From @GWPeterK

Follow George Washington’s Motto: Deeds, Not Words

I use the word “collaboration” often, but am I modeling it? It’s an easy word to say, but a lot harder to model. In following Washington’s motto, we need to practice the deed of modeling collaboration, not simply speaking about the word in concept. And, in this case, being collaborative is always tougher than saying we will collaborate.

As a field, higher education works off of a shared governance model, where critical decisions are often informed, shaped, and influenced by the collective community. That’s a culture change that can be challenging to those accustomed to a more traditional, hierarchical style of decision-making.

Despite that, our model calls for us to be good partners and work closely in concert with others to achieve our shared goals. At GW, our goals are clearer today than ever before, since three critical drivers shape our success including increasing academic excellence, enhancing the GW student experience, and building a stronger GW community.

If every day, those three tenants stay at the forefront of our thinking and we can always strive to achieve them with all varied student, academic administrative, alumni, parent, and partner stakeholders, then you are putting those words into deeds and successfully living Washington’s motto.
Staff Spotlight

Employee of the Month for January: Ben Walsh in University Counseling Center

The winner of the first 2013 Employee of the Month award is Ben Walsh. Congratulations, Ben!

Ben’s nominator wrote:

Since Ben began working at the counseling center in the Spring 2011 semester, I have watched as he has played a pivotal role in orienting new staff to feel welcomed in to the GW community. I know that after hours, Ben spends long hours volunteering on the National Mall, driven by his civic values. I believe he brings this same value set to his GW colleagues, prioritizing others’ needs, always showing respect for individuals, both fellow employees and students in his interactions.

Now as we have welcomed a new director to the UCC, Ben has stepped up to role embodying more than his title of “office manager” but also being our link from our past to our new era. He has been both organizer of our new initiatives and executor of welcome changes at the UCC.

As he has served several other GW departments, Ben has done an outstanding job at UCC being a role model of an employee who takes pride in his work and in the GW community at large.

Congratulations on a job well done, Ben! Your department, DSA, and GW all appreciate everything you do to make our community better.

DSA Finance & Personnel Standing Committee Training Schedule 2013

February 28th
Purchasing with Bonnie McGowan and Matt Miller

Learn the latest guidelines and best practices about purchasing at GW, including navigating IBUY, Concur, and Procurement. Find out how to check on approved suppliers, register new suppliers, the ins and outs of contracts here at GW, as well as the worker’s classification process.

March 21st
Budget Call and Account Management with Stephen McWilliams (Budget)

Budget Call and Account Management- Didn’t have enough money in your office supply account line? Get necessary information on this year’s budget process from the Budget Office and learn how to develop a budget with appropriate funding levels in accounting codes.

March 28th
Professional Staff Hiring Process with Mike Kohn

Professional Staff Hiring Process- Getting ready to head to conferences for hiring new professional staff? Brush up on the necessary steps to hire new professional staff members in this informative training session including GW human resource policies and procedures.
Upcoming Events

Excellence in Student Life Awards
Nominations close February 22
Nominate at: https://students.gwu.edu/excellence-student-life-awards

Spring 2013 Career & Internship Fair
Wednesday, February 27 1-5pm
Charles E. Smith Center

At this flagship event, thousands of GW students and alumni will attend to meet with more than 120 employers representing a variety of career fields recruiting for full-time, part-time, co-op and internship positions. Participants can attend the fair to look for job leads, gather information, and to develop a network of contacts. GWID # required for entrance. Proper attire required; business attire requested. Info on employers attending the fair will be listed on GWork as they register. INFO & RSVP: http://gwired.gwu.edu/careerfairs

Dancing with GW
Tuesday, February 26 7-9pm
Lisner Auditorium

Bringing Old Time Glamour and New Time Sizzle to GW's campus
The GW Stars have a variety of normal day jobs as university leaders, student organization advisors, and professors. But they will be stepping out of these shoes and into ballroom shoes as they meet up with their partner and learn to dance ballroom! Please join us in this night of sparkling GW Stars! Featuring our very own Nikki Buckholz and Nick Hudson!

Resume Madness! on January 30

The goal of this event was to provide a fun and fast-paced way to have students receive quick, targeted feedback on their resume from dozens of experienced over 30 employers and career consultants. Over 130 students waited in line until a reviewer became available, and then the student would receive a four-minute critique from the recruiter. After four minutes, participants were allowed to get back in line and go through the process as often as time permitted.

Big Adult Topics - Real Life Skills for Staff and Graduate Students

The Big Adult Topics (BAT) program series launched on Wednesday, January 30, with an engaging presentation about retirement and investing from Seth Weinshel and Andrew Goretsky.

The guest presenters taught graduate staff and young professionals about the types of retirement plans and investments and their pros and cons. The presenters also addressed the power of compounding interest over time and provided useful resources for further exploration.

The Big Adult Topics program series continued on Wednesday, February 13, with an installment on career planning and future goals. Esteemed guest presenter Anne Scammon taught the graduate students and young professionals who attended about career stages and the career development cycle. She also led an exercise exploring individual values and answered questions on decision-making. The next session will be held on Wednesday, February 27th and will focus on home, car, clothing and technology repairs and maintenance.

Future installments of BAT will occur every other week on Wednesdays at 9 a.m. Each session will cover basic terminology, top tips and useful resources. Please see the list below for the schedule of topics (all sessions are hosted in Colonial Crossroads):

February 27: Basic Repairs & Maintenance--Home, Car, Clothing, Technology
March 27: Personal Finance--Student Loans, Credit Cards, Credit Scores, Identity Theft
April 10: Staying Connected to Family & Friends
April 24: Technology--E-mail, Blogs, Websites
May 8: Final Questions/Topics

Read more about WFPG's mentoring program: http://www.wfpq.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=224
Welcome New Staff
Additions to our GW Community

New Hires:

• Sarah Grun, Program Coordinator, Center for Student Engagement (started January 14)
• Lynaya Morris, Area Coordinator, Center for Student Engagement (started January 14)
• Michelle DeVoe, Coordinator, Center for Alcohol and other Drug Education (started February 4)
• Rachel Brown, Assistant Provost, University Career Services (started February 6)

New Role:

• Amber Cargill, Assistant Director, Training & Education, University Counseling Center (January 2)

Interested in contributing to the DSA Newsletter?
Email students@gwu.edu with story ideas, events, etc. We look forward to hearing from you!