# Are You Set Up For Student Success?

The Importance of Office Space in Student Service

Michelle Nabers WVU Parkersburg WVASPA June 12, 2014

#### While We're Here...

- Thank you!
- Questions
  - Yes, please!
- Conversation

• Q&A



#### Overview

- Communication
  - Definition
  - Myths
- Nonverbal
  Communication
  - Types
  - Importance

- Student Service
  - Does it really matter?
    - And why...
- Examples
  - And yours too!

#### Communication

- Standard definition?
- Nonverbal Behavior versus Nonverbal Communication
  - Intentionality: It's not if you mean to send a message, it's when the receiver gets a

message

## Nonverbal Types

- Some Types of Nonverbal
  - Gesture
  - Touch
  - Voice- Important too!
  - Space

- Focus on Space
  - Awareness of unintended messages
  - Space CaseAssignment
    - Insight

## Importance of Space

- Difference Between:
  - Staff Offices
  - Office Areas
  - Faculty
  - Administrators?

- Your space reflects you!
  - Any control?
  - Blank versusDecorated
  - Stacks of Paper



#### **How Does This Relate?**

- General Info Seekers
  - Office Set-up

Initial Greeting

Appearance

- Serving Students
  - -Simple Questions

Complaints

Angry Students

## For Collaboration

Round Table





"[The round table]may be the most conducive to win/win negotiations because the round shape is usually associated with equality."

Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy Volume 5, Chapter 5

#### For Power

Rectangular Table



 "[T]he dominant chair [is] the most effective way for a leader to control the agenda or dominate the meeting."

Goman, C. K., Forbes Contributor

#### Does It Matter?

- Absolutely!
  - Friendliness

– Empathy

Positivity

- Important to success?
  - Student

– College

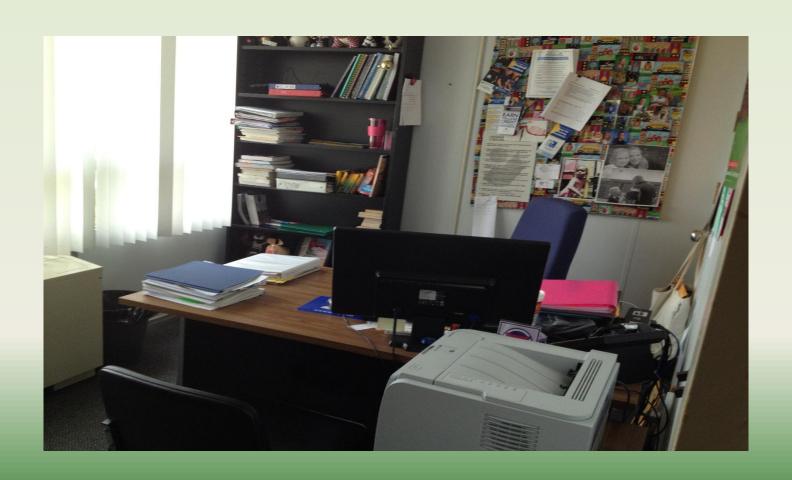
## What does this say?



## What about this?



## How do you feel?



## Does this look familiar?



## Is this good?



## Do you want to be the student?



#### Share!

- Your scenarios
  - As a student?
  - Co-worker?
  - Administrator



- Would you do anything differently?
- How do you want students to feel when leaving?

### So...What's Best?

- Communication
- Appearance
- Listening
- Concern
- Empathy



## Setting Up for Success

- Intentions
  - Best way to communicate?
  - Be aware of nonverbal

- Results?
  - Satisfaction
  - Some still angry
  - Safety

## Comments, Questions or Concerns?



Thank you!