

Sharon A. Aiken-Wisniewski Bio:

Sharon A. Aiken-Wisniewski, Ph.D., continuously engages with current and future academic advisors and student affairs practitioners in the role of Professor, Career Line, in the Educational Leadership & Policy Department at the University of Utah. She teaches courses that focus on student persistence theories, higher education leadership, and student affairs practice. Her current service includes an appointment as Co-Editor for the NACADA Journal and a Fellow for the Excellence in Academic Advising Initiative. Through rich narratives of practice from students and colleagues and her previous roles as Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs, Associate Dean for University College and frontline advisor at University of Arizona and Weber State University, she has developed an understanding of the scholar-practitioner identity in achieving the institutional mission. Her research agenda centers on questions that emerge from the daily interactions between practitioners, leaders and students as they create student success.

Sharon is a first-generation college student who grew up in rural Vermont and attended the University of Maine at Presque Isle for a B.A. in Political Science. An early adopter of distance education, she completed a M.S. in International Studies with Troy State University at the United Kingdom campus as well as a certificate in Enrollment Management from the University of Florida. Her Ph.D. is in Educational Leadership and Policy from the University of Utah. Due to her love of nature, she lives in Utah, which offers unlimited opportunity for hiking with her partner, Alan.