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#### Learning to Listen Up: Advocating for and Collaborating with Student Employees for a More Effective Workforce

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Learning to Listen Up: Advocating for & Collaborating with Student Employees for a More Effective Workforce

Heidi Gauder, Heather Ruch, Cristin Bushnell

2019 ALAO conference













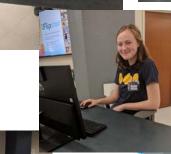




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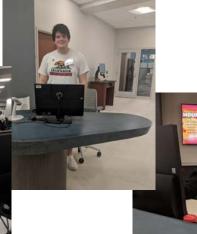












### Campus- & Library-wide Values

High-impact practice

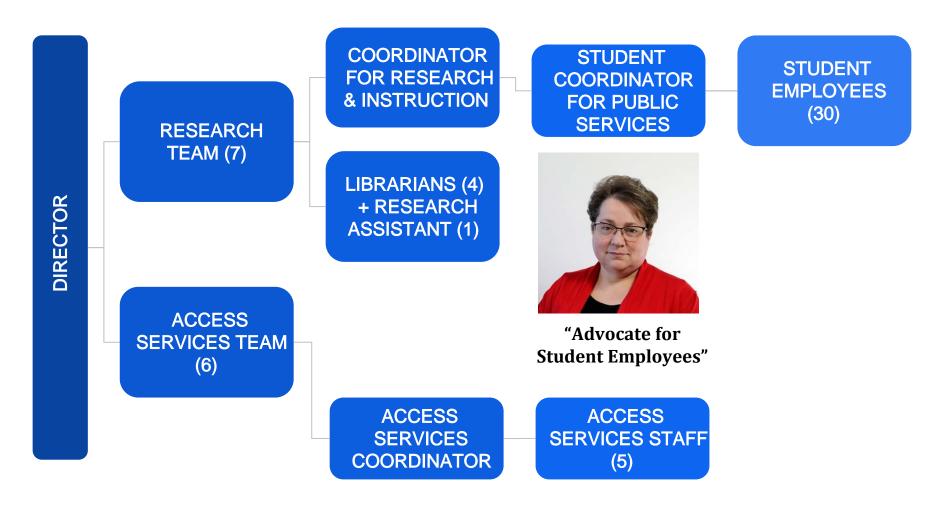
Student employee programs across campus

Library strategic plan: "Create structured, dynamic professional development & leadership training for Libraries' student employees."



Heather Ashley

### Department Org Chart



## **Growing Recognition + Change**

#### 2018: Before

- Research Services student employees (10)
- Access Services student employees (24)
- Both teams: emphasis on training, celebrations, value of student employees



Ryan Reed

#### 2019: Renovation & After

- Student employees merged into 1 team
- Combined work functions between teams



## Student Employees

2 separate service desks, 225 hours/week

Large knowledge base: 7-story building, plus another student support unit in garden level

Sierra functions, basic OPAC functions

Printer & software trouble-shooting skills



#### Customer service



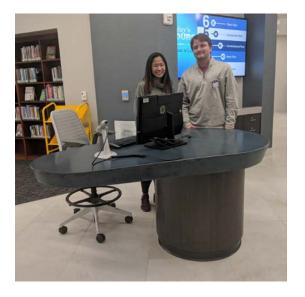
Luis Feliciano

### Student Staff Empowerment

#### Student workflow contributions & insights

Resume-ready experiences

Student initiatives



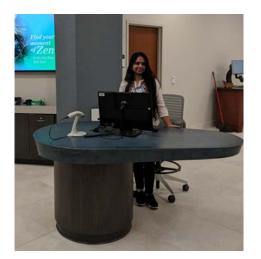
Kelly Howard & Kyle Renneker



## Student Insights, Changes

#### Weekly quizzes

- "They were helpful but they need to target problems that many students are having trouble with.."
- "Every other week maybe? not as often"



#### Scheduling

 "make sure you have it set straight for what seniority means, aka working more semesters, hiring date...it needs to be clear across the board."

Himani Singla



### Student insights

"...[a] *Printer Troubleshooting Flowchart / cheat sheet* for those working the service desk would be a good idea I believe because sometimes patrons are impatient when trying to troubleshoot the printers... Definitely wouldn't hurt to have something to lean back on!"

"There needs to be *more collaboration of research librarians and access services*. There's trainings together but even with that, the "EID" department feels very separated."



Lauren Croll

#### Workflow contributions

"*Shifts shorter than 2 hours are pointless*/a hassle. In trading asking for one hour can make sense, but otherwise 2/4 hour blocks of time make much more sense...."

"Is there a way we can have a *chat that connects us* to the other desks? There have been many situations where I have had to call upstairs and interrupt other employees helping patrons to ask non-emergent but necessary questions."

"Not a question - just letting you know that *hello desk hours on libguides is incorrect*! closes at 7pm on saturdays"



Miranda Roskow

### Supervisor students

**Application:** Cover letter addressing experience, plus resume

Then: Formal interview

**About this position**: Open only to current EID student employees.

- Opening / closing the Library building
- Serves as main point of contact for other student employees when regular staff are not scheduled



Beth Hosek



## **Resume-ready experiences**

Summer students  $\rightarrow$  writing contributions

- <u>Know thy Staff</u>
- <u>Use the Library, Save Money</u>
- Special summer projects

# Super students $\rightarrow$ training & supervision

- "Secret shopper" on Library H3lp
- Communication/management via Google Hangouts



Jaxie Brokamp

### **Career Workshops**

Spring 2019, Fall 2019: Workshop to translate work tasks into language suitable for other employers

- Paid attendance
- Presented by Library & Career Services

Spring 2020: Dining etiquette



Jessica Gill

#### **Student-initiated Presentation**

By: Cristin and Heather

## Why EID Student Workers Should Get Quarter Zips we can settle for polos tho



### Management -- Training

Monthly student employee team meetings

- Speakers: Dean of Libraries, campus IT, Librarians, Access Services, etc
- Focus on group discussions

On-one-on training, start of semester Bi-weekly quizzes Modules in campus LMS (Sakai)



Logan Symons



#### Management -- Communication

				[EID Student Wor	kers Group] Weekly Update 10	.14.19	Inbox x	<b>9</b> 23
UD Librarias / Research Guides / ED Student Employee Guide EID STUDENT EMPLOYEE GUIDE: UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS				Heather Ruch		Mor	n, Oct 14, 8:01 AM (1 day ago) 🕺	≪ :
Updates & Announcements         Google Calenders         Floor Maps         Confidentiativ           Stoorn Emstyse Resource         Confidentiativ         Confidentiativ         Confidentiativ           PLEASE SEE NEW QUIZ POSTED BELOW         CALREF/CATION OF FLOOR COUNT PROCEDURES effective 10.1.18:         - Floor counts for 1 & 2 must include counts for the Huddle Rooms as part - If a case is in session in the Cotab. just write down 25 for the number C         - If a 37.FF meeting is in session in 215, write down 25 for the number C           - Include counts from the kare moots of 4.5 8.6. Shore the kare moots         Sec. Shore the kare moots         - Include counts for the Net Moots	Customer Service Hello desk Information Point Lib H3(p shat W 8: erf of the total floor count. They don't need to be separated like Collab or 215, j Otherwise, if no class is in session, do a count.	e room. The light is on or the room appears occupied. Count one person for each roo BU Built Built Info		Hello! I hope you all had a great Fa I need shift cover for this We If you work the Hello desk thi intorviews in 113, so if they s Please remember the training snack request, you can also Tho current online quiz is du Have a great week! HR	Il break! Rested and ready to come back to work an dnesday, 5-7p, IP/Floater. Any takers? is afternoon or tomorrow afternoon, please note tha top by, get them to that room. Thanks! g this Friday at 3.30 in the Collab. If you have any o email me (I make NO promises on that one) e tomorrow. I will be putting up the new one around comorrow. I will be putting up the new one around	t I have inter uestions or lunch time.	concerns, please email me. If you have	e a specific
	Andree Due of Due of Due of Contract	(Check all that app				r Edv	) Heather Ruch	_ 7 ×
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### Management -- Coaching

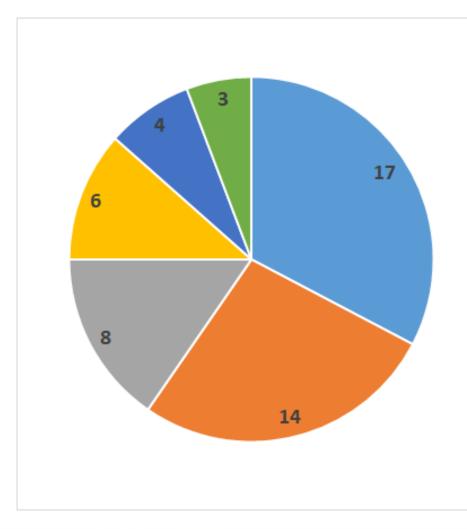
Philosophy: ensure student employee success on the job but address issues that interfere with effective service

Would rather students own the decision to discontinue employment instead of library forced to decide



Tomaiya Robinson

#### Management -- Recognition



- Words--just tell me!
- Candy always works!
- Write me a note that I can keep!
- Give me more responsibility!! Bring it!
- Post it on a bulletin board for all to see!
- I already know I am. I'm just waiting for you to recognize that!

What are you doing to help your student employees become invested in the library and its success?

What opportunities do you provide for your student employees?

How do you advocate for your student employees?



Varija Goli



### Thank you!

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#### Heather Ruch: hruch1@udayton.edu

