—will switch majors at one point during their time in college.

[Straumsheim, Carl, "Decision Time," InsideHigherEd.com \(news blog\), August 24, 2016.](#)

"My academic advisor was really understanding when helping me with my course registration. I really appreciated how she wanted to make sure I was comfortable with the decisions we were making and that I wasn't feeling stressed out."

"The AAC plays a highly significant role in assisting students with making the transition from high school to college, not only academically, but socially, as well. The three meetings advisors have with students in their first semester are crucially important to ensure that students are adjusting to a much different academic and social environment than what they experienced previously."

Helena Dettmer
Associate Dean
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

"College Success Seminar has helped me significantly with time management. I gained a better awareness about how I spend my time and started studying and completing assignments more effectively."



Leading MAUI Advising

The AAC is the functional lead of MAUI Advising. MAUI is the central student information system used by the Registrar, faculty and all advisors. In 2016-2017, we worked with IT to develop the Schedule Builder tool within MAUI and MyUI to empower students to plan their courses up to three semesters ahead of time. Schedule Builder was piloted in Summer 2017 with 4,500 entering students, which prepared for a successful launch in Fall 2017 to all 23,000 undergraduate students.

THE SCHEDULE BUILDER TOOL ENABLES:

- **STUDENTS** to place courses in their carts, build and save preferred schedules, then register in one streamlined system
- **ADVISORS** to view their students' course selections in MAUI and to reach out to them
- **FACULTY** to better manage course enrollment and adjust course offerings with a view of which courses are in student carts

Providing this tool to students enhances the process of advising. Additionally, its effects are felt campus-wide, allowing for improved planning by students, advisors and faculty.

Our Impact

Every day, the Academic Advising Center (AAC) is involved in student advising and curriculum and policy development. We are always gathering information from students, faculty, departments and offices across the University to ensure an integrated approach throughout all major areas of study. Our work reaches:

Every first-year student within the 68 CLAS majors

Every CLAS student with the goal of earning undergraduate admission into: Education, Engineering, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health, Tippie College of Business

Every Open major

Every Pre-professional student (e.g. Pre-Med, Pre-Law)

Every Interdepartmental Studies major through graduation

Every Enterprise Leadership major through graduation

Every CLAS student and parent at undergraduate orientation

Every MAUI Advising user

Student Outcomes

Our expert advisors teach students to:

- Use resources and navigate the University of Iowa
- Identify skills and interests and appropriate classes and activities
- Plan their academic paths to achieve their goals

Student Success Initiatives

Student Success Initiatives further support the challenges faced by first-year students, transfer students and students who struggle with their coursework. Through specialized classes, outreach and advising, we make it easier for students who may be less prepared for college to connect to other students and learn about resources that help them reach their potential at the University of Iowa.

- College Success Seminar
- College Transition Program
- Courses in Common
- IowaLink
- Midterm and End-of-Semester Outreach
- Spring Success Meetings
- Strategies for Academic Success
- Transfer Transition

2016-17 By the Numbers

Student Traffic

Total Office Visits:

44,891

Fall Registration Visits:

476 students/day on average

Spring Registration Visits:

330 students/day on average

Outreach & Programming

ORIENTATION "INTRO TO ACADEMICS" PRESENTATION

11,019 students and parents

NEW STUDENT MEETINGS

2,187 students attended **209** small group meetings

MAJOR-SPECIFIC PRESENTATIONS

725 students

in Nursing, Pre-Health, Pre-Business,
Open & Post-Secondary

ADVISOR ON CALL

354 students

Email Contacts

33,000+ followup emails



Our Staff

18 Senior Academic Advisors and **20** Academic Advisors

5 Administrators

3 Administrative Support Staff

10 Work-Study Students

438 Years of Combined Advising Experience

Professional Standards

- Involvement and leadership in NACADA: The Global Community for Academic Advising
- Adherence to the professional standards of:
 - CAS Standards for Academic Advising
 - Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
- Award-winning training program and intentional and ongoing staff development programming

All of the advising staff members have a **Master's Degree** or **PhD**



Academic
Advising Center

advisingcenter.uiowa.edu