Give Your Best Advice: Advising Students in Crisis

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The purpose of this research was to study how academic advisors assist and advise students who have or are experiencing a crisis, by collecting best practices from advisors at two types of higher education institutions. To gain multiple perspectives, data was collected from a sample of six academic advisors with diversity in gender and race. Three participants were from the University of Dayton, a midsized private institution, and three were from Wright State University, a large public institution. The institutions serve distinct student populations; however, a consensus was evident about how students in crisis should be advised. A majority of the participants said that they feel a gap is present between academic and student affairs and would prefer more in-depth collaborations than merely individual relationship building. Based on these findings, I recommend that institutions should consider implementing workshops that help academic advisors give the appropriate response and advice to students in crisis.

**Significance of the Study**

To add value and best practices for academic advisors to help serve students who may be experiencing a crisis and be able to do so in a manner that does not suggest they are not equipped to do so.

**Future Implications**

- Beginning of semester workshops among student and academic affairs
- Stay abreast on the literature and current trends
- Create opportunities for professional development and relationship building

**Select References**