



Advisors Certification Conference Schedule

(times listed are Mountain Daylight Time)

Thursday, June 6, 2024

10:00 – 10:15 a.m. **Conference Welcome & Orientation**

10:20 – 11:25 a.m. **Advisor Certification Unit One**

Advisor I: Roles & Responsibilities **Cathy Lechmaier & Rita Wood**

Advisor II & Master: Student Sociopolitical Development **Mary Avalos**

11:30 – 12:30 p.m. **Advisor Certification Unit Two**

General Sessions All Levels

Maximizing Online Impact as a Student Affairs Leader **Kristin Adkins**

Thursday, June 13, 2024

10:00 – 11:00 a.m. **Advisor Certification Unit Three**

Advisor I: The Legislative Process **Dr. Phil Clegg**

Advisor II & Master: The Talk: A Diversity/Inclusion Conversation That Must Be Had
Odell Bizzell

11:15 – 12:30 p.m. **Advisor Certification Unit Four**

Advisor I: Conflict Resolution **Archie Graham**

Advisor II & Master: What the Marine Corps Taught Me About Ethical Leadership
Chris Molina

Thursday, June 20, 2024

10:00 – 11:00 a.m. ***Advisor Certification Unit Five***

Advisor I: 5 A's of Advising Student Groups ***Valerie Lynch***

Advisor II & Master Advisor: Managing Liability in Student Leadership Programs
Archie Graham

11:15 – 12:15 p.m. ***Advisor Certification Unit Six***

General Sessions All Levels:

The Wait of Gold: Sacrifice, Failure, and Resilience in the Lifelong Pursuit of Excellence
Evan Austin

12:15 -12:30 p.m. ***Conference Wrap-up & Awarding of Certificates***



2024 Advisors Certification Conference Workshops

June 6, 13 & 20, 2024

(times listed are Mountain Daylight Time)

June 6, 2024

Advisor Certification Unit One – 10:20am-11:25am

Advisor I: Roles & Responsibilities Cathy Lechmaier & Rita Wood – *This is the basics. Student leadership advisors have a unique role on campus and serving students. The presentation will focus on these many duties, effective methods for advising students. This is a core workshop that covers many areas of advising and developing student leaders.*

Advisor II & Master: Student Sociopolitical Development Mary Avalos - *California Community Colleges serve as vital spaces for students to engage in the democratic process, thus fulfilling their civic mission. This workshop will facilitate the role of community colleges in civic education with a focus on civic participation of students of color. This workshop will discuss ideas and methods for advisors based on the presenter's research at California Community Colleges.*

Advisor Certification Unit Two- 11:30am-12:30pm

Maximizing Online Impact as a Student Affairs Leader Kristin Adkins-*Designed specifically for Advisors, this workshop focuses on their online responsibilities, including promoting student engagement, fostering inclusivity, and communicating policies effectively—all within digital platforms. Explore practical strategies for leveraging social media to support student wellness, enhance engagement, and celebrate student success. Additionally, discover how to harness the power of AI to streamline tasks and generate innovative ideas, empowering you to excel as a leader in student affairs within the digital landscape.*

June 13, 2024

Advisor Certification Unit Three- 10:00am-11:15am

Advisor I: The Legislative Process Dr. Phil Clegg- *ASACC has three main pillars in its mission of education for community college student leaders: leadership, citizenship & advocacy. This session will provide a basic overview of the legislative process, and why understanding these processes is critical to being successful in advocating for the many issues that affect students on a federal level.*

Advisor II & Master: The Talk: A Diversity/Inclusion Conversation That Must Be Had Odell Bizzell- *All students have to deal with diversity which can often be very difficult and problematic. Odell's signature program on the topic of inclusion works to break down barriers that often limit us from truly connecting with one another. How do we make diversity relevant and actionable in a world where everyone spews their opinions on social media? This conversation is a high energy, engaging, and interactive discussion that helps students navigate through the banter and issues on their timelines. What Odell offers is an actionable plan to be more diversity minded.*

June 13, 2024 (continued)

Advisor Certification Unit Four- 11:30am-12:30pm

Advisor I: Conflict Resolution Archie Graham- *One of the most basic duties of a student leadership professional is managing conflict that arises. Conflict can surround you in your role on campus. Student conflicts, administrative conflicts, and political conflicts can all happen. This session discusses techniques for resolving conflict in a variety of situations. Focus on student leadership and teaching these methods to students is also part of the learning.*

Advisor II & Master: What the Marine Corps Taught Me About Ethical Leadership Chris Molina- *Ethical behaviors. Ethical choices. Ethical Leadership. Step into an honest conversation on ethical leadership. This transformative program is tailored for college and university professionals seeking to instill a culture of integrity within their academic communities. Drawing inspiration from the esteemed traditions of the United States Marine Corps, this dynamic session dives deep into the pages of ethical leadership, offering practical strategies and time-tested principles for fostering excellence in academic environments. From navigating complex ethical dilemmas to cultivating a culture of honor and accountability, participants will emerge equipped with the tools and insights needed to lead with integrity and inspire positive change in higher education. Join us on a journey of discovery and transformation as we unlock the secrets to building a brighter future, one ethical decision at a time.*

June 20, 2024

Advisor Certification Unit Five- 10:00am-11:00am

Advisor I: 5 A's of Advising Student Groups Valerie Lynch- *Originally developed by a dean of students with 35 years' experience this session discusses the intricacies of advising student leaders, the roles you should play, and how that role will change throughout the years as students gain more confidence and develop skills their roles and working with others for a common purpose. The program has been updated by the presenter to apply current best practice.*

Advisor II & Master Advisor: Managing Liability in Student Leadership Programs Archie Graham- *Liability and responsibility seem to go together. There are many risks student affairs must consider when advising student leaders. This session will discuss the many different situations and scenarios many will face and some ideas and principles to use in making these critical decisions. Events, travel, protests, and more will be covered in this session. Although laws vary in the States, this session provides a basic understanding of liability, clarification on your laws should be obtained from campus or private counsel.*

Advisor Certification Unit Six- 11:15am-12:15pm

The Wait of Gold: Sacrifice, Failure, and Resilience in the Lifelong Pursuit of Excellence Evan Austin- *In 28.98 seconds, Evan Austin etched his name in the record book as a gold medal Paralympian for Team USA. 28.98 seconds of determination, effort, and tenacity. But this story isn't about the wins; winning is the shortest phase of his journey. It's about the losses that allow the wins to be possible. It's about waking up every day and making meaningful progress toward his goal. It's about the wait. Evan's message of resilience focuses instead on the process required to work toward a distant, meaningful accomplishment. This keynote program is about how audience members can achieve greatness in their own lives through setting long-term goals, developing habits to build forward momentum, and learning to love the process of failure.*



2024 Advisors Certification Conference Presenters

June 6, 13 & 20, 2024

Cathy Lechmaier & Rita Wood



Cathy has a bachelor's degree in mass communication from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and a Master of Education from the University of Wisconsin-Stout. She brings 40 years of educational experience in Student Life as a Student Life Coordinator for Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC). She also brings 35 years of experience working with ASACC, and currently serves as the President of the Advisors Network. She has developed workshops, learning tools, and leadership development curriculum for student leaders.

Rita has a degree from Milwaukee Area Technical College where she also worked as an Advisor to Student Life. She is a big part of the ASACC Student Leadership Team and even served as their advisor for more than a dozen years. She has strong skills in working with students, listening and developing consensus. Since her retirement she enjoys camping and being outdoors with her husband, children and grandchildren.



Valerie Lynch

Valerie is the Vice President of Student Services at Lake Land College. LLC is a community college in rural central Illinois. Valerie holds a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) from Maryville University. She is also an Illinois certified Special Education Teacher for grades K-12. She started her career in K-12 education for 7 years then made the transition to Higher Education where she has been employed with Federal TRIO Programs and Student Affairs since 2011. She is an Alumni of the ASACC Advisors Certification completing the Master Advisor Certification. She lives in rural central Illinois with her two sons, Ross and Grant, and their two cats Roosevelt and Reagan. She enjoys attending the sporting events and activities of her children and studying genealogy.



Chris Molina

Award Winning Speaker, Best-Selling Author of *I'm In a Leadership Role, Now What?* Chris believes the world is a much better place when everyone feels they have permission to be their most-authentic selves.

A Marine Corps Veteran, Purdue alum, devoted #GirlDad, Filmmaker (loading) and Puerto Rican/Trinidadian/Chinese American, Chris has many experiences to pull from when he hits the stage.



Kristin Adkins

Kristin has built a robust background in graphic communications and web media with expertise spanning graphic design, digital strategy, and student engagement. Over nearly eight years with Pi Sigma Epsilon, the professional fraternity for sales and marketing students, Kristin played a pivotal role in collaborating with students and colleges to enhance the organization's growth and impact.

Kristin's experience extends to high-profile projects, including a graphic design and marketing internship with NASCAR, where she created print and digital assets for the 75,000 annual guests. Currently, as the Creative Director for ForCollegeForLife, Kristin has spent three years driving their online presence,

enhancing the website and social media platforms for America's leading college speaking agency.

Kristin is the founder of Crash Design Co., an award-winning web design agency with the mission to amplify the voices and ideas that make an impact and deserve to be heard.



Archie Graham

Archie retired after more than 30 years in the Office of Student Life at the Milwaukee Area Technical College. 24 years as the Director of Student Life, in this position he handled student conduct matters for the college, managed a staff to implement student activity program for enrichment and growth. He has B.S. in Human Services and Psychology from Drexel University and a Master of Education from Boston University.

Prior to his career in higher education, he served 13 years as an Army officer (CPT). His military specialty was Morale Support Officer, Army Community Service, Substance Abuse Counselor with his primary duty as a Psychological Assistant that

evaluated fitness for duty for army personnel stationed overseas in critical positions.

Other professional experience includes 4 years Assistant Dean of Students and Resident Hall Director University of Wisconsin Oshkosh handling student conduct issues for the university and managing an upper-class full year resident hall director. He also has faculty experience teaching Crisis Management/Conflict Resolution for Moraine Park Technical College supporting the Substance Abuse Degree Program.



Odell Bizzell

Odell Bizzell is a nationally known blogger, speaker, author, internet personality, and expert in training leaders to overcome obstacles to succeed. While in high school Odell started a small candy retail distribution center that earned him over \$75,000 while earning an academic scholarship to college.

As a successful keynote speaker, Odell has been featured in USA Today, Yahoo Finance, CNBC.com, and over 200 media outlets. Through his company, the

Impact Student Success Program, Odell has partnered with over 200 colleges, youth organizations, and the military to reach tens of thousands of students. He's also the author of 5 books and is a nationally recognized voice in helping students turn their life story into a success story.

His engaging and interactive presentations help students learn about the intersection of leadership and diversity and how to become more effective leaders in a diverse world. Odell has presented on the same stages as Super Bowl winning coaches, national politicians, and celebrities like Stephen A. Smith, Dave Letterman, and Oprah Winfrey.



Phil Clegg

Phil Clegg is the Executive Director of the American Student Association of Community Colleges. He worked in Student Affairs for 20 years, most recently as Associate Dean of Students at Utah Valley University (UVU). Phil earned his undergraduate degrees while serving as Student Body President and Vice President at UVU. He has a Master of Public Administration from Brigham Young University and a Doctoral Degree in Education from Oregon State University.

Phil serves on many advisory councils and boards, currently he is a member of the America's College Promise Board that was established by President Obama and Chaired by Dr. Jill Biden to find innovative ways to bring free community college to deserving students.

Phil lives in Lindon, Utah with his wife Jennifer whom he met at UVU while they were students and his four children: Kaitlin, Zachary, Abigail, and Swayde.



Evan Austin

Evan connects with audiences by discussing the struggles he faced growing up with a physical impairment and the resilience he had to have to become a Paralympic Gold medalist. His keynote is constructed to show audiences that there are many roadblocks and deterrents on one's path to success. Evan leads listeners on an emotional roller coaster as he illustrates, through his own personal experiences, some of the toughest failures and greatest successes a human can go through in a lifetime.

Whether he is speaking to campus organizations, student-athletes or a ballroom full of people who just want to hear an inspiring story, Evan delivers an experience that leaves audience members filled with hope, a new

perspective on not judging a book by its cover, and renewed belief in the ideal that hard work can make up for many things. Through his story-telling, Evan hopes audiences leave his program understanding that failure can be turned into fuel, that goals don't just change but also evolve, and that in the end the process of pursuing a lifelong goal is in fact the greatest prize.

Evan is a 3-time Paralympic Swimmer, Team USA Captain, attended Indiana State University for his Bachelor's degree in Recreation and Sport Management, and is a proud member of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity. The now Gold and Bronze medalist is on the coaching staff of the Purdue University Swimming and Diving team as a Volunteer Assistant.



Mary Avalos

Mary is currently the Coordinator of Student Life at Golden West Community College and has served in that capacity for 8 years. She is a MASTER ADVISOR completing her ASACC certification a few years ago. She has a Master of Public Administration degree from CSULB. Mary is also a Registered Parliamentarian since January of 2022 and has been a member of the National Association of Parliamentarians (NAP) since 2019. Mary has over 25 years of experience working with student government organizations.