

M. Brandon Cooper

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EDUCATION

Master of Arts in Instructional Leadership

Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas/May 2011

-Emphasis in Higher Education Administration

Cooper, Mark B. (2011) "Junior And Senior Student Perceptions: A Satisfaction Survey Of The Division Of Student Services At Sam Houston State University". (Unpublished graduate thesis).

Bachelor of Arts in Journalism/Public Relations

Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX/August 2005

-Minor in Mass Communication, Minor in French

EXPERIENCE

Department of Student Activities

Director

Sam Houston State University

July 2016-Present

- Supervision of 2 Associate Directors, 2 Assistant Directors, 2 Program Coordinators, 2 Administrative Support Staff Members, 1 Part Time Staff Member and approximately 35 Student Employees:
 - Oversee the Assistant Director for Spirit Programs, which includes: Co-Ed Cheerleader Team, All Girl Cheerleader Team, Orange Pride Dance Team, and the Mascot Program.
 - Oversee the Assistant Director for Student Activities, including aiding in the supervision and coordination of the university student programming board (Program Council), as well as the Assistant Director for the Center for Diversity & Intercultural Affairs.
 - Oversee the Assistant Director for Special Events and advise in the planning and implementation of Welcome Week, Homecoming, Bearkat Alley, Sammypoalooza (*university concert series*) and Kat Comedy Showcase (*university celebrity comedian event*).
- Maintain, organize and oversee the budgets for Programming, Spirit Programs and all major special events, totaling approximately \$1.8 Million.
- Collaborate with university departments including university wide marketing videos, coordination for athletic play-off travel and competitions.
- Oversee the development and creation of a department wide strategic plan and assessment plan.
- Facilitated the creation and development of the SHSU Center for Diversity & Intercultural Affairs.
- Facilitated the creation and development of the first university Welcome Week Leader program and cohort in 2017, now entering its' fifth annual cohort. This was in conjunction with the *Re-Imagining the First Year Experience* and the *Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation*.

Department of Student Activities

Associate Director

Sam Houston State University

September 2011-July 2016

- Supervision of 2 Assistant Directors and 1 Program Coordinator:

- Oversee the Assistant Director for Spirit Programs, which includes: Co-Ed Cheerleader Team, All Girl Cheerleader Team, Orange Pride Dance Team, and the Mascot Program.
- Oversee the Assistant Director for Student Activities, including aiding in the supervision and coordination of the university student programming board (Program Council), as well as the Coordinator for Multicultural Student Services.
- Oversee the Program Coordinator for Special Events and advise in the planning and implementation of Bearkat Alley, Sammypalooza (*university concert series*) and Kat Comedy Showcase (*university celebrity comedian event*).
- Plan and implement large university wide special events/traditions, including but not limited to: Welcome Week, Homecoming, Firefest, Tree of Light, the Battle of the Piney Woods & The Sammys.
- Maintain, organize and oversee the budgets for Programming, Spirit Programs and all major special events, totaling approximately \$1.2 Million.
- Collaborate with university departments including university wide marketing videos, coordination for athletic play-off travel and competitions.
- Created and help to implement the SAM Switch, a program involving the university president switching places with a university student.
- Created a new tradition for the SHSU Ring Ceremony, where all rings are housed overnight on the Sam Houston Museum grounds, as well as helped with the planning and implementation of the ring ceremony.
- Create, design and distribute the ‘Bearkat Buzz’, the annual department newsletter/magazine.
- Aid in the development and creation of a department wide strategic plan

Department of Student Activities
Assistant Director

*Sam Houston State University
September 2009-2011*

- Planned and implemented all large university wide special events, including but not limited to: Welcome Week, Homecoming, Firefest, Tree of Light, the SHSU Women’s Symposium & The Sammys.
- Oversaw the Spirit Programs Coordinator, including all teams within: Co-Ed Cheerleader Team, All Girl Cheerleader Team, Orange Pride Dance Team, and the Mascot Program.
- Maintained and organized the budgets for Spirit Programs and all major special events, totaling approximately \$500,000.00.
- Coordinated Bearkat Alley, the official Tailgate area for all SHSU football games.
- Created and developed an annual leadership/educational trip for students to the Texas State Capital, where students had the opportunity to meet with various government officials and learn aspects of state government.

Department of Student Activities
Program Coordinator, Leadership & Volunteer Programs

*Sam Houston State University
April 2006-September 2009*

- Advisor to the National Panhellenic Council, counseled chapters on various decisions as well as overseeing all recruitment dealings and operations between sororities.
- Created and implemented the Student Activities Leadership Initiative, a speaker’s symposium, hosting various prominent guest speakers. Planned other programs that gave students the opportunity to enhance their leadership skills.
- Planned and organized the SHSU Volunteer Fair, showcasing different volunteer opportunities for students. Developed other methods of showcasing community service prospects.
- Coordinated Bearkat Alley, the SHSU Tailgate area for all SHSU football games.

- Chaired, planned and oversaw all operations for The Sammys, the university awards ceremony.

Office of the President
Internship-Special Projects and Events

*Sam Houston State University
 January 2005-April 2006*

- Assisted in planning and organization of over 45 university events including receptions, forums, lectures, and dinners.
- Created office documents including PowerPoint presentations, Excel spread sheets, and Word documents.
- Responsible for processing and organization of reservations for four university historic facilities.
- Participated in hosting University dignitaries including state officials, celebrities, and prominent alumni.

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES/ACTIVITIES

- SHSU Wrestling Club (*SHSU Campus Advisor 2016-Present*)
- African Student Association (*SHSU Campus Advisor 2008-2016*)
- Women United (*SHSU Campus Advisor 2009-2016*)
- Alpha Tau Omega (*SHSU Campus Advisor 2009-2015*)
- SHSU Homecoming Committee (*2006-Present*)
- SHSU Ring Ceremony Committee, *Co-Chair (2008-Present)*
- SHSU 'Battle of the Piney Woods' Committee (*2010-Present*)
- SHSU University Camp Development Committee (*2005-Present*)
- SHSU Alcohol & Drug Awareness Initiative (*2005-2012*)
- SHSU University Community Council (*2003-2006*)
- SHSU Alumni Association-Lifetime Member

COMMUNITY LEADER ACTIVITIES

- Huntsville/Walker County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors (*2014-Present*)
 - *Huntsville Leadership Institute Board of Directors (2019-Present)*
 - *Community Growth Council (2014-Present)*
 - *'Shot in the Dark' Golf Tournament Chair (2014-Present)*
 - *Gala Committee Hospitality Chair (2003-2005)*
 - *Lobster Fiesta Committee Hospitality Chair (2003-2005)*
- Walker County CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) Board of Directors (*Vice President 2008-10*)
- Huntsville Hospital Auxiliary, *Member (2001-2006) Volunteer (2001-2003) (175 Hours)*

MAGAGEMENT/LEADERSHIP INSTITUTES

- SHSU Leadership Academy (*2016-2017*)
- American College Personnel Association: Mid-Level Managers Institute Graduate (*2015*)
- Huntsville Leadership Institute (*2007-2008*)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Student Affairs Professionals in Higher Education (*NASPA*)
- American College Professional Association (*ACPA*)

HONORS

SHSU Gorski Green Spirit Award (2018-2019), SHSU Staff Excellence Award (2013), Metis Award- Outstanding Greek Advisor (2012), Vice President’s Bearkat Spirit Award (2010), Sam Houston State University “Sammy Award” (2004)

PUBLICATIONS

Cooper, Mark B. “Higher Education and Technology: the Benefits” in Perspectives in Higher Education Reform (May 2004) V.13 published by the Alliance of Universities for Democracy (Puebla, Colorado).

PRESENTATIONS

Cooper, Mark B. “Higher Education and Technology: the Benefits” paper presented at the Alliance of Universities for Democracy Conference, Pécs, Hungary, November 7-10, 2004.