Title of Practicum

Student Union/Student Training Benchmarking/Best Practices Project

Practicum Description Summary

The Campus Center practicum student will complete a benchmarking project with the goal of compiling information regarding practices and policies in all areas of student union administration. It is a strategic goal of the department to collect this information in order to inform and continually improve our practice. The end product will be a report that can be easily searched or filtered by area to ensure maximum usability. A specific area of focus for the research will be practices associated with the training and development of student staff. The practicum student will be invited to attend all professional staff and student team meetings in order to gain an awareness of the day-to-day administration of a student union building and related programming.

Sponsoring Office

IUPUI Campus Center

Department/Office web site address: http://campuscenter.iupui.edu

If multiple students can be selected for this position, please indicate the number of practicum students the site is willing to host:

Spring 2015 Number available: 1

Please identify any requirements outside the 8 hours per week of the practicum experience the student would be expected to complete:

There are no additional requirements outside the eight hours per week. Student is expected to be self-directed with weekly oversight by the Associate Director of the Campus Center.

Learning outcomes associated with the practicum experience in your office:

The student will enhance his/her understanding of the student union functional area, including different operational models, current challenges impacting student union professionals, trends in the field, etc. The student will also enhance his/her awareness and understanding of different approaches to training student staff, including self-paced learning, the use of technology, ways to engage students, and ongoing professional development for the undergraduate level staff member. The student will also gain experience in compiling a benchmarking report.
Provide a brief summary of the activities, duties, responsibilities and/or special projects associated with this position:

Responsibilities include using data compiled by the Association of College Unions International, information available on various university websites, and other information to compile a report about student union management practices at other universities, including a specific focus on approaches to student staff training. Responsibilities also include doing other types of research about training methods including reading, internet research, information interviews, and perhaps webinar participation. The site supervisor and the student will work together to establish a project timeline, which the student will then be expected to meet.

Site Supervisor for Practicum Experience
Name Linda Wardhammar (Assoc. Director)
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