

The Institute for Learning and Teaching

Advising Professional Development Task Force



Key Question: What should be done to develop a coherent, integrated professional development program for advisors at CSU?

Top Priority

Web Materials for Advisors. Create Advising@CSU, a one-stop location for professional and faculty advisors. This will involve taking over www.advising.colostate.edu. TILT will take the lead on development, working with key members of the task force and advisors from CASA. CASA will also support the effort by soliciting materials from key advisors. One goal of this development effort will be to create a “track” for new advisors.

- New handbook
- Videos
 - Model advising sessions
 - Model responses to common issues
 - Camtasia or Captivate videos demonstrating the DARS and other Aries advising tools
- Searchable FAQ
- Web Guides
- Podcasts, with Blane Harding as host, asking such questions as, “Has this ever happened to you?” Each podcast would offer advice on a common advising issue.

Advising Certificate for New Professional Advisors. This will consist of online modules and related materials. Some borrowing of approach from the TILT Graduate Teaching Certificates Program might take place. CASA will take the lead on developing the content, while TILT will support the development and deployment.

Advising Certificate for Faculty and Graduate Students

- Integrate into TILT’s Teaching Certificates program

Advising Listserv

- A key advisors listserv already exists; it could be re-purposed
- The list would be limited to high priority messages
- Consider creating for individual colleges, rather than having a university-wide list

Second-Level Priority

Assignment of Professional Advisors to Academic Programs. Each program should have a designated professional advisor, someone whom faculty can call with questions or who could put on sessions to train faculty. CASA currently has a liaison for each department, but this service is not being used extensively.

Advising Grants. Similar to Service Learning Integration grants, this program would ask advisors to attend a workshop on advising, carry out an activity related to enhancing advising, and write a report on the outcomes of the enhancement project. Grants might also be provided for travel to conferences. The reports could be sent to the Provost’s office.

Stipends or Honoraria for Key Advisors. This would be internal to each college. There might be issues associated with supplemental pay. We might be able to tie the stipends to completion of an advising certificate program or training program.

Advising Awards. Every college should have an advising award. For a model, consider looking at the AHS award.

Third-Level Priority

Attention to Advising in Professional Development Initiatives

- Address advising in some of the MTI sessions
- Consider including advising issues in Teaching with Technology Series
- Address advising issues at the summer learning and teaching conference
- Address advising in PDI sessions
- Retreats for professional advisors (which would also be open to faculty advisors)

Establish a Council of Professional Advisors. Faculty advisors would be welcome at meetings.