

# The Advancing Academic Advising Project (3AP)

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Presented by:

**Brian Ingoldsby**  
Senior Project Manager



UNIVERSITY OF  
**TORONTO**  
MISSISSAUGA

DEFY  
GRAVITY

# Project Rationale



**UTM students** see significant opportunities to enhance their academic advising experiences.



**UTM staff** have echoed students, identifying room to improve advising through enhancing: capacity; training; collaboration; and communication



**UTM retention and graduation rates** lag behind those for other divisions.

- 6-year graduation rates\*:
  - ARTSC – 81.5%
  - UTSC – 74.0%
  - UTM – 69.2%



**Student success research** consistently points to academic advising as one of the most significant pathways through which institutions may influence students' success and retention.



Four decades of research about student persistence...have identified academic advising as the vital link in the retention equation.



**Jayne Drake**

Former Vice Dean for Academic Affairs, Temple University  
Past President, NACADA: The Global Community for Academic Advising



Academic advising should be an integral part of the first-year experience, not an adjunct to it. ...Quite simply, good advising should not be left to chance.



**Vincent Tinto**

Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Syracuse University

# Strategic Alignment



# Project Goals

## 1. Identify a goal state for UTM's academic advising program

**Timeline: Spring 2024**

Our goal state must:

- maximize students' learning, wellbeing, belonging, and academic progress;
- center equity and inclusion;
- implement evidence-based approaches that steward our community resources;
- build on a foundation of innovation and collaboration; and
- enjoy widespread leadership and community support.



# Project Goals

## 2. Develop an implementation strategy

**Timeline: Dependent on goal state**

Our implementation plan must:

- support student and staff success;
- consider institutional constraints; and
- enjoy widespread leadership and community support.



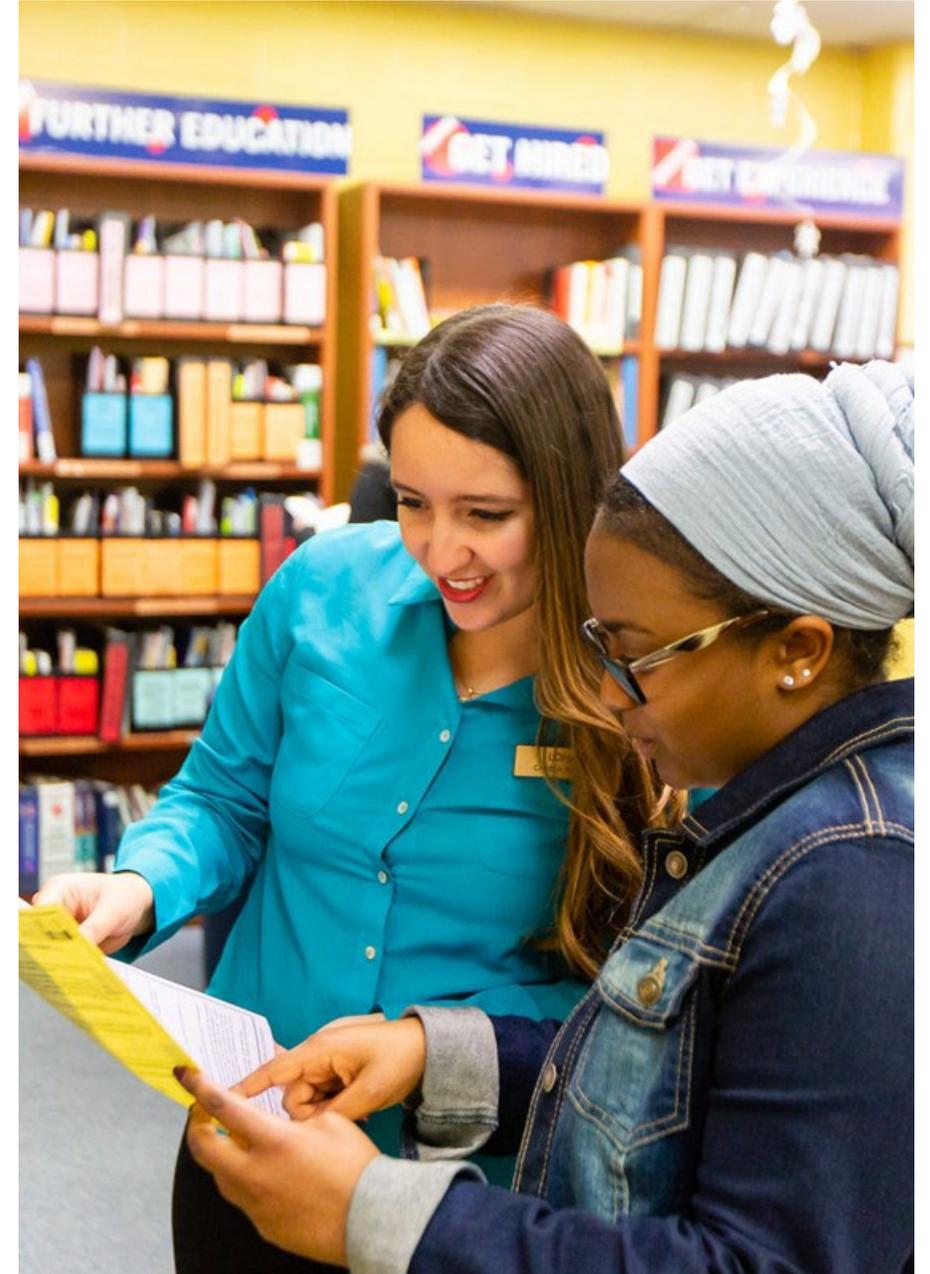
# Project Goals

## 3. Engage the UTM community

**Timeline: Ongoing**

Our project must:

- Enable ongoing community member involvement; and
- Support community members' learning, development and change readiness.



# Senior Leadership



**Alexandra Gillespie**

Vice-President and Principal

**Executive Sponsor**



**Anuar Rodrigues**

Executive Director, Strategy

**Executive Steering Committee Member**



**Nicholas Rule**

Vice-Principal, Academic and Dean

**Executive Steering Committee Member**



**Mark Overton**

Dean of Student Affairs and Assistant  
Principal, Student Services

**Executive Steering Committee Member**

# Project Team Members



**Brian Ingoldsby**  
Senior Project Manager  
Project Management Office



**Sandra Ngan**  
Senior Project Manager  
Project Management Office



**Felicity Morgan**  
Director, Career Centre  
UTM Career Centre



**Jessica Silver**  
Director, Student Engagement  
Centre for Student Engagement



**Professor Pascal Michelucci**  
Department of Language Studies



**Sharon Marjadsingh**  
Academic Advisor  
and Program Administrator  
Department of Historical Studies



**Svitlana Frunchak**  
Assistant Registrar,  
Academic Advising Services  
Office of the Registrar



**Olha Fihol**  
Assistant Registrar,  
Registrarial Services  
Office of the Registrar

# Working Groups



**Advising Staff**



**Assessment and  
Application of Research  
and Theory**



**Communication**



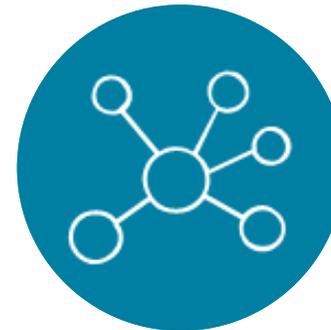
**Equity, Diversity,  
Inclusion and  
Indigeneity**



**Programs and Services**

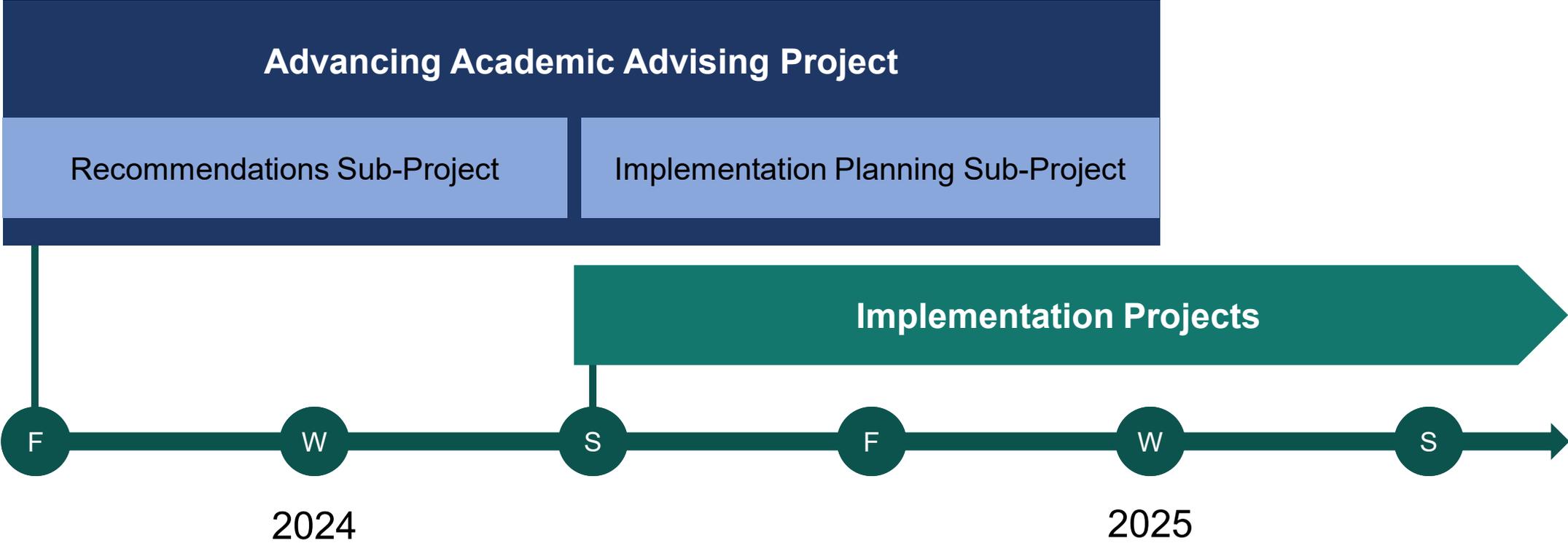


**Space and Environment**



**Systems and  
Technology**

# Project Timeline and Structure





It is hard to imagine any academic support function that is more important to student success and institutional productivity than advising.



**George Kuh**

Chancellor's Professor Emeritus, Indiana University  
Founding Director, National Survey of Student Engagement



# Questions?

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