ACADEMY ADVISORS

HELP WANTED: Academy Advisors Dairy Challenge April 6-8, 2025 in Gainesville, Florida

WANTED: Dairy farmers, industry professionals and Dairy Challenge alumni to mentor and coach students at the nation's premiere college dairy event. Academy Advisors will serve a key role in helping develop the students' skills in dairy analysis, teamwork and communication.

One or two Advisors will be assigned to a group of up to six students, inter-mixed from various schools. Most students are sophomores or juniors at a university, or in their second year at a two-year school. Ideally, the Advisors paired together will have different strengths and expertise to maximize student learning.

Duties of Academy Advisors:

1) Facilitate discussion among students and help them understand how to evaluate a dairy farm business. Guide students to recognize opportunities at the dairy and integrate financial considerations into solutions.
2) Provide feedback about how to communicate with herd owners and managers, by providing applicable solutions and financially relevant opportunities, while encouraging and recognizing current strengths.
3) Be a sounding board for ideas and options without giving the answers.
4) Support positive team dynamics and individual roles within the team. For example, engage students that are uncomfortable with the process.
5) Encourage students to network with peers, sponsors and other advisors.
6) Provide feedback to the NAIDC Board and committee about concerns and improvements to the activity.

Advisors are expected to stay at the event hotel and participate Sunday evening (April 6) through Tuesday afternoon (April 8). Advisors are also invited, but not required, to attend the Tuesday evening awards banquet. More details will be sent to those who volunteer to serve as Academy Advisors.

Consider this exhilarating opportunity to help tomorrow's dairy leaders!

For more details, contact any NAIDC Board member or national event organizer.
To register go to www.dairychallenge.org/contests

Students at the 2018 National Dairy Challenge in Visalia, California