Internship Pivot @ ECU: Responding to Our University’s Transition

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Outline:

• MLS Program
• Internships in the Past
• But then COVID
• Issues and Tools
• Other Strategies? Other Tools?
MLS Program at East Carolina University

• ALA accredited Master of Library Science graduate degree program
• 3 Concentrations: Academic, School, and Public Library
• 39 s.h. of credit minimum
• Preparing library professionals since 1939
MLS Program at East Carolina University

- Capstone of the MLS Program is a professional internship (LIBS 6991 or 6992)
- Opportunity for students to work in at least two approved library settings
- 110 hour working experience, both in theory and practice
Internships in the Past

• 110 hours on site in selected setting
• Daily in person attendance and interaction with site supervisor and students
• Serve & teach students or patrons in person
• Offer in-service to staff, faculty or patrons face-to-face
• Apply theory in a real-life setting
Internships in the Past

• Test-drive a career choice or specialty
• Develop specific and unique skills and knowledge
• Develop professional contacts
• Learn directly from experienced supervising librarian professionals:
  o Shadow site supervisor in professional activities
  o Participate in numerous practical experiences
But then COVID....

• **Programming:** Face-to-face prior to mid-March, but afterward...
  o Zoom, WebEx or other form of online meetings support

• **Placement:**
  o Students find their own sites
  o In some cases, student or internship coordinator initiated contact with site supervisors
But then COVID....

- Culminating Projects have been modified to be delivered virtually
  - *Projects* include tutorials, book talks, in-service presentation to faculty/staff or students
  - *Portfolio* documents evidence of work organized by ALA competency; objects compiled in Task Stream
Even if hesitant still worthwhile, so we had to figure out a new way....
Issues:

- Communication
- Planning & Organizing
- Demonstrating Learning
Communication styles: Written, spoken, nonverbal – how to conduct when not in person?

Purposes:
- Establish relationships, including professional contacts
- Provide clearly defined learning experiences
- Evaluate benefits for students and for site
Weekly Video Calls:
- Using a familiar tool
- Regular time helps stay on task and adjust as needed
- Recording is an option for training sessions

Helpful Integrations:
- Chat
- Calendar
- Screen sharing
Planning and Organizing

What learning experiences should the intern have?

What tasks, in what order, in what time frame?

My preference is to train, then have independent work with occasional check-in's, then get back together for some sort of summative reflection/evaluation
Kanban Board Project-Planning Options:

- MS Planner
- Asana
- Trello

Helpful Integrations:

- Calendar
- Document storage and sharing
- Task Lists
Planning and Organizing

**Student Internship Summary**

**Board**

**OER/Primary Project**
- **Organizing / Prof Dev Output**
  - Getting to know us
  - Course-based requirements?
  - Professional Development Output

**Weekly Intros**
- Review background resources
- Collections Budgeting
- Collection Analysis: cited items in dissertations
- Library mgmt of funding apps db
- Open Science Framework
- Course-Adopted eTextbook Program

**Card**

- Review background resources:
  Last changed moments ago by you

**Bucket**

- OER/Primary Project
- Progress: Not started
- Due date: Anytime

**Notes**

Please review the background resources below and write a short summary for Joseph. In particular, I am interested in what's happening now with 2 Degrees and current grants.
Demonstrating Learning

What kinds of work products demonstrate learning?

How can they be shared with site supervisor?
With the professor?

How will the site supervisor and professor provide meaningful assessment feedback on these work products?
OneDrive: Shared files

- Can make files view-only or editable, insert comments
- Bonus: **Integration** with Planner and Teams

LibGuide: Also useful for end users

Selections for Portfolio ➔ TaskStream
What Worked for Us: Microsoft Teams

Communication
Planning & Organizing
Collecting Work Products
Other Tools?
Other Strategies?
Questions? Contact Us:

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