

# Advising Learning Communities

Please read information about each learning community and choose one that aligns with your interests and availability during the week.

Learning communities will meet once per month, starting in February.

Once you've reviewed the information about each group, please [sign up here](#) for the one you plan to join!

## ADVISING IN CHALLENGING SITUATIONS

**Mondays from 3:00-4:00. First Meeting: February 5th.**

**Location:** Life Sciences South room 440 / **Co-Facilitators:** Marisa Lester and Christine Gronowski

This group will explore best practices and ideas for advising in challenging situations such as: working with students struggling or on probation, starting conversations about academic performance and delayed graduation timeline, helping students develop important study skills, working with students experiencing the transition to new academic and career goals, working with students experiencing mental health challenges, etc.

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## COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY

**Tuesdays from 3:00-4:00. First Meeting: February 13th.**

**Location:** Architecture Building room 400 / **Co-Facilitators:** Sean Kramer-Lazar and Jackie Rindone

This group will explore best practices and ideas for using technology to aid daily advising practices, assist with proactive student outreach plans, and improve workflow. This group will also explore best practices for advising communication including email messaging, inclusive language, and addressing personal assumptions and biases when working with students.

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## SPECIAL TOPICS ADVISING: WORKING WITH VARIOUS STUDENT POPULATIONS

**Wednesdays from 2:00-3:00. First Meeting: February 7th.**

**Location:** Science-Engineering Library room 311 / **Co-Facilitators:** Carlos Williams and Michelle Wik

This group will explore best practices and ideas for building cultural competency and working effectively with a variety of student groups such as international students, DACA students, first generation students, high-achieving students, adult learners, veterans, students with disabilities, etc. This group will explore opportunities to improve advising communication, strategies, and student programming, highlighting the role advisors play in creating safe spaces that promote belonging and success for all students.

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## STUDENT & ADVISOR ADVOCACY

**Thursdays from 3:00-4:00. First Meeting: February 15th**

**Location:** Bear Down Gym room 127 / **Co-Facilitators:** Laura Novotny and Liz Collins

This group will explore best practices and ideas for navigating UA policies, governance, and resources to support both students and the professional advising community. Topics might include the role advisors play as educators, our relation to and collaboration with faculty, making connections with contacts across campus, bridging gaps between advisors in different colleges to discuss different programs and processes, our position within the university to advocate for change and for students' needs, and the importance of professional development and mindfulness for advisors' professional and personal wellbeing.