



University of  
Northern Iowa.

Office of the Provost

During spring 2024 the work of Academic Positioning continued to move projects toward final completion. I am excited to share that both of the Alternative Credentialing and Excellence in Academic Advising task forces completed their work.

### **Alternative Credentialing**

The Alternative Credentialing task force was able to establish and document within the UNI course catalog the criteria and regulations for minors, certificates, and other forms of credit-bearing programs. The task force has recommended that the Graduate, Research, and Online Education division will provide leadership in supporting the creation and delivery of alternative credentials. A website devoted to providing information regarding the support available to faculty interested in creating credit bearing alternative credentials will be developed by GRO and be made available in fall 2024.

A huge thank you to the entire task force co-chaired by Nicole Lehman and Stephanie Huffman, and including **Heather Asmus, Trisha Becker, Tim Bakula, Amy Nielsen, Jonathan Chenoweth, and Bryce Kanago.**

### **Excellence in Academic Advising**

In response to the findings and recommendations from the NACADA facilitated Excellence in Academic Advising study, an implementation team was appointed to carry out next steps. The implementation team, co-chaired by **Jennifer Cooley** and **David Marchesani**, and including **Elisabeth Soliz, Emily Machen, and Jenny Connolly** has established the [Undergraduate Advising Council \(UAC\) to the Provost](#) that will collaborate with university administration, departments, and student success services to promote academic advising as a high-impact practice. Beginning next fall the UAC will be providing advisor training opportunities that reflect best practice and aim to enhance the consistency of experience in advising across campus. Many thanks to the EAA implementation team.

Please continue to watch for updates on [Academic Positioning](#) initiatives. If you have any questions, please reach out.

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