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In regard to local oversight of Academic Advisors on the campus of Oklahoma State University, students are probably the greatest check and balance. If an advisor does not do his or her job well, does not follow rules and regulations or policies and procedures, enrolls a student in an inappropriate course, or does not inform a student of important information and deadlines, the student generally reports the error(s) to the Director of Student Services or goes directly to the Administrative hierarchy. This would result in an inquiry of what actually happened and who was in error. A Council of Student Academic Services Directors led by the Assistant Vice President of Enrollment Management also meets regularly each month to discuss issues dealing with advisors and advising. This information then filters down to the college and departmental advisors.

The National Academic Advising Association (NACADA), the national professional organization for advisors, offers guidance, communication, and support to the advising profession world-wide. According to NACADA's webpage,¹ NACADA's mission is to:

- Champion the educational role of academic advisors to enhance student learning and development in a diverse world
- Affirm the role of academic advising in student success and persistence, thereby supporting institutional mission and vitality
- Anticipate the academic advising needs of twenty-first century students, advisors and institutions
- Advance the body of knowledge on academic advising
- Foster the talents and contributions of all members and promote the involvement of diverse population

This organization is broken down into 10 regions, each with a regional representative on the board, and several regions have state organizations. Oklahoma's OACADA (Oklahoma Academic Advising Association) was created in 1992 to bring advisors together statewide to create a network among Oklahoma institutions, establish a liaison with Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, and provide standards for academic advising, among other goals. Additional information about OACADA is available on-line at: <http://www.cs.okstate.edu/oacada/printable.html>.

This group of highly connected advising organizations is bound together with the same goals and philosophies outlined in the Council for the Advancement of Standards (CAS) in Higher Education. These *CAS Standards and Guidelines for Academic Advising* may be found at: http://www.nacada.ksu.edu/Clearinghouse/Research_Related/CAS.html.

¹ <http://www.nacada.ksu.edu/AboutNACADA/NACADAinfo.htm>