

Hi UPAC, my name is Liz Collins and I'm excited about the possibility of serving as a UPAC co-chair. I'm an academic advisor for Family Studies and Human Development, and began my role with FSHD last August. Before my time in the College of Agriculture, I worked with the UA Honors College, and prior to Honors, I called California home. I received my Master's at USC, and worked as an academic advisor with CSU Pomona's Educational Opportunity Program. While California was home for most of my life, I received my Bachelor's from UA, and my goal was always to return and become a permanent Tucsonan. Pursuing a career in higher education was a decision I made because of my UA experience and my love for Tucson. I've been back in Arizona two years now, and I'm happy to be part of this community.

UA's community is what makes this campus special, and UPAC is an important offshoot of that community for advisors. Regular attendance at UPAC meetings helps me feel informed and energized to do my job. But as a newer advisor at UA, I'm amazed at how many questions I still have daily. I'm also amazed at the number of ideas I have about how to improve my work, ideas that are hard to realize without the right support. I can only imagine how many questions and ideas we collectively have as a UPAC group. I think we all would benefit from hearing advising voices and best practices more often. I want UPAC to be a place for us to ask questions of each other, share our ideas, and make each other even better advisors. As a UPAC co-chair, my goal would be to initiate more opportunities that allow us to keep developing our advising knowledge and practices as a community, because the work of an advisor is too hard to do alone!

