

Leadership During Organizational Restructuring of LIS Programs

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ABSTRACT

This panel session features LIS program leaders sharing information about their leadership experiences during organizational restructuring either at their school/department level or at the university/institutional level. They will describe their past or current experiences with reorganization, and discuss the approaches/strategies they used to ensure successful organizational transitions while also maintaining or boosting faculty/staff/student morale. Panelists will present how they handle respective program changes, how they communicate the proposed changes to their communities, and what specific obstacles and challenges they encounter during the restructuring process. The panel session will end with a discussion with the audience about the specific set of leadership skills and strategies that would be useful during organizational changes.

The objectives of this panel session are: (1) Through sharing experiences on the history and process of the organizational restructuring, identify common environmental factors that trigger the organizational change; (2) Identify a common set of challenges and opportunities for LIS program restructuring; (3) Identify successful leadership strategies, communication processes, and problem-solving approaches pertinent to organizational restructuring; and (4) Engage with the audience to exchange ideas and experiences related to effective leadership during organizational restructuring of LIS programs. The topics that the panelists will address include: (1) History and background of organizational restructuring; (2) The extent to which the organizational restructuring has an impact on different constituents of the program; (3) Challenges, obstacles, and gaps in the restructuring process; (4) Successful leadership strategies and communication approaches; and (5) Lessons learned. Presentations from the panelists will take 60 minutes. Interaction with the audience will follow after the presentation. The audience will be involved in a discussion during which they will share their experiences and thoughts about the topic of leadership through organizational restructuring.