

Featured MCRPA Spotlight Member – May 2019



Christine Tracey

1. What is your role at Montgomery College?

I started at MC in January 2009 as the faculty services and outreach librarian and loved this work. In June 2015, I became the campus library manager for the Rockville campus library and discovered my true passion for leading teams by finding out what motivates each individual in order to facilitate achieving the greatest potential. I am proud of the work we were able to accomplish during the more than 3 years in the role and hope to find ways to replicate many initiatives in future roles.

2. How long have you been in your current profession?

Though librarian is the current title of my profession and has been officially for 11 years, there is an opportunity to shift thinking on what librarianship entails. Librarianship is about advocacy, access, knowledge creation, service, and people! I see myself more as an influencer and leader in the field.

3. How do you define success?

Success = Having the skill and will to live the best possible life.

4. What hobby would I get into if time and money were not an issue?

I love watching students have the “Aha” moment, it’s the best part of the job! When students realize that something they just learned will change the way they do research in the future, I know a successful interaction has occurred. I also enjoy how much perseverance and persistence MC students possess. In Angela Duckworth’s book *Grit*, she highlights a phenomenon that grittier (combination of passion and perseverance) adults were more likely to get further in their formal education programs. Interestingly, adults who earned degrees from Community Colleges were grittier than graduates of four-year colleges and the author attributes this to grit coming from defying odds. I see passion and perseverance in our students every day!

5. What are you currently passionate about?

I’m always passionate about learning. Currently, the concepts of transformational leadership and servant leadership are my passion. My dissertation has me fully invested in these topics, however, I am always learning something new and then finding ways to share lessons with a larger audience. It is my passion to serve others and one of the ways I do this is by sharing knowledge and creating meaningful, and dare I say fun, experiences.

6. What is one goal you hope to achieve this year?

I will be graduating from Drexel University’s Educational Leadership and Management doctoral program before the end of 2019. I have concentrated my studies around Organizational Development and Adult Learning. This is a goal I am very proud of accomplishing!

7. What is your favorite quote?

I have several favorites depending on the situation:

“Keep your face always toward the sunshine – and shadows will fall behind you.” – Walt Whitman

“A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way.” – John C. Maxwell

“Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love.” – Francis of Assisi

“Whoever is happy will make others happy too.” – Anne Frank

However, my favorite quote is one I coined back in College: “Eat It, Love It, Go There!” – Christine Tracey

8. What hobby would you get into if time and money weren't an issue?

I want to help people plan the fun in their lives as a “personal memory maker”. If money and time were flowing freely, I'd open a venue to host parties and celebrations of all kinds. I'd help families plan reunions and trips, couples plan weddings, anniversaries, and honeymoons, and I'd help everyone find a way to collect and archive their memories from these joyous events. This is my dream.

9. They say that everyone has a book in them. What would be the title of your book?

I have a few books in me:

Bet on Me: You Won't Be Sorry

Vision: Success Starts Here

Prove Them Wrong: Laughing in the Face of Adversity

Awakening the Leader Within: (subtitle TBD – some kind reference to dragons)

10. What do you want to be remembered for?

Bringing people to knowledge, joy, and laughter.