

Hello fellow advisors! My name is Marisa Lester. I am an Arizona native and grew up in the Prescott area. I transferred to the UA to complete my undergrad degree and then completed a master's here. During grad school I had the opportunity to partake in an advising internship with CALS. It was during this internship that I truly learned all that academic advisors do and knew this was the career for me. Currently, I work for the department of Molecular and Cellular Biology and have been with them for the past four years. During my time as an advisor, I have had the opportunity to serve on various departmental committees and on the Scholarship Appeals Committee. Through UPAC, I have been able to meet many advisors and staff outside of the College of Science; learn new policies and advising practices; attend NACADA; and have attended professional development activities. I am excited at the prospect of being able to give back by serving as an UPAC Co-Chair. One of my goals for UPAC is to hold more workshops on advising practices. Too often we hear a great idea, but never hear about the steps used to implement the practice. Another goal is to bring back advisor fieldtrips, in which a small group of advisors would get to visit different campus resources. This would allow us to put a face with the name, while learning about the resource. I look forward to getting to know and work with more advisors across campus as a Co-Chair for UPAC. Thank you.

