Results Interpreted

Question 1

Participants ranking of the 12 listed preferred advisor qualities in order of importance:

1. Knowledge of my requirements for major of graduation
   a. (M 2.71; SD 1.99; 33%)

2. Knowledge of general education requirements
   a. (M 4.59; SD 2.74; 9.35%)

3. Communication skills / accessibility
   a. (M 4.86; SD 3.19; 23%)

4. Career advising
   a. (M 5.56; SD 3.29; 15.26%)

5. Knowledge of requirements for my minor of graduation
   a. (M 6.39; SD 3.19; .62%)

6. Individualizes feedback
   a. (M 6.87; SD 3.59; 7.17%)

7. Knowledge of academic deadlines
   a. (M 7.23; SD 2.93)

8. Knowledge of professional and graduate school
   a. (M 7.35; SD 3.01)

9. Refers me to appropriate people or offices
   a. (M 7.66; SD 2.87)

10. Technology proficiency
    a. (M 7.95; SD 3.22)

11. Knowledge of professional opportunities on campus
    a. (M 8.19; SD 2.16)

12. Gives appropriate time to answer questions during advising session
    a. (M 8.64; SD 3.24)

Included are the means and standard deviations used to interpret these results (Mean; Standard Deviation). The first six preferred qualities also include the percentage of participants that chose that quality as their number one preferred quality, I found these percentages to be interesting. When reading the numbers remember that the lower the mean the higher the participants ranked the importance; the lower the standard deviation the higher the agreement between participants. Our standard deviations are pretty low and quite consistent which is good to see. Notable high standard deviations are seen in "Gives appropriate time to answer questions during advising session" , "Individualizes feedback" , and "Career Advising" which could indicate these qualities were not well understood by the participants. What is great to see is that the number one ranked preferred quality "Knowledge of my requirements for major of graduation" had the lowest standard deviation, indicating a high level of rater agreement: Students most value their advisors knowledge of graduation requirements for their major.

Question 2

The results for this survey question show that all the statements had means in the 3 point range on the Likert scale: Neither agree nor disagree. These series of statements are a bit more difficult to interpret and give validity to because of the very slim margin of difference between the means. Some personal feedback is that the "neither agree nor disagree" option should not have been included; a forced choice between agree or disagree would have led to more revealing data. Despite the close numbers, the responses do offer insight. Most clearly (and most important to SGA) is 67% of students either strongly agree or agree that they would like to anonymously evaluate their advisor. The statement with the highest ranking of strongly disagree or disagree is " I am satisfied with my advisor" with 21% of participants.

I have listed the statements below in order of highest mean to lowest mean. (High mean= strongly agree; low mean= strongly disagree)

I am interested in being able to anonymously evaluate my advisor (M 3.93)

My advisor communicates in a timely manner (M 3.89)

Advisor is helpful during advising meetings (M 3.86)

My advisor is prepared for advising meetings (M 3.81)

I see value in semesterly meetings with my advisor (M 3.77)

I am satisfied with my advisor (M 3.64)