FIRST ANNUAL

ADVISING RETREAT

STORRS CAMPUS: LAUREL HALL
THURSDAY | AUGUST 17, 2017 | 8:00AM

Presented by University Advising
advising.uconn.edu
Welcome

Refresh. Learn. Collaborate. Connect. These are our goals for the day!

During the Spring we sent a survey to over 800 faculty and staff advisors to determine what they need in terms of training, professional development and support. What we discovered is that the needs of advisors – both faculty and staff – are the same needs that all who work in student support roles at UConn have. So we opened the day to any and all who are interested in joining us.

In planning today’s retreat we returned to the survey to identify the themes that emerged from the responses. Those themes include the following: self-care, self-improvement, professional development and networking. Our goal is that you leave the retreat refreshed and reinvigorated, with a better understanding of yourself, your colleagues and the students you serve.

We hope you enjoy the First Annual Advising Retreat! Please keep sharing your thoughts and ideas for how we can continue to support you.

Sincerely,

Katrina Higgins
Director, University Advising
Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning

Keynote

Why Gen Ed is Important for Our Gen Z Students

Dr. Eric Schultz
Professor Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Chair, General Education Oversight Committee

Today’s Schedule

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Types of sessions offered include:

- **Lecture**: Presenters traditionally present key concepts and findings using a visual aid (PowerPoint/Prezi/etc.) in a more formal setting, with potential for Q&A time at the end
- **Discussion**: Presenters guide and facilitate a group discussion about a specific topic, presenting information and posing thoughtful questions to generate examples and/or guide further discussion
- **Roundtable**: Presenter leads and interacts with participants through a guided discussion amongst those sitting at the same table, frequently offering opportunities to share ideas and network
- **Interactive**: Added to any of the above types if indicated by the presenter to be an interactive session

There are four distinct tracks attendees may want to follow based on interests and goals for the day:

- **UConn Information**: Generally presented by UConn programs or offices regarding their specialties
- **Self-Care**: An essential advising survival skill, offering attendants an opportunity to hone skills to stay healthy psychologically, emotionally and physically in this line of work
- **Professional Development**: Focusing on skill-building and opportunity identification
- **Student Populations**: Experts in specific student populations will share information with attendees regarding how best to support that population

A Note About Lunch

Each table at lunch today is being hosted by an office, department or program here at UConn. The lunchtime Table Talks offer you the opportunity to have informal conversations with key colleagues. This Q&A is designed for you to join a table for lunch and then perhaps join a new table for dessert. We do have a few unstaffed tables for those who want to form their own group, continue a discussion from one of the morning sessions or just want some quiet time.

We encourage you to take this time to meet new colleagues and network! As a special treat, for the last 45 minutes of the lunch break, Jonathan XIV will be in the lobby for a quick photo opportunity. Enjoy!

Door Prizes

UConn swag... we’ve got it! As you enter Laurel 101 for the final remarks, place your nametag in the basket for a chance to win one of many UConn themed baskets!

Special Thanks

Susie Mitton Shannon, Interim Assistant Director, University Advising
Erin Mason, Associate Registrar
Advising Advisory Board of Advisors: Alana Adams, Zen Buraceski, Carolyn Ginsberg, Mia Hines, Julie Lynch, Lauren Munyard, Meagan Ridder, Nancy Steenburg, Mariel Zoni
Peter Diplock, Assistant Vice Provost and Director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning
John Volin, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
Eric Schultz, Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
All of our many dedicated presenters and table hosts
Schedule of Events & Concurrent Sessions

8:00-8:50am

**Registration**
Laurel Hall Lobby

*Continental Breakfast available in lobby between rooms 101 and 102*

9:00-9:45am

**Plenary and Keynote**
Laurel 101

Opening Remarks: Why Advising is a Key Component of Student Success at UConn  
*John Volin*  
*Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Professor, Natural Resources and the Environment*

Keynote: Why Gen Ed is Important for our Gen Z Students  
*Eric Schultz*  
*Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology*  
*Chair, General Education Oversight Committee*

Advancing Retreat Welcome: Academic Advising: Herding Cats  
*Katrina Higgins*  
*Director, University Advising*

Plenary Wrap Up and Retreat Logistics:  
*Susie Mitton Shannon*  
*Interim Assistant Director, University Advising*

Concurrent Session 1  
10:00-10:50am

**Session 1.1: Working with Parents and Families**
Karen L. Bresciano, Assistant Dean of Students
Laurel 109  
*Moderator: Nancy Steenburg*

Interactive, Discussion: In this interactive presentation we will have a discussion about the benefits and challenges of having parents/families involved in the academic lives of our students. We will (re)frame this work as another tool to foster student success. Who should be interacting with parents/families and in what way? What tools do you need to be successful? We will talk about all of this and more.

**Session 1.2: Alleviating Stress for Advisors: Self-Care Techniques**
Nishelli Ahmed, Health Educator for Wellness and Prevention Services  
Joleen Nevers, Associate Director for Wellness and Prevention Services  
Cassy Setzler, Program Assistant for Wellness and Prevention Services  
Colleen Vernola, Health Educator for Wellness and Prevention Services
Laurel 307  
*Moderator: Zen Buraceski*

Interactive stations: Start the day by de-stressing with Wellness and Prevention. This session will focus on self-care techniques that advisors can utilize for stress management and share with students. Participants will be able to choose from multiple stations including an appreciation station with thank you cards, herbal pillow station, body scrub station and coloring station. Stop by to learn a new strategy or share one of yours with us!
Session 1.3: Emotional Intelligence and You
Joe Briody Ph.D., Associate Director of Leadership Development
Kristin Van Ness, Human Development and Family Studies, Academic Advisor and Adjunct Faculty
Laurel 106      Moderator: Alana Adams
Interactive, Lecture: This session will introduce and explore the general principles and concepts of emotional intelligence. As part of this session, participants will be invited to consider how they can apply emotional intelligence to their work – both with colleagues and with students.

Session 1.4: Advising and Supporting Transgender Students
Julia Anderson (she/her/hers), Rainbow Center Graduate Assistant
Laurel 111      Moderator: Mariel Zoni
Interactive, Lecture: This presentation will review the definition of transgender identity and its distinction from other identities in the LGBTQIA+ community. Attendees will learn about ways they can better support trans students on UConn’s campuses. In addition to learning some best practices, attendees will be invited to ask questions and engage in discussion.

Session 1.5: Developing Your Leadership Voice: What’s Your Thinking Style
Lucy Gilson, Ph. D., Professor & Head, Management, School of Business
Laurel 107      Moderator: Meagan Ridder
Interactive, Lecture: Everyone thinks, leads, gives directions, and asks for help in a slightly different way. This session will focus on understating what your voice sounds like, and how knowing this will help you when working with others.

Concurrent Session 2
11:00-11:50am

Session 2.1: Academic Exploration and Support: Helping Advisors Support Students
Leo Lachut, Assistant Director of First Year Programs and Learning Communities/Director of Academic Support
Eran Peterson, Career Consultant, Center for Career Development
Harry Twyman, Assistant Director, Academic Center for Exploratory Students
Laurel 106      Moderator: Carolyn Ginsberg
Lecture, Discussion: Academic exploration and support are crucial to student success. However, many students fail to take full advantage of available resources within these areas. This presentation will focus on informing advisors of these resources so that they can refer them to students when appropriate.

Session 2.2: UConn Tree Walk
Greg Tormey, Horticulturist, Plant Science & Landscape Architecture Department
Brian Krystof, Director Emeritus, UConn Landscape Operations
Laurel 108      Moderator: Zen Buraceski
Interactive: Take a leisurely walk to learn about our beautiful UConn Trees on the Storrs Campus. The walk will be led by Greg Tormey, Horticulturist with the Plant Science & Landscape Architecture Department for the last 29 years. Joining him will be Brian Krystof, Director Emeritus of Landscape Operations where he was Chief of Landscape Operations for 35 years.
Session 2.3: Faculty Advising: Imposition or Opportunity?
Hedley C. Freake, Ph.D., Professor and Undergraduate Program Coordinator, Department of Nutritional Sciences, College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Sciences
Katrina Higgins, Ph.D., Director of University Advising
Laurel 109  Moderator: Lauren Munyard
Discussion, Interactive: Research shows overwhelmingly that quality student-faculty-contact is one of the best predictors of student success and that advising in the best predictor of student satisfaction with their college experience. In this session we will discuss where faculty advising fits into the student (and the faculty) success equation. We will review the research on student success in college, and then discuss why advising is vital to student success and how engaging in the process allows faculty to become better mentors, teachers and researchers.

Session 2.4: Working with International Students: Helpful Information for Academic Advisors
Rae Alexander, Director, International Student Support Services (ISSS)
Laurel 111  Moderator: Meagan Ridder
Lecture, Discussion: International students face unique challenges related to complex immigration rules and the process of adjusting to a new culture. This session provides an overview of ISSS services and resources, student visa rules that may impact academic advising, and tips for supporting international students as they adjust to their new academic culture.

Session 2.5: Student Veterans at UConn
Nikki Cole, Executive Assistant, Office of Veterans Affairs & Military Programs
Laurel 107  Moderator: Julie Lynch
Interactive, Lecture: This presentation is designed to help UConn staff and faculty support student Veterans. The main topics will include: (1) An overview of the Veterans Community at UConn; (2) The role of UConn’s Office of Veterans Affairs & Military Programs; (3) Strengths and characteristics of student Veterans; and (4) Tips and best practices for working with student Veterans

Session 2.6: Setting Boundaries: Work-Life Balance
Janet Barnes-Farrell, Ph.D., Department of Psychological Sciences
Ragan Decker, Doctoral Student, Department of Psychological Sciences
Laurel 110  Moderator: Erin Mason
Interactive, Lecture: Work-life balance is an elusive, but desirable goal for most adults. In this session we will discuss what is known about the issues that arise when our work lives and the “rest of our lives” come together. In particular, we will focus on the nature of boundaries between work and other domains, factors that can “erode” or strengthen those boundaries, and individuals’ preferences for segmenting or integrating work with other aspects of their personal lives to achieve a satisfying work-life balance. This will be followed by interactive work to identify effective strategies for managing the boundaries between work and other important life domains.

Lunchtime Table Talks
Each table at lunch today is being hosted by an office, department or program here at UConn. The lunchtime Table Talks offer you the opportunity to have informal conversations with key colleagues. This Q&A is designed for you to join a table for lunch and then perhaps join a new table for dessert. We do have a few unstaffed tables for those who want to form their own group, continue a discussion from one of the morning sessions or just want some quiet time. We encourage you to take this time to meet new colleagues and network. As a special treat, for the last 45 minutes of the lunch break, Jonathan XIV will be in the lobby for a quick photo opportunity. Enjoy!
Lunch
12:00-1:15pm

Table Talks
Student Union Ballroom
Create your own networking table or join a table hosted by one of the following:

1. Academic Achievement Center
   (Leo Lachut)
2. Center for Career Development
   (Nancy Bilmes)
3. Center for Students with Disabilities
   (Katie Halbruner)
4. Office of Community Standards and Care Team
   (Kimberly Martinez Colón, Emerson P. Loisel & Alessia Satterfield)
5. Counselling and Mental Health Services
   (Betsy Cracco)
6. Dean of Students Office
   (Maureen Armstrong)
7. Degree Audit
   (Carl Rivers)
8. First Year Programs
   (Dave Ouimette)
9. Honors & Enrichment Programs
   (Patty Szarek & Monica van Beusekom)
10. International Student & Scholar Services
    (Annie Casarella & Sarah Manning)
11. Learning Communities
    (Melissa Foreman)
12. Office of the Registrar
    (Jen Gattilia)
13. Student-Athlete Success Program
    (Alana Butler & Jenn Holowaty)
14. Summer/Winter Programs
    (Susanna Cowan)
15. Wellness & Prevention
    (Joleen Nevers)

12:30-1:15pm
Photo Op with Jonathan XIV
Student Union Ballroom Lobby

Concurrent Session 3
1:30-2:20pm

Session 3.1: Students Helping Students: Developing a Peer Advisor Program
Kristin Glinzak, School of Business Academic Advisor
Laurel 107
Interactive, Lecture: Students drive the work academic advisors do, but how can we capitalize on the work students can do? This presentation will chronicle the development of a peer advisor program over 2.5 years as part of an effort to enhance peer connections and advising in the School of Business. Attendees will leave with concrete starting points, considerations to make, and frameworks to begin or enhance their own peer advisor program.

Moderator: Carolyn Ginsberg

Session 3.2: Stop, Look & Listen: A Connected Community Response to Stress
Betsy Cracco, Ph.D., Director, Counseling and Mental Health Services
Laurel 106
Lecture, Discussion: Anxiety is the number one mental health concern of students nationally and at UConn. Data suggest that anxiety is a normative experience for college students. Using models based in Emotional Intelligence, we will explore how we as a community can respond to this public health issue. We will also highlight new CMHS services being developed to address stress and anxiety, and review basic protocol for identifying and responding to acute situations.

Moderator: Julie Lynch

Session 3.3: Active Listening: The Quiet Superpower
Suzanne LaFleur, Ph.D., Director of Faculty Enhancement, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CELT).
Laurel 109
Interactive, Lecture: As advisors the most important thing we can do is listen. Yet, as simple as it sounds, being in the moment and listening without distraction is something we all struggle with at different times. In this session we will discuss what active listening involves (and does not involve), how we can train ourselves to be better listeners; and how our improved listening skills can help us be better advisors (and people).
Session 3.4: Supporting Undocumented Students: Barriers & Best Practices
Stefan Keller, College Access Program Manager, Connecticut Students for a Dream
Lesley N. Salafia, Esq., Attorney, UConn Office of the General Counsel
Laurel 110     Moderator: Mia Hines
Interactive, Lecture: Despite the barriers that exist in the system for undocumented students, many have found a way to enroll in and attend UConn. These students have worked tirelessly over the last few years to ensure that UConn has become a more welcoming place for undocumented students including the creation of a website and policies around immigration and police interaction. Advising is a particularly important area to consider as undocumented students face challenges remaining full-time and figuring out what their life after college will look like. Come and learn directly from these students about what it means to be undocumented and how to work with students in your role as an advisor.

Session 3.5: Community Standards at UConn: Student Conduct and Threat Assessment
Kimberly Martinez Colón, Assistant Director, Community Standards
Emerson P. Loisel, Assistant Director, Community Standards
Alessia Satterfield, Assistant Director, Community Standards
Laurel 111     Moderator: Nancy Steenburg
Lecture: Community Standards at UConn serves the community by ensuring the rights of all students as they pertain to The Student Code. Community Standards staff investigate alleged violations of The Student Code (including sexual misconduct), manage the Academic Integrity policy and house the University's Care Team. The staff of Community Standards will provide an in-depth look at the work of the office and the valuable relationships with partners across campus.

Concurrent Session 4
2:30-3:20pm
Session 4.1: Advising on the Rise: Managing Large Caseloads
Lauren Munyard, CLAS Academic Advisor
Laurel 107     Moderator: Erin Mason
Roundtable: Many colleges continue to see a steady (or rapid) rise in matriculating students. Yet in advising, we try our best to make them feel like a person and not a number. How can we best manage our large number of students while providing them with individualized advising and service? What are some efficient yet effective tips and techniques to communicate to the masses of students while also helping the students feel served and supported? In this session we will share our experiences and expertise so that we may learn from one other.

Session 4.2: Meditation at Work: Come as you are. Sit, Breathe, Relax.
Carolyn Ginsberg, Stamford Campus Coordinator of Advising
Zen Buraceski, CLAS Academic Advisor
Laurel 307     Moderator: Alana Adams
Interactive: Our busy pace at work can sometimes leave us exhausted and not at our best. We will explore ways to ‘still the mind’ through Laughter Yoga, a brief guided meditation and group discussions.

Session 4.3: Helping Students in Distress
Erin Cox, Psy.D., Outreach Coordinator, Counseling & Mental Health Services
Laurel 106     Moderator: Mia Hines
Lecture, Discussion: This interactive workshop will utilize formal instruction and discussion to explore common mental health concerns in college students. Participants will learn to recognize the warning signs which indicate that someone is in distress, how to provide support to those in need, and what local resources are available to help in crisis situations.
**Session 4.4: Campus Change and Transfer Students**
Patricia M. Harkins, Ph.D., Faculty Director, Transfer Connections House; Assistant Director, Bachelor of General Studies Program for the Storrs Campus; ACES Advisor
Nancy H. Steenburg, Ph.D., Associate Director of Academic Advising, Assistant Director Bachelor of General Studies Program, Director of the Non-Degree Program for the Avery Point campus
Laurel 308
Moderator: Julie Lynch

Roundtable: Despite being experienced college students, Campus Change and Transfer Students are a unique student population that require our particular attention when they transition to, and between our campuses. They may experience challenges in adjusting academically to a particular UConn campus or to UConn as a new institution. They may also experience feelings of social isolation as they struggle to adapt to and belong at their new campus. Participants will share their experiences and best practices in advising Campus Change and Transfer students and gain insights in how to better facilitate the transition of these students to our campuses.

**Session 4.5: Practical Approaches for Working with Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder**
Nick Gelbar, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Community Medicine; Research Director of UConn Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities
Christine Wenzel, M.A. Education, Associate Director of Center for Students with Disabilities
Laurel 309
Moderator: Mariel Zoni

Interactive, Lecture: This presentation will provide an overview of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) particularly focused on the experiences of college students with ASD. It will provide practical strategies for working with college students with ASD during advising encounters. This presentation will also discuss strategies for problem solving with individuals with ASD.

3:30-4:00pm
**Final Remarks & Door Prizes**
Katrina Higgins, Ph.D., Director, University Advising
Susie Mitton Shannon, Interim Assistant Director, University Advising
Laurel 101

UConn swag… we’ve got it! As you enter Laurel 101 for the final remarks, place your nametag in the basket for a chance to win one of many UConn themed baskets!

**Evaluations**

Please be sure to complete a session evaluation for each session you attend and deliver it to the session moderators.

Watch for a follow-up email with a survey link seeking feedback regarding your experience today. In this survey you will be asked to indicate if you would like to receive a hard copy of the University Catalog.

**University Catalog**

It was our intention to provide every attendee a copy of the University Catalog. However we have learned that the cost is prohibitive. In a survey you will receive following the retreat, you will be asked if you still wish to have a hard copy. For those who complete the survey and indicate they would like a hard copy, we will honor that request. Thank you in advance for your understanding and flexibility.

Here is a PDF link to [the 2017-2018 UConn Undergraduate Catalog](#) for your convenience.
Meet the Presenters

Nishelli Ahmed is a Health Educator for Wellness and Prevention Services at UConn. She has over 4 years of experience in presenting public health presentations to the UConn community. Her areas of expertise include stress management, including coordinating the department’s Time out Tuesdays, and sexual health.

Rae Alexander is the Director of International Student and Scholar Services. She has worked with ISSS since 2009, first as international advisor to the regional campuses, and then as Assistant Director, before becoming Director in 2016.

Julia Anderson is a graduate student in the Higher Education Student Affairs (HESA) program at UConn. She has served as the graduate assistant for the Rainbow Center for one year. She graduated in May of 2016 from the University of Georgia, and she plans to work in higher education and student affairs after her graduate program. Julia has worked this summer on updating the UConn Gender Transition Guide.

Janet Barnes-Farrell is an industrial-organizational psychologist and Professor of Psychological Sciences at UConn. Her primary fields of expertise include aging and work, the interface between work and other life domains, and the measurement of work performance and work attitudes. Dr. Barnes-Farrell’s research on these topics has appeared in numerous edited volumes, professional journals and scientific conference presentations. Her current research centers on psychosocial aspects of work and aging and on the process and consequences of work-life balance for workers and organizations.

Karen Bresciano joins us from the Dean of Students Office where she serves as an Assistant Dean. She partners with students, parents, faculty and staff to support students’ success. In addition to her general advocacy work, she counsels students contemplating withdrawal or cancellation and evaluates and makes decisions about student requests for readmission. Outside of the office, Karen serves on numerous campus-wide committees where she researches, evaluates, and recommends changes in policies and procedures as related to the student experience including the Cross-Divisional Communication/Strategy Committee, the Senate Student Welfare Committee, the Senate Scholastic Standards Committee, and the Senate Executive Committee. Prior to joining the team at UConn, Karen held positions at other institutions in Residential Life and Community Standards. She received her BA in Health Education from UConn and her MS in Higher Ed Administration from Indiana State University.

Joseph Briody, in his role as Associate Director of Leadership Development, oversees the broad portfolio of leadership development programs. Dr. Briody has over 15 years of teaching experience at the undergraduate and graduate level using innovative pedagogical approaches to teaching individual and organizational leadership. He also has a background and interest in assessment and research and holds a Ph.D. in Higher Education, a Masters in Education, and a B.A. in Accounting.

Zen Buraceski received her Master of Science degree in Zoology from UConn, but immediately strayed into teaching and advising. She has been a practicing Buddhist for 24 years and credits mindfulness meditation and teacher Tich Nhat Hanh with acquiring a sense of peace in her daily life.

Nikki Cole started working in UConn’s Office of Veterans Affairs & Military Programs in May 2013, when the office was first formed. Nikki has worked as part of a team dedicated to providing support, advocacy, and building partnerships on and off-campus to foster successful transitions for students entering UConn from military life.

Kim M. Colón serves as an Assistant Director in the Office of Community Standards. Kim grew up in Connecticut and graduated with her bachelor’s in Sociology and Masters in Counseling with a concentration in Student Development in Higher Education from Central Connecticut State University. Prior to joining the Community Standards team, Kim served as the Director of Student Life at Albertus Magnus College in New Haven CT. Kim has worked in Student Affairs for over 10 years, with experience in Residential Life and Student Conduct. In her free time Kim enjoys reading, catching up on her favorite shows, and spending time with her family and two dogs.
Erin Cox has been with the University of Connecticut Counseling & Mental Health Services since 2014, serving as the Outreach Coordinator. In addition to providing outreach services to the UConn community, Dr. Cox also serves as a staff psychologist, providing therapeutic services to students.

Betsy Cracco has been the Director of Counseling and Mental Health Services at UConn since 2013. She has previously worked in college mental health at the University of Wisconsin, College of the Holy Cross and Connecticut College, and has a strong background and interest in trauma and violence prevention work, having served as the VAWPP Coordinator at UConn from 2005 to 2008. She has her bachelor’s degree in Psychology from the College of the Holy Cross, a Master’s in Counseling Psychology from Boston College and a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the University of Wisconsin – Madison.

Ragan Decker is currently a second-year student in the Industrial and Organizational Psychology doctoral program at the University of Connecticut. She is interested in work-life issues as well as mistreatment in the workplace. Ragan holds an undergraduate degree from Eastern Connecticut State University.

Hedley Freake is a Professor of Nutritional Sciences now entering his 30th year on the faculty at UConn. His work has been supported by the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation and United States Department of Agriculture, and has recently focused on undergraduate education, including general education, STEM and supporting underrepresented students. Of the many things he has done in his time here, he finds student advising to be one of the most rewarding. He has received a range of UConn awards for teaching, advising and service.

Nick Gelbar is an Assistant Professor in Community Medicine and Health Care at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine and serves as the Research Director at the University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD). Dr. Gelbar earned his PhD from the University of Connecticut in Educational Psychology with a concentration in School Psychology. He is also a licensed psychologist whose clinical and research work focus on adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Lucy Gilson is the Management Department Head at the UConn School of Business. Her research focuses on individual and team creativity, why managers should want employees to be creative, virtual teams, and team effectiveness. She teaches Leadership and Managing Innovation and Organizational Change to graduate, undergraduate, and executives. Dr. Gilson has published in the top management and psychology journals around the world, and consults with multinational companies as well as state and national agencies in the areas of leadership, women and leadership, managing virtual teams, managing change, and leading for creativity.

Carolyn Ginsberg has worked with Gina Sharpe, Sharon Salzberg, Joseph Goldstein and others in the Insight Meditation tradition since 2010 and occasionally leads informal meditation groups. She is an active member of the Westchester Insight Meditation Community, the Buddhist Social Justice sangha and attends a silent retreat each year at the Insight Meditation Society in Barre, MA, to cultivate her inner stillness. Carolyn is Coordinator of Advising at the Stamford campus.

Kristin Glinzak has been an academic advisor in the School of Business for almost three years. Her previous professional work has been in residence life at Western New England University and Ohio State. She’s originally from Bakersfield, California and received her bachelor’s degree from UCLA in American Literature and Culture and her master’s in Higher Education and Student Affairs from Ohio State.

Pat Harkins has been working with specific transfer student populations for the last 8 years, including Bachelor of General Studies students and ACES students. She is in her second year of serving as Faculty Director for a new learning community called Transfer Connections House, which is designed for new transfer students in a variety of majors at the Storrs campus. She earned her Ph.D. in Adult Learning from UCONN in 2008.

Katrina Higgins has worked in higher education in Australia and the U.S. for over 20 years. She is the University Director of Advising at UConn. Prior to being the Director of Advising, Katrina headed the CLAS Academic Services Center for 11 years. In her current position, Katrina’s role is to support staff and faculty advising through assessment, training and professional development. Katrina has a PhD in History from the University of Tasmania.
Jonathan XIV is the official UConn Mascot. Jonathan was born on October 5, 2013 and has been the mascot since January 29, 2014. Jonathan is cared for by Alpha Phi Omega the co-ed service learning fraternity. Jonathan has two sponsors John Gagnon Pet Resort in Colchester, CT and Fenton River Veterinary Hospital in Tolland CT.

Stefan Keller graduated with his Masters in Social Work from UCONN in 2015 and started working for CT Students for a Dream upon graduation. Stefan is not undocumented, but was brought into this work thanks to the power of undocumented youth that pushed him to be engaged and informed. For the past 2 years Stefan has coordinated the College Access Program for the organization, working with students and educators to create welcoming and supportive policies and practices for students.

Brian Krystof led the UConn Landscape Department until his retirement in 2003. During his time at UConn, Brian played a key role in developing the UConn Arboretum Committee, and successfully campaigned to have the UConn Storrs campus arboretum included on the list of nationally recognized arboreta and botanic gardens. Brian has also chaired the Town of Mansfield Beautification Committee and is a licensed Arborist for the State of Connecticut.

Leo Lachut has worked in Higher Education for the past twenty four years. Currently, Leo is the Director of the Academic Support and Assistant Director of First Year Programs and Learning Communities. Here at UConn, Leo has worked as a counselor, advisor, and with UConn’s TRIO program. Before coming to UCONN, Leo worked in many areas of counseling, including as a counselor and advisor at Manchester Community College, with sixth graders in the East Hartford school system, and with adult males involved with domestic violence issues. On campus Leo serves on many committees surrounding student retention and success. Leo holds a bachelor’s degree in liberal arts from UCONN, a master’s degree in counseling from Saint Joseph University and is currently completing national certification and licensure in the Counseling Psychology Program here at UCONN.

Suzanne J. LaFleur has many years of teaching experience in psychology and human development. As Director of Faculty Enhancement in the Center of Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL), she works with individual instructors and academic departments on a variety of areas of teaching and learning and develops resources and programs related to pedagogy and course design. Suzanne has a Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Virginia. She joined CETL in 2013.

Emerson P. Loisel is an Assistant Director of Community Standards, and recently joined the team. Prior to joining the University of Connecticut, Emerson was the Assistant Director of Student Activities at the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA). As part of his responsibilities at MICA, Emerson directed the Community Art and Service Program which included training and advising students on good practices with individuals at local community organizations utilizing principles of multi-cultural competency, racial and socio-economic justice, ethical decision-making, and professionalism. Emerson also served as a Title IX Investigator for MICA. Emerson earned his Master’s in Higher Education and Student Affairs from the University of Connecticut and his Bachelor’s in Political Science and Women’s and Gender Studies from the University of Vermont. During his previous time at UConn, Emerson served as a graduate assistant in Student Activities and as a graduate practicum student in Community Standards.

Susie Mitton Shannon joined UConn as the Associate Dean of Students in January of 2015. She led the University’s Incident Response Team and Co-chaired the University’s Title IX Response Team. Currently, Susie is the Interim Assistant Director of University Advising. She has over twenty years of leadership experience from a variety of higher education institutions. Susie served as the Interim Dean of Student Conduct and Deputy Title IX Coordinator at Amherst College, the Director of Residential Life, Community Standards and Conference Services at Marymount College and the Assistant Dean of Students at Dean College. She held numerous leadership and administrative roles at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and University of Central Arkansas. Susie is a graduate of Westfield State University (BA), University of Central Arkansas (MS), and University of Massachusetts Amherst (MEd).
Lauren Munyard started her career in higher education in 2001 as Supervisor of Admissions Records at Boston University, managing 9 staff members who processed over 30,000 applications. Later she began her advising career at BU’s College of Communication where they advised over 2000 students. She joined UConn School of Business where they also advised over 2000 students. Lauren then became the first full-time advisor for the Department of Communication setting up an advising center that served 800 majors; she initially advised all students alone, later managed a staff consisting of another full-time advisor and 6 student workers. She now advises in the Department of Economics which serves 1200 students, a major that has doubled since 2011. As a result, Lauren has spent most of her career serving a large caseload and, as a communication scholar, has used and honed methods to connect with a large audience while maintaining as much personal service as possible.

Joleen Nevers is the Associate Director for Wellness and Prevention Services at UConn. She has over 20 years of experience in public health working with college students. Her areas of expertise include stress management, sexual health and peer education. She is a certified Laughter Leader.

Eran Peterson is a Career Consultant, assisting students in all colleges in both major and career decision making. With expertise in job and internship search strategies, résumé and cover letter development and interview preparation, Eran can help identify and tailor career development to meet individual needs. Additionally, Eran regularly provides workshops to classes and campus organizations on all career related topics. After completing a Bachelor of Science in Sport and Leisure Management from Eastern Connecticut State University, Eran deployed to Iraq in 2006 and returned to complete a Master of Science in Counselor Education with a specialization in Student Development in Higher Education from Central Connecticut State University. Before joining the Center for Career Development at UConn, Eran counseled in both the community college and private college settings.

Lesley Salafia is an attorney for the University within the University’s Office of the General Counsel. She graduated from UConn Law in 2006 and practiced immigrations and employment law prior to joining UConn in 2010. One of her areas of responsibility on behalf of the University is immigration law, including navigating the University’s relationship with its undocumented student population.

Alessia Satterfield joined the University of Connecticut Community Standards staff as an Assistant Director in June 2016 after working for three years in education and leadership development for a national Greek-letter organization. In her current role, Alessia primarily serves as a case manager on the Care Team and investigator for alleged violations of The Student Code. Within her staff role, Alessia manages the Probation Review Process, supervises HESA graduate students and facilitates various outreach programming for the department. Alessia earned her Master’s in Higher Education and Student Affairs from the University of Connecticut and her Bachelor’s in Sociology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. During her previous time at UConn, Alessia served as a graduate assistant in CLAS for Alumni Relations and as a graduate practicum student in Community Standards.

Eric Schultz has been on faculty at UConn since 1995. He does research on, and teaches undergraduates about biology of fishes and physiology. Dr. Schultz also teaches writing intensive courses, especially the department’s honors thesis course. He is beginning his second year of a three-year term as chair of General Education Oversight Committee (GEOC) and regularly discusses the University’s General Education curriculum with students, faculty, families, and advisors.

Cassy Setzler is a Program Assistant for Wellness and Prevention Services at UConn. She has over 6 years of experience in presenting public health presentations to the UConn community, including experience as a peer educator for the department. Her areas of expertise include stress management, sexual health and social media.

Nancy Steenburg has been working with various advising duties at the Avery Point campus since 2002, as the interim director of the Maritime Studies Program, the Coordinator of the American Studies program from 2003 to 2006, as the Assistant Director of the BGS Program from 2006 to 2017, and the Associate Director of Academic Advising at Avery Point since 2013. She earned her Ph. D. in History from UConn in 2002. Nancy teaches history classes in the evening, She has taught at both the Storrs and Avery Point campuses since 1996. In 2005, Nancy published her first book, Children and the Criminal Law in Connecticut, 1635-1855: Changing Perceptions of Childhood which won the Homer D. Babidge Jr. Award from the Association for the Study of Connecticut History in 2006.
Harry Twyman is the Assistant Director of the Academic Center for Exploratory Students and Coordinator of The Major Experience. He has been working at the University since 2009. With a strong background in major exploration and academic advising, Harry’s primary focus is helping students explore majors in a holistic, interactive, and intentional manner. In addition, Harry teaches UNIV 1800, UNIV 1820 (Making Major Decisions), and provides presentations/workshops on academic advising and major exploration. After completing a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Springfield College, Harry went on to earn Master of Science in Human Development and Family Studies with a concentration in College Student Personnel from the University of Rhode Island.

Greg Tormey has been studying, growing or selling plants the majority of his life. Greg is a horticulturalist at UConn. As well as running the Hicks-Burr Teaching Nursery, Greg supports faculty in the Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture, assisting them with teaching and research projects. Along with Brian Krystof, Greg leads the Tree Walks for staff and faculty as part of UConn’s “Just Move” program.

Kristin Van Ness is an Academic Advisor and Instructor in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies where she earned her MA in 2014. Her expertise is in family dynamics, specifically around issues of gender and sexuality. In her current advising and teaching roles, she is especially focused on supporting underrepresented students. As well as advising, Kristin is a Cultural Competency Trainer and Diversity Educator and has facilitated a multitude of workshops and trainings for diverse communities (students, parents, families, and professionals) involving anti-bias, cultural competency, identity development, group relations, and communication and conflict management in family systems.

John Volin is the Vice Provost of Academic Affairs and Professor in the Department of Natural Resources and the Environment. John received his Ph.D. in Forestry from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he also held a postdoctoral fellowship. Before joining UConn, he was Professor and Chair of Biological Sciences and Director of the Environmental Sciences Program at Florida Atlantic University. He has conducted externally funded research on ecosystems around the world, including work in the Florida Everglades that led to service on scientific and policy committees related to the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. At UConn, John has served as Head of the Department of Natural Resources and the Environment, Associate Director of the Eversource Energy Center, Director of the Environmental Sciences Program, and founding director of the Natural Resources Conservation Academy, a new program in conservation and land use planning targeted at high school students that is designed to help educate the next generation of environmental leaders.

Colleen Vernola is a Health Educator for Wellness and Prevention Services at UConn. She has over 8 years of experience in presenting public health presentations, including experience as a peer educator at the University of South Florida. Her areas of expertise include stress management, sexual health and alcohol & other drugs.

Christine Wenzel is the Associate Director in the Center for Students with Disabilities at the University of Connecticut and has been in this position since 2003. Christine received her Bachelor’s Degree from the University of Connecticut in Audiology and her Master’s Degree, also from the University of Connecticut, in Higher Education: Student Affairs. Christine has a particular interest in working with students with Asperger’s Syndrome in a higher education environment and coordinates and runs the Beyond Access program at UConn—a fee for service program designed to help students work smarter, not harder.
# DAY AT A GLANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session 1</th>
<th>Session 2</th>
<th>Session 3</th>
<th>Session 4</th>
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<tr>
<td>8 - 8.50</td>
<td><strong>Registration</strong>&lt;br&gt;Laurel Hall Lobby</td>
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<td>9 - 9.45</td>
<td><strong>Plenary and Keynote</strong></td>
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<td>10 - 10.50</td>
<td>1.1: Working with Parents and Families&lt;br&gt;Laurel 109</td>
<td>1.2: Alleviating Stress for Advisors: Self-Care Techniques&lt;br&gt;Laurel 307</td>
<td>1.3: Emotional Intelligence and You&lt;br&gt;Laurel 106</td>
<td>1.4: Advising and Supporting Transgender Students&lt;br&gt;Laurel 111</td>
<td>1.5: Developing Your Leadership Voice: What’s Your Thinking Style?&lt;br&gt;Laurel 107</td>
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<td>11 - 11.50</td>
<td>1.6: Faculty Advising: Imposition or Opportunity?&lt;br&gt;Laurel 109</td>
<td>2.1: Academic Exploration and Support: Helping Advisors Support Students&lt;br&gt;Laurel 106</td>
<td>2.2: UConn Tree Walk&lt;br&gt;Laurel 108</td>
<td>2.3: Working with International Students&lt;br&gt;Laurel 111</td>
<td>2.4: Student Veterans at UConn&lt;br&gt;Laurel 107</td>
<td>2.6: Setting Boundaries: Work Life Balance&lt;br&gt;Laurel 110</td>
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<td>12 - 1.15</td>
<td><strong>Lunch Table Talks</strong>&lt;br&gt;Photo Op with Jonathan&lt;br&gt;Student Union Ballroom&lt;br&gt;Student Union Ballroom lobby</td>
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<td>12.30 - 1.15</td>
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<td>1.30 - 2.20</td>
<td>3.1: Students Helping Students: Developing a Peer Advisor Program&lt;br&gt;Laurel 107</td>
<td>3.2: Stop, Look &amp; Listen: A Connected Community Response to Stress&lt;br&gt;Laurel 106</td>
<td>3.3: Active Listening: The Quiet Superpower&lt;br&gt;Laurel 109</td>
<td>3.4: Supporting Undocumented Students: Barriers &amp; Best Practices&lt;br&gt;Laurel 110</td>
<td>3.5: Community Standards at UConn: Student Conduct and Threat Assessment&lt;br&gt;Laurel 111</td>
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<td>2.30 - 3.20</td>
<td>4.1: Advising on the Rise: Managing Large Caseloads&lt;br&gt;Laurel 107</td>
<td>4.2: Meditation at Work: Come as you are. Sit, breath, relax&lt;br&gt;Laurel 307</td>
<td>4.3: Helping Students in Distress&lt;br&gt;Laurel 106</td>
<td>4.4: Campus Change and Transfer Students&lt;br&gt;Laurel 308</td>
<td>4.5: Practical Approaches for Working with Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder&lt;br&gt;Laurel 309</td>
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<td>3.30 - 4</td>
<td><strong>Final Remarks and Door Prizes</strong>&lt;br&gt;Laurel 101</td>
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