TIRSA 2021 Virtual Conference Session Descriptions

Keys to Finding Happiness in Your Next Job

What are some key decisions that are important to finding the next great job? Different types of institutions and sizes of departments offer different growth experiences. Many factors influence your happiness and success. What key questions should you ask yourself in your job search? Learn, share and discuss ways to improve finding the right fit in your next career move.

Creating Clarity Through Values

You and your department might - like many others - have a mission statement or a set of values/guiding principles that help differentiate your operation. But have you ever asked yourself whether someone outside of your organization could identify your values? In this presentation, participants will learn how to identify their organization's values and to describe, in detail, specific actions that put these on display. This interactive experience is great for students and professionals and can be applied to an individual or an organization regardless of age, stage, or maturity.

So You Want to Be a GA

So you're thinking about what you want to do after you graduate and the idea of a Graduate Assistant role sounds interesting but you want to know more. This session is designed to provide undergraduate students with a perspective of what a graduate assistantship experience can be like.

Fitness Equipment Asset Management

Introduction to fitness facility equipment management using IoT devices along with cloud-based software. UT-Chattanooga has begun using Ecofit to track equipment usage and will be able to answer questions from the university's perspective and how it has been beneficial for their facility.

NIRSA Student Perspective

A roundtable discussion by students for students. Topics will include senior or graduate student guest speakers who have experience in NIRSA discussing what NIRSA has done for them, how students can be involved and an open Q&A section at the end.

Intentional Program Design for Your Group Fitness Team

Ever feel like you're stuck in a rut when it comes to writing a workout for a group fitness class? Want to make sure that your instructors aren't overusing one muscle group, exercise, or piece of equipment? Come learn about how you can increase the intentionality that goes into the classes that you or your staff write. Participants will learn to write their workouts in an intentional manner, while also working with other "instructors" to make sure that their team is bringing their best self to every class that they provide!

Producing High Quality Resumes and Cover Letters

Before the employer or recruiter ever meets you in person, they have met your words. Your "interview" has already begun. What your cover letter and your resume tell may be the first impression you didn't want to make. This presentation will give you pointers on making your BEST first impression.

What I Wish I Knew, Part II

Part I was presented back in 2015 when we were GA's and we shared a message about our stumbling blocks, lessons learned, and the overall things we wish we knew before we started. We told ourselves we would be back to share part II as we moved throughout the field. We are back with what we wish we knew prior to our first professional roles and prior to being in leadership roles. No one goes into a new place without a few bumps in the road and we plan to share how to keep learning and growing along the way.

Remodeling Your Fitness Center & More!

Throughout remodeling your facility, many factors come into play. At UTC this past year, we encountered many challenges in doing so and were accompanied by Sonia Knutsen with Life Fitness who was able to brainstorm many things with us. What can YOU do to assure that you have the best possible layout for your facility, along with a smooth remodeling process?

Networking Opportunities

Interested in having a more thorough conversation with someone that you met in a session? Want to reconnect with a professional connection that you haven't talked to in a while? Just looking to meet new people? These networking opportunities will be an organized opportunity to join a virtual breakout room with a connection - whether old or new - and discuss whatever you'd like.

Collaborating Off-Court: Creating Success with Campus Colleagues

The need to engage across campus departments is ever increasing as we grow and accommodate the 2021 "new normal". Just as we need to remain agile on the court to play well, so, too, do we need to remain agile in our collaborations with colleagues outside of Campus Recreation. As our campuses become more inter-dependent and form multi-disciplinary teams to tackle today's issues, we need to resist the temptation to simply dive-in and accomplish the task at hand. This session will discuss a few steps that you can take upfront to ensure you work more effectively as a new team.

Tackling Tricky Interview Questions

Tricky pre-employment interview questions come in all forms. This presentation will provide tips for dealing with the different forms of "tricky" pre-employment interview questions and the uncomfortableness they can create in the interviewee.

Clarity is Kindness: Effective Communication for Supervising Others

As supervisors, we are faced with setting expectations, providing feedback, and having difficult conversations. In this presentation, we will explore effective communication strategies.

Creating Community: UTC Campus Recreation's Belong Campaign

January 2019 marked the start of UTC Campus Recreation's Belong Campaign. The marketing campaign centers around our firm belief that all people deserve the right to play, recreate, connect with others, and pursue holistic wellness. Our intent is to use the Belong Campaign to assist in breaking down physical and social barriers to access, help celebrate the diversity of our Mocs Community, create unity and respect, and encourage people to find their place to belong within UTC Campus Recreation. This presentation explores the process and journey behind the Belong Campaign, including the wins and challenges we have faced.

How to Determine Essential Services

In this session, we will look at different metrics and indicators and provide tools for you to customize to explain why what your agency does is important to the community. In the process, we will provide tools to help illuminate for you those areas of your department that may need to be retained and also those that might be trimmed or eliminated. There is no one way that works for all, and by exploring different metrics and indicators, hopefully, this session will help you prioritize your essential services with data to support your recommendations

Virtual Team Building & Escape Rooms

Covid-19 has disrupted the normal flow for many programming areas of campus recreation, especially Team-building and challenge course activities. With social distancing protocols in place, it can be challenging to provide effective activities that require individuals to be hands-on. Join us, as we discover activities that are provided on a virtual platform for students, faculty, and staff to participate in. You will find that there are several different virtual offerings that still engage in the essential aspects of team-building. Come prepared to participate and have fun!

Directors Panel

Leadership has never been more important in campus recreation. Several Tennessee campus recreation directors will share their stories and thoughts on a broad range of topics. This session is participant-driven to allow attendees to gain different perspectives on topics to enhance their professional goals. Get ready to challenge them with questions you have always wanted to ask!

Re-investing Your Aquatic In-service Plan

If you run a pool you have an in-service program, but when was the last time you evaluated that program. In this session, we will talk about how much is enough, how much is too much, and what should be included in your in-service program. This session isn't designed to tell you if you are doing something wrong, but rather look for opportunities to re-invigorate your program.