Researchers at the University of South Florida have developed a natural-language question-based application for web and mobile devices that enables students to find resources and answers to common academic advising questions.

With the growing population of students in higher education, academic advisors often find themselves answering the same questions and directing students to the same resources throughout the day. This situation is further complicated for the students who attend classes in addition to managing work, and may not be able to easily schedule advising appointments. Larger departments often have a longer wait time period for advising appointments, and often, students are unable to get the answers they need in a timely manner. Hence, there is need for a software that can answer the questions of students in real time.

Researchers at USF have proposed an application known as ADVISES which uses artificial intelligence and branching question logic to help students find answers to the most common advising questions in real-time. This application eliminates the need for students to schedule advising appointments. For administrators, this could be an effective tool to gain statistical information regarding the type of questions frequently raised and helps to isolate areas of concern for specific population of students. For advisors, this platform helps to focus on topics which are not easily answered on the internet. Further, it helps students find resources outside normal advising hours and will expedite the student registration process.

**ADVANTAGES:**
- Need for appointment is eliminated
- Questions answered in real-time
- Saves time and helps to address complicated topics

**Graphical User Interface of ADVISES on a Computer**

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