Andrea Olding Named Assistant Vice President for USU Statewide Campuses

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Utah State University has named Andrea Olding as the assistant vice president for Statewide Campuses. Olding, who has served as director of advising and student success for Statewide Campuses since 2019, will work closely with Larry Smith, vice president of Statewide Campuses, and Rich Etchberger, vice provost of Statewide Campuses. Olding will assist them in providing leadership, expertise, analysis and coordination in developing and implementing a range of services to support students, staff and faculty in USU’s statewide system.

“Statewide has led out on many important student success initiatives over the past few years,” Olding said. “We have a drive and a responsibility to assess our practices and service to students, to collaborate with campus partners and stakeholders, and to design and implement programs that reach students in a way that promotes access and equity. I’m excited to build on what we’ve accomplished so far and also hope to bring some innovations and new ideas to the role.”

Olding will play a strong role in Statewide Campus recruitment, retention, completion and advising, ensuring students are set up for success while at USU and after graduation. She will provide leadership, vision and supervision to Statewide Campus personnel and will assist with program advancement and faculty support statewide.

Olding joined USU in 2015 after graduating from USU Moab with both a pair of bachelor’s degrees (interdisciplinary studies, special education) as well as a master’s degree (instructional leadership). She first worked as an academic adviser, transitioning to a role as academic advising coordinator before her promotion to director of advising.

“Andrea has a long track record of success and innovation in everything she’s been responsible for,” Smith said. “She has served Statewide tirelessly and played a critical leadership role to navigate Statewide student support through the darkest of times in the past two years. I have valued her contributions as a member of the Statewide Campuses Executive Team and have nothing but respect for her style, can-do attitude and problem-solving skills. Her appointment will help all of Statewide maintain positive and forward momentum on many projects and initiatives underway and she’ll help shape our bright future.”

As Olding moved to various roles for Statewide Campuses, she was a part of several campaigns to help students succeed. In 2018, she helped create success coordinators on statewide campuses. These coordinators work with students whose academic adviser is located on the Logan campus. Olding was also instrumental in creating campaigns that worked to retain students who may otherwise have abandoned their schooling prior to graduation. She worked to create best practices for advisers and has worked to use CARES Act funding to hire outreach specialists to help bring students back to campus who, for whatever reason, have left.

Olding will begin working as assistant vice president of Statewide Campuses on Jan. 31. Olding replaces Taylor Adams, who held the job since 2018 and has accepted a position for the Utah System of Higher Education.

Andrea Olding

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