



**“Twenty years from now
you will be more disappointed
by the things you didn’t do
than by the ones you did do.
So throw off the bowlines.
Sail away from the safe harbor.
Catch the trade winds in your sails.
Explore. Dream. Discover.”
...Mark Twain**

As a student affairs professional, I will seek to:

- **treat every student as a unique individual** with their own personal background, experiences, dreams, and goals and **advocate for all students**, including those students from underrepresented and marginalized groups.
- **create a safe, inclusive and welcoming environment** for all students and make certain every student feels a **sense of belonging and mattering** by helping them understand what will be expected and how to get involved in campus life.
- **recognize my own personal biases, assumptions, values, and beliefs** and realize how they influence my work with students (i.e. family, health, faith, belief that things tend to happen for a reason and all things work together for good).
- **be student-centered** and **focus on holistic development of every student** (body, mind, spirit, and intellect).
- **challenge and support** students in their learning, growth and development and **set high expectations** for all students.
- **encourage students to pursue big, fantastic, wild, unbelievable dreams, follow their passions, and find meaningful work that they love.**
- **teach using strategies that actively engage students in their own learning**, where ample opportunities are given for students to work with others, share and discuss ideas, talk about what they are learning, write about it, relate it to past experiences, and apply it to their daily lives.
- **display a positive attitude and enthusiasm in all that I do** and **be a resource** for programs/ services / activities / events both on campus and within the community.
- **build and maintain trusting and collaborative relationships** with students, faculty and staff across difference, **share ideas** and **be open-minded to new ideas, ways of doing things, and change.**
- **apply theory to practice** and **be a life-long learner** by reading trade journals, attending professional conferences, getting involved in professional organizations, and serving as a mentor.
- **maintain a healthy lifestyle** that includes eating well, exercising and having work-life balance because taking care of myself allows me to be who I need and want to be for others.