



WELCOME: INTRODUCTION MODULE 1

Promoting
Advising for
Student
Success
PORTal

WELCOME: INTRODUCTION

A Message From The USM President

Dear Colleagues,

Thanks for choosing to learn more about advising! Outside the classroom, few things have a more direct impact on students than their engagement with you in understanding their professional and academic choices, making their dreams into reality, and building successful lives.

The initial task is to help students understand the general education and major requirements needed for graduation. Then comes the process of helping them make choices and beginning to empower them as directors of their own educations.

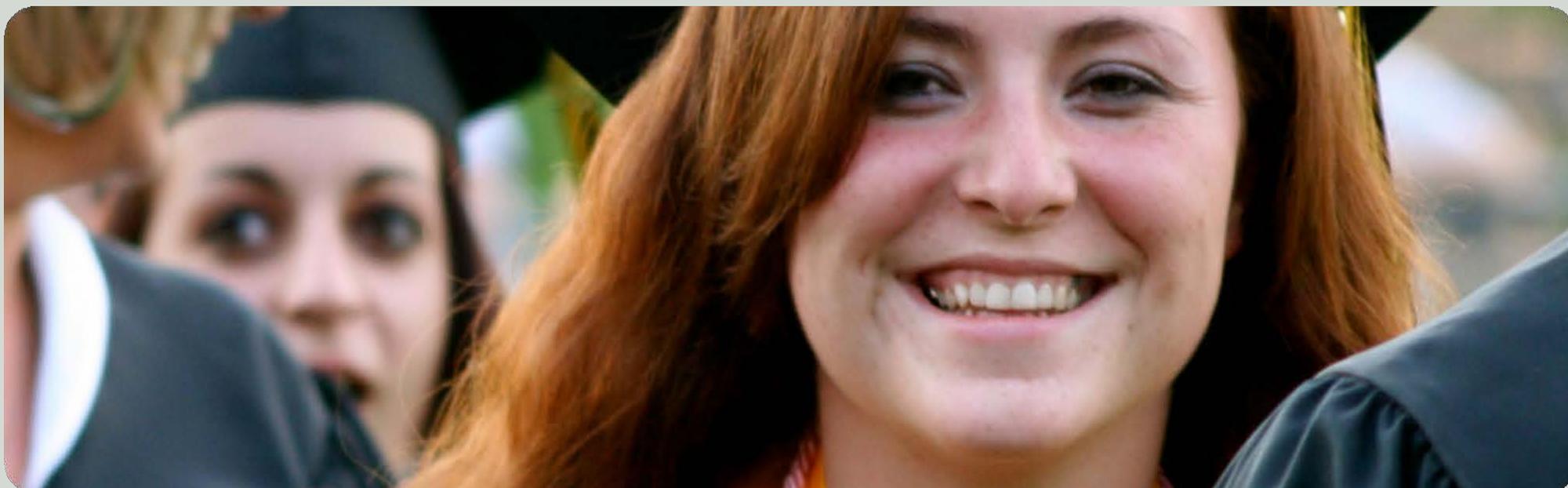
Finally I hope that we can all help students choose academic and career paths and build clear plans to achieve them. I hope we'll place due attention on our students' most important goal: graduation with a baccalaureate and/or master's degree, with the powerful blend of theoretical and practical experiences that is the hallmark of their USM educations.

Each of the modules on this site has been designed so that you will have the information and resources necessary to help students succeed. I hope you find them useful.

Advising is central to building a 21st-century university that places the success of our students at the heart of what we do. I appreciate your commitment to the students of the University of Southern Maine.

Sincerely yours,
Theo Kalikow





“Good advising may be the single most underestimated characteristic of a successful college experience.”(p .81) Dr. Richard Light, Harvard University Making the Most of College, 2001

At the University of Southern Maine good academic advising has positive impact on students’ educational experiences as well as contributing to their persistence to graduation. Learning is central to the mission of academic advising therefore making academic advising an integral component of each student’s success. Marc Lowenstein (2005) writes “the excellent advisor plays a role with respect to a student’s entire curriculum that is analogous to the role that the excellent teacher plays with respect to the content of a single course.”

PASSPORT is intended to meet the educational needs of individuals engaged in the academic advising process.

As a faculty or professional academic advisor you are well aware of the vast amount of informational, conceptual and relational elements that are involved in academic advising. This program will provide you with the educational support to

provide accurate information

create an important advising connection

encourage a partnership of responsibility for the enhancement of their educational experience

The Program

The Advising Network offers a Blackboard-based set of learning modules for participating academic advisors to expand their familiarity with best practices and to provide directions to additional resources and information that will enrich students’ experiences with a USM academic advisor. These modules were developed by a University-wide committee of faculty and professional academic advisors from all the schools and colleges at USM.

Academic advisors can earn a certificate after completing the self-paced modules on the Blackboard site. Log in at the link on the home page to register for the certificate.

For those just interested in learning more about academic advising or in adding to their knowledge about advising resources at USM, use the Guest link on the Blackboard site.



Blackboard

