

A hand-drawn background featuring a wooden surface, a ruler, and two markers. The ruler is a Westcott stainless steel ruler, marked in inches and centimeters. The markers are Sharpie Fine Point markers, one green and one orange. A hand is holding a black Sharpie marker, ready to draw.

Creating Creators

JENN STAYTON

UNT LIBRARIES

Team Background

Research & Engagement Unit

- Access Services Department, Public Services Division, UNT Libraries
- Six graduate student assistants (GSA) from the College of Information (Library, Information, & Data Science programs)
- Desk and Departmental Shifts with hours reserved for professional development and project meetings
- Jenn Stayton hired as Student Engagement Librarian Sept. 2018

Primary Activities

- Research support and reference through the "Ask Us" service
- Peer-to-Peer engagement and instruction
- Outreach for services and subject librarians
- Contribute to departmental projects and activities

Projects Background

- Conducted 2018-2019, timelines based on semester dates
- Primary project areas were identified through an "interests" survey
Library Systems and Technology, Instruction and Research, and Engagement and Outreach
- Roles assigned based on interests and experience levels
- Previous projects had focused on professional development but not leadership



Projects

- Scholar Speak Blog – technology, research, engagement
- Outreach Program Pairs – outreach, engagement, instruction
- Peer Instruction Session – research, instruction
- LibAnswers Reference and Chat Tool Investigation – technology, research
- Individual Research Activities – research, engagement, instruction

Successful Strategies from the Start

Intentional collegiality and respect as collaborators

Laying the groundwork through thoughtful planning

Starting with research

Defining roles and encouraging self-determined expansion

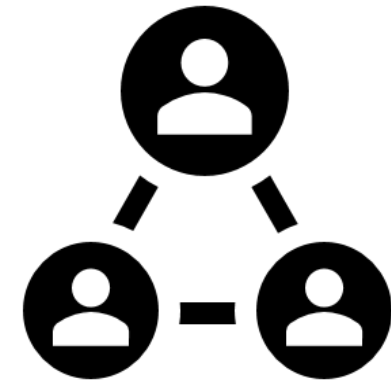
Successful Strategies for Management

Creating a culture of discovery

Promoting autonomy

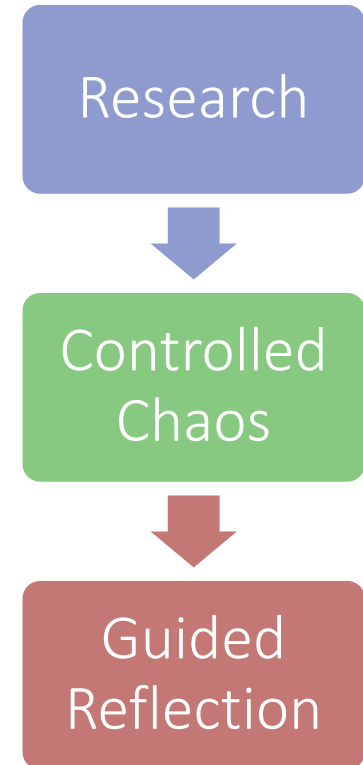
Communicating communication needs

Engaging in the process of project management



Project Engagement

- Start with what motivates them and what they should learn
- Keep them challenged but comfortable
- Communicate connections between short-term activities and long-term interests
- Expect greatness and proceed accordingly





Thank You

Questions for me?

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UNT Libraries

library.unt.edu/ask-us/

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