# WordPress Community of Practice

November 2015

# Agenda

- 1. Student Workers
  - a. Guest presenters Blake Reilly and Kristy Gagne
- 2. The Quad
- 3. Open Forum
- 4. Office Hours

## Outline

- Benefits of students web workers
- How many students work in WordPress?
- Hiring and supervising tactics

## Pros of Student Workers in WordPress

- Students web workers can:
  - Save you time
  - Add value to your sites
  - Teach you about WordPress
  - Gain valuable work experience

# How many students work in WordPress?

- Students have worked in WordPress since the beginning (2011)
- 50+ students currently have access to WordPress.
- Sites include:
  - 150 Years
  - Alumni
  - Biology
  - Brooks Quimby Debate Council
  - B-Well
  - Career Development Center
  - Events
  - Health Center
  - Harward Center

- ILS
- Magazine
- News
- Orientation
- Residence Life and Health Education
- Student Employment
- The Ronj
- Williams Lab

# What type of work do they do?

Student web work ranges from low-level, repetitive work to complete site management, and restructuring.

- Fixing incorrect information; quick updates.
- Populating a Google Map with the locations of 220 student internships and summer jobs.
- Writing blog posts for the Biology website.
- Running the <u>Student Employment website</u>.

## Characteristics of Student Web Workers

- Technically proficient; Quick learners.
- Creative; Insightful (students are often the audience).
- Responsible. "Well aware of the stakes and visibility."

"They're fabulous. I would certainly use students as a resource as much as possible."

# Tips for Hiring and Supervising

- Mention WordPress in the job description
- Convey importance of work; instill ownership
- Train in the mission of the office
- Utilize working remotely
- Overlap student workers
  - Experienced students can train incoming students
  - "Your next job is to find someone to replace you."

## **Potential Drawbacks**

## Training time

If you don't outsource training to the current student worker.

### Misuse of access

- Theoretically possible, though never witnessed.
- Can be avoided by instilling ownership and with confidentiality contract.
- WP tracks edits, stores backups

## Writing

- Informal tone
- Typos, grammar

# Blake Reilly and Kristy Gagne

# Residence Life and Health Education

Thanks to Nevo Polonsky, we now have a more user friendly website!

#### Private: Welcome to Residence Life and Health Education

The Office of Residence Life and Health Education is dedicated to the creation of diverse, inclusive, and collaborative communities. We foster a holistic understanding of wellness, and facilitate relationships that develop agency and perspective. Through dynamic and robust programming, we prepare leaders to embrace difference and pursue responsible citizenship.

#### Residence Life



Explore residence life job opportunities, programming, and the JARC Staff program here.

- Junior Advisor (JA)
- · Residence Coordinator (RC)
- Residence Coordinator/Team Leader (RCTL)

#### Housing



Information on housing options and policies including Lottery, important dates, summer placement, a comprehensive housing tour, and FAOs.

- · First Year Housing
- Lottery
- · Summer Housing

#### Health Education



To learn more about Health and Wellness programming look into our programs below.

- Alcohol EDU
- · Green Dot: Bystander Intervention
- · Peer to Peer education

We look forward to assisting you in your transition to Bates College or with any other questions related to our work. For more information, stop by the Residence Life and Health Education Office in Lane Hall room 110, call us at 207-786-6215, or email the office at housing@bates.edu.

#### Private: Residence Life

The Residence Life Staff works to build respectful and vibrant communities within our residences on campus. The JARC Staff provides the community with robust programming focused on topics such as community engagement, late night programming, sexual respect, and relationship building. These programs allow students to participate actively in their residence in an engaged and meaningful way. In addition to fostering a tight-knit community, JARC Staff members grow on an individual level both personally and as professionals.

#### Junior Advisor

Junior Advisors (JAs) work with their individual First Year Centers comprised of 12-20 First Year residents. JAs introduce incoming students to the positive aspects of residence life at Bates. JAs serve as mentors for their residents as First Years begin the process of becoming part of the broader academic and social community transitioning into college.

#### Residence Coordinator

Residence Coordinators (RCs) work within upper-class buildings and houses to promote and maintain the positive residential experiences of our upper-class students. RCs offer a variety of residence-specific programming for the students in their building and serve as a connection to campus resources.

#### Residence Coordinator Team Leader

Residence Coordinator Team Leaders (RCTLs) are experienced Residence Life staff members that work in an advisory and support capacity with Junior Advisors as well as serving in the role of an RC to upper-class students. RCTLs work with JAs within First Year buildings to assist in building a positive First Year living experience and to connect First Years with upper-class students.

#### Frye Street Union Programming Coordinator

The Frye Street Union Programming Coordinator (FPC) is dedicated to maintaining consistent programming throughout each semester and utilizing Frye Street Union as an active programming space. In addition to supporting a complete programming model the FPC acts as the RC for Frye Street Union.

#### Links

Campus Map

Dining Services

Facility Services for Students

First-Year Housing

Floor Plans

Garnet Gateway

Student Affairs

#### Questions?

Our office is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please feel free to contact us via email, phone, or in person.

#### Contact Us

Residence Life and Health Education 2 Andrews Road 110 Lane Hall Lewiston, Maine 04240

Phone: 1-207-786-6215 housing@bates.edu

#### Private: Housing (draft)

Welcome to housing. Below, there is information for students of all class years regarding room selection, housing policies, and information about each residence. This page will help you learn about your housing options at Bates, and we hope that you can find a space that will work for your needs!

#### Room Selection and Lottery

Each year during Winter Semester, the Office of Residence Life and Health
Education administers a variety of processes through which current students may select
housing for the following year. This includes options such as:

- Off-Campus Housing
- Theme Houses
- On-Campus Suites

In addition to these specialized housing options there is the general housing lottery for the majority of students.

#### First Year Housing

#### Additional Procedures

There are also important housing processes outside of the lotteries and housing options mentioned above. These procedures are generally special cases, such as:

- Winter Room Selection
- Short Term Housing
- Summer Housing

#### Housing Tour

With over 20 Houses and hundreds of dorm rooms to choose from, finding the best space for you may seem overwhelming. Look through your many great options in the full housing tour with both specific house and room information and floor plans.

#### Housing FAQ

Some common questions about lottery and other detail about Bates housing options.

#### Housing Accommodations

Information for students requiring medical-related housing accommodations.

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housing@bates.edu

## Conclusions

- Very strong precedent for effective student web workers at Bates.
- Most common shortcoming of student's work is the tone of their writing.
- 12/12 supervisors surveyed reported positive experience, and recommend working with students on the web.

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