

Scott Peska

Waubonsee Community College

Scott Peska, Ed.D., is the Assistant Provost of Student Services at Waubonsee Community College in Sugar Grove, Illinois. He is responsible for athletics, alumni relations, financial aid, registration & records, access center for disability resources and the Campus Assessment Team.

Previously, Dr. Peska worked at Northern Illinois University (NIU) in multiple roles within student affairs. There, as associate director for Orientation & First-Year Experience, he coordinated more than 90 sections of the first-year seminar, UNIV 101/201 courses, a faculty–student mentoring program, a peer calling retention initiative, and a first-year success series. After a tragic shooting on NIU's campus in 2008, Peska was asked to lead and establish the Office of Support & Advocacy, a unit designed to provide holistic support to individuals directly affected by the shooting. He also established and served as director of the Military Student Services department, providing financial benefits, counseling, and social support programming to the more than 800 military students at NIU.

Peska speaks publicly on a variety of topics, including how communities can move forward after tragedies, overcoming adversity, strategies for student equity and success, action-oriented motivation, therapeutic benefits of laughter, engaging leadership development, and juggling multiple priorities.

Dr. Peska earned his bachelor's and master's in communication from Illinois State University. He completed his doctorate in higher education administration at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, with his research emphasis on the adjustment of community college transfer students to four-year universities.