

**President's Fall Retreat**  
Gustavus Adolphus College  
Tuesday, August 8, 2017

**Co-Facilitators:** Dr. Dan Cronn-Mills and Dr. Ginger L. Zierdt

**Table Topic Title & Table #:** Table #3 - "Our New Advising Model: What's Next?"

**Key Discussion Points:**

1. Beyond the Degree Map Tools – "Early" experiences to know whether this major is the right one – get out of it quickly if it is not.
2. Need for a more "portable" General Education program – there is a perception that many majors/programs have "required" General Education courses that must be taken early in the major, but if a student were to change a major within one or two semesters, they are already many credits in the hole since many required GE courses do not portably apply to other programs.
3. Will there be provisions in the new advising model for "post-graduation" advising – prepping for their launch, development of "safety net" planning.
4. What incentives will there be to be advised? What are the carrots? Is Priority Registration a real carrot?
5. Leverage the power of advisors through the networks, clubs, RSOs, Learning Communities, etc. – advise students where they are – literally, take advising TO them (not come and fetch it).
6. Online Onboarding & Orientation – will we be able to harness all the tools in existence today and help make sense of it all for students. We do not have a tool problem – we have a coordinated experience problem.
7. As the model continues to be developed, we need to be careful to not keep further designing a square peg system without considering that today's students are not square pegs – keep the customer squarely in mind.
8. There needs to be more synergy and collaboration between Career Services' "Focus Survey" tool with the proposed Advising Station.
9. We need to embrace "limiting choice" of majors/programs for students – "less is more" is not readily subscribed to at Minnesota State Mankato, so if we choose to live with "more is better" then can we help organize/cluster our discipline options to help more readily inform choice-making by students. We should learn more from the work RFY is doing in the area of "meta-major" development.