Stories of Workplace Engagement and Professional Development

This month, we are pleased to showcase Monique Savage, Director, Conference and Event Services, who is a great model for someone who is dedicated to their work and is engaged in professional development activities. The last year has seen a whole host of new opportunities come Monique’s way and she’s done a great job! Listen to her interview by going here.

Educate yourself on issues driving higher education and student affairs

If you’re not aware of the institutional, TBR, state and Federal policies and regulations around sexual misconduct on campus, then you need to become more familiar immediately! You should know that most student affairs staff are considered mandatory reporters. There’s a lot of good information out there. Three websites that may be really useful for you include: Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act Not Alone (White House Report on Sexual Assault) ACPA’s What Everyone Needs to Know about Title IX and The Campus SaVE Act Video (about 75 minutes)

Add new assessment knowledge

We need to continue to tell our story through evidence-based practices in student affairs. Learn some new techniques that may transform how we are able to effectively assess the student experience. Check out Campus Labs webinars this month! Sign up today! We’ll do another Assessment Bootcamp this summer! Get those spring assessment projects done!

Read about the “Murky Middle” of our Students

We give a lot of attention to students who are out most outstanding and those who need the most help but what happens to those “in the middle”. Check out this interesting story and infographic from the Education Advisory Board about “the middle”.

Navigate the web-based resources for student affairs professional development!

One resource that we have access to is the New Directions for Student Services monograph. We purchase annual subscriptions of this award winning publication. How to do this: The journal can be accessed here: http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/. You can register and access the journal through the U of M library. Let Dan (dabureau@memphis.edu) know if you have questions.

Initiate your professional development plan

We have a goal of 25 Division of Student Affairs Staff having a professional development plan. Information found here. You can view a short tutorial on why this process was developed and how to complete the plan here. Please let Dan Bureau know if you need help or just that you’ve decided to develop your plan! Also, check out this great resource (which will download from the browser) from Dwayne Todd, the Vice President for Student Affairs at the Columbus College of Art and Design, to help you assess your competence in different areas of student affairs practice and the level to which these skills are important to your work. Such a great way to do a personal assessment to help you determine on what skills you should spend the most time improving.

New Features in Baseline and Survey Monkey! Use more creative assessment approaches!

Most staff uses Baseline or Survey Monkey to create most of their online assessment tools, but those platforms now come with more bells and whistles than ever! Baseline (Campus Labs) has improved its student response system which allows for quick surveys/opportunities for feedback via mobile devices. Survey Monkey has new tools for analyzing data (no more crunching numbers!). Play around with these tools and try new approaches to the same old data collection. Contact Dan (dabureau@memphis.edu) if you need help logging in.

Get Going on those MIMSA proposals! They’re due the 16th! This year’s theme focuses on the process of access to higher education and helping diverse student communities be successful in college. Get information and submit those proposals today!