

Professional Development (PD)

- Wish this was the first session – would have been beneficial, understand what delegates can get out of session
- CACUSS 101 – found it beneficial to network, met more people
- PD is a great way to stay engaged, stay revived, keeps one excited to continue to work in student affairs

Issue: Budget – Questions to ask before attending Conference

- highly expensive
- is it really needed?
- who is benefiting?
- Are there alternatives – technology based (Skype, online articles, Web Seminars)

However, nothing can replace the face to face interaction and networking. Highly beneficial and often the best way to learn!

What strategies have been useful, in regard to connecting with people dealing with student affairs **TIPS** for professional development session:

- find similarities between delegates – can be difficult when apart of a smaller university
- Attend PD sessions for other careers job positions → helps to understand others profession, meet new people and expand your scope beyond your career

How often do you attend professional development session:

- budget cuts influence how and when you attend – need to assess program to see if it's needed (**assessment is becoming more and more important, find new strategies to develop evaluation of program/service**)
- in house professional development is also very beneficial, meet professionals at conferences, bring in local experts (by doing so, you can attend sessions that are not facilitated by someone from your area)
- conferences are for networking more than anything else, when you need to connect with people, need new ideas, when you are feeling deflated

What kind of professional development would you like to learn more about? What will re-energize staff:

- teaching and facilitating a session
- find a mentor – easy way to find information
- the need for assessment – would be helpful to learn more in her area, a way to grow professionally
- previous conferences or session – look at programs, see trends as well
- Learn how to deal with media (interviews, statements, radio, tv, newspaper)

What are some PD type sessions you see as being helpful for your staff:

ISSUE: isolation (some universities are geographically isolated for staff to attend session)

SOLUTION:

- Skype supervision as a result
- on campus conferences
- when you have a large university – need to engage in who needs PD, you have to see if there is actually a strategy – is it really helpful? are they getting something out of it attending a session
- retaining staff – engaging staff and continue to develop staff, what are some ways to continue to develop
- the front line staff need to attend PD as well
- Session Staff – hard for them to get PD session, **volunteering** at session is a good way to get PD

Ways of attending PD Session for staff:

- Volunteering- budget your time, good way to network with the experts
- Mini-Cacuss – Toronto area, frees up time to go to other cities presenters
- Magazine for CACUSS – good networking, good information