

Trading Places: Building Collaboration > Across Admissions & Financial Aid

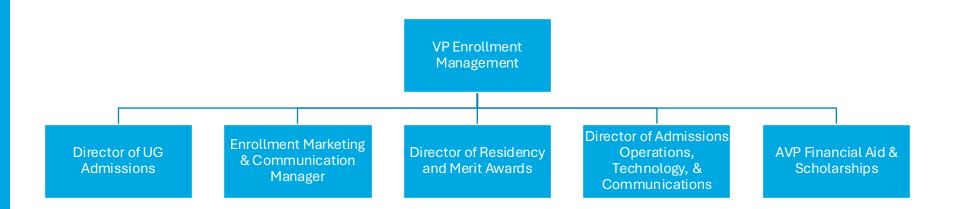
Samantha Hicks, Ed.D., FAAC® Assistant Vice President of Financial Aid & Scholarships, Coastal Carolina University Trey Wilson, Director of Undergraduate Admissions, Coastal Carolina University

Session Overview

- 1. Introductions
- 2. The Experiment
- 3. Lessons Learned
- 4. Discussion/Q&A

Introductions & Structure

Coastal Carolina University Enrollment Management



Introductions & Structure

Coastal Carolina University Undergraduate Admissions

- Leadership Team of 4
 - Director of Undergraduate Admissions
 - Senior Associate Director of Admissions and Recruitment
 - Associate Director of Admissions
 - Associate Director of Admissions Events and Campus Visits
- Recruitment File Review, All Front Facing, Road Warriors
- Events Team Same as Recruitment with the Added Layer of Event Planning and Execution
- Audit/Credit Unit Oversees All Special Applicant Types, Handles All Internal Audits, Manages All New Student Credit Evaluation

Introductions & Structure

Coastal Carolina University Financial Aid & Scholarships

- Leadership Team of 5
 - AVP
 - Director of FINAID Operations
 - SAD Operations
 - Snr AD Scholarships
 - Client Services Manager
- Customer Service Unit High Volume, Events, No Processing
- Operations & Scholarships Unit High Volume Processing, Few Events, Little Customer Service

Trading Places

- One-week role switch: logistics and planning
- Daily responsibilities overview
- Initial expectations and concerns

Key Observations

- Surprises and insights from each role
- Misconceptions uncovered
- Moments of clarity and connection

Other Observations

- How the switch improved understanding
- Examples of improved workflows
- Shared goals and student-centered thinking
- Communication breakthroughs

Leadership & Morale

- Staff reactions and engagement
- Leadership lessons learned
- Boosting morale through empathy and visibility

Lessons Learned

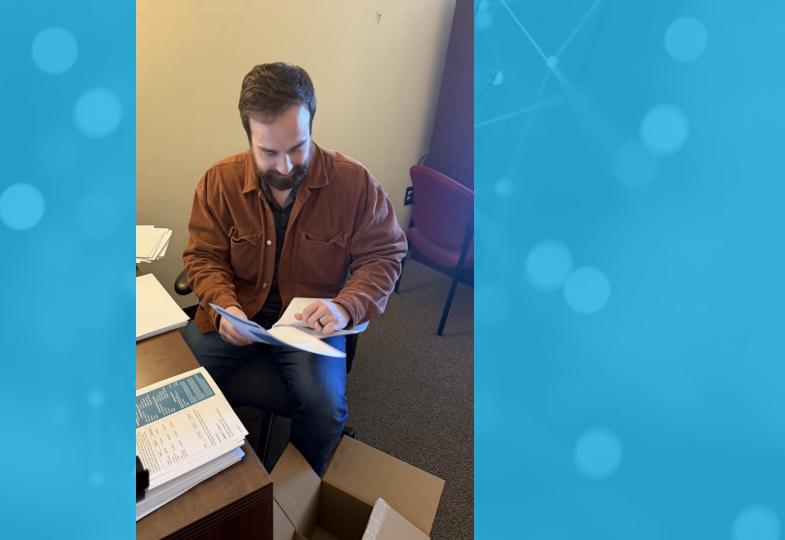
- What worked well
- What could be improved
- Unexpected outcomes

The Experiment: Strategies for Implementation

How Can You Replicate or Adapt the Idea

- Cross-Training
- Shadowing
- Culture of Collaboration
- Enrollment success through partnership
- Holistic student/staff experience
- Long-term benefits for institutional culture

















Thank You!



Trey Wilson

Director of Undergraduate Admissions Coastal Carolina University hwilson4@coastal.edu



Samantha Hicks, Ed.D, FAAC®

Assistant Vice President of Financial Aid and Scholarships Coastal Carolina University shicks@coastal.edu





The 39th Annual National Higher Education Conference