Interviewee: Shamika Simpson

Interviewer: Aisha Conner-Gaten

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Interviewee Full Name and Transcript Abbreviations: Aisha Conner-Gaten (ACG), Shamika Simpson (SS)

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00:12:50.970 --> 00:12:57.480

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Hello podcast listeners. Welcome to break group chats, the podcast. If a new professionals community of practice.

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00:12:57.720 --> 00:12:59.280

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Of the library leadership and

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00:12:59.280 --> 00:13:04.140

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Management Association of a la I might you should count again podcast team member

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00:13:04.560 --> 00:13:10.980

Aisha Conner-Gaten: I'm so excited to get into our series on community colleges so many of our colleagues work in community colleges.

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Aisha Conner-Gaten: So we want to share their knowledge and expertise as we think our own practice this episode entitled Community College edition part one and intro to the landscape.

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00:13:20.940 --> 00:13:26.250

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Will talk about the basic landscape of community colleges, specifically those based in California.

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00:13:26.670 --> 00:13:38.070

Aisha Conner-Gaten: I am so pleased to speak English and Mika Simpson. She, her hers, associate professor and collection development and outreach librarian at Long Beach City College here in California. Welcome, Jamaica.

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00:13:39.180 --> 00:13:39.900

Shamika Simpson: Thank you.

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00:13:40.830 --> 00:13:49.710

Aisha Conner-Gaten: So you've held a number of positions in Community College settings. Can you talk about your professional director directory and Elias.

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Shamika Simpson: Yes. So you've already said it. I am the collection development hours librarian.

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00:13:56.340 --> 00:14:11.730

Shamika Simpson: Within the community college in the span of 12 years I have worked my way up from library technician and cataloging to a library media technician where I continue to copy the catalog of course and perform original cataloging because that position was never failed.

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00:14:12.750 --> 00:14:20.970

Shamika Simpson: To a part time adjunct librarian. And now to a tenured faculty library and sometimes I feel like it took a long time to get where I am.

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00:14:21.690 --> 00:14:36.810

Shamika Simpson: However, I must say that because of my experience of working as a staff member and working in different staff positions and working my way up. It helped me to be more well rounded and to be deeply rooted as a librarian within a community college

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00:14:38.160 --> 00:14:41.970

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Oh, fantastic. Can you talk a little bit about your

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00:14:43.050 --> 00:14:52.410

Aisha Conner-Gaten: What you love about what community colleges specifically have to offer, especially since you were staff and now that you're tenured faculty, what do you love about the college community.

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00:14:54.240 --> 00:15:01.170

Shamika Simpson: I guess what I love most is, there are so many opportunities for collaboration with other departments and it's mostly with committees.

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00:15:01.710 --> 00:15:07.590

Shamika Simpson: Because of these opportunities. I feel like I have met some amazing people. I don't think if

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00:15:08.100 --> 00:15:20.070

Shamika Simpson: The opportunity to many have presented itself for me to work with other departments or work on various committees that I would have known very many people in the college community colleges, of course, are huge.

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00:15:21.060 --> 00:15:30.060

Shamika Simpson: And just having that that aspect of it where I am. I can engage and I can collaborate with others, then that just made a world of difference.

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00:15:30.870 --> 00:15:36.870

Shamika Simpson: Also, I love that there are opportunities to volunteer and work directly with student groups such as ASP groups.

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00:15:37.470 --> 00:15:44.550

Shamika Simpson: I love the overall student success is our primary goal. I love the CS students pursuing their academic dreams.

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00:15:45.060 --> 00:15:56.430

Shamika Simpson: For those in the library world there's an opportunity to teach as well, whether this be via workshops class orientations or actual resource research or library classes.

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00:15:57.090 --> 00:16:05.610

Shamika Simpson: And of course, I love the most thing. Well, the thing I would say I would love the most is graduation. There's something absolutely magical

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00:16:05.850 --> 00:16:17.760

Shamika Simpson: About participating in the graduation commencement ceremonies to see all the faculty and staff and their college regalia and to watch students march, march in across the stage, just to know at some point.

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00:16:18.240 --> 00:16:24.570

Shamika Simpson: That you may have helped that student at a time of need. And now they're able to cross the stage and graduate

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00:16:26.010 --> 00:16:27.270

Aisha Conner-Gaten: That's excellent. I mean, I

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00:16:27.690 --> 00:16:29.640

Aisha Conner-Gaten: I feel like a lot of us do it for the students and

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00:16:29.940 --> 00:16:32.130

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Graduation can be such a huge part of that.

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00:16:32.640 --> 00:16:34.440

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Can talk a little bit more

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About

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Aisha Conner-Gaten: The campus in terms of the size the differences. You've seen across like the institutions and the roles that you've had. How does that really impact your practice in terms of the size of the institution.

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00:16:48.990 --> 00:17:03.180

Shamika Simpson: Um, well, when I first started here. I will say our institution was designated as a large college a large community college, and I think we were about the size of maybe a small University at that time. Now we're a little bit smaller. Of course, you know, through the years.

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00:17:04.320 --> 00:17:09.810

Shamika Simpson: The differences in enrollment in different things that are going on. However, I just feel like

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Shamika Simpson: Even though the size has changed. I would definitely say to me, the dedication of the faculty, the dedication of the staff. None of that has changed over the years and

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00:17:22.650 --> 00:17:33.300

Shamika Simpson: The students are still, you know, they still have a desire to graduate. These still have a desire to pursue their academic goals and I don't. I haven't seen too much of a change in that regard. Wonderful.

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00:17:34.470 --> 00:17:34.890

Shamika Simpson: Great.

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00:17:34.950 --> 00:17:43.890

Aisha Conner-Gaten: I'm glad that it's not impacted. I know sometimes when folks feel like they have a lot of different departments and things. I feel a little stretched

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00:17:44.430 --> 00:17:53.100

Aisha Conner-Gaten: For time and labor. And so it's great to hear that in terms of students access and your ability to really connect with students. That hasn't changed much. Even though the size varies from year to year.

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00:17:53.700 --> 00:17:59.100

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Wonderful. So on your campus to use played a lot of significant roles in several projects.

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Aisha Conner-Gaten: Including the LB CC library finds for food initiative, which eliminates library find in exchange for supporting the campus food repository. The Viking volt, which I thought was such a great name.

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00:18:11.370 --> 00:18:18.840

Aisha Conner-Gaten: How did you get involved in projects like these and who were your collaborators. How did you make those relationships on campus that can be quite large.

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Shamika Simpson: Well, well first off the idea of removing fine from the library is of course not my original idea. I just want to put that out via

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Shamika Simpson: I feel follow many libraries library and groups and library news on social media. And I thought that many public libraries were moving towards having no fines.

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00:18:38.460 --> 00:18:45.390

Shamika Simpson: They were having various drives to collect food and other items to help students or I'm sorry to help their patrons pay off their library did

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00:18:46.350 --> 00:18:56.790

Shamika Simpson: Having a food drive is not new to me at LB CC and I thought it would be great if we could do something similar to allow students to pay it forward with a donation in order to pay off their library did

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00:18:57.630 --> 00:19:05.490

Shamika Simpson: In the library world, of course, we're always seeking to eliminate things such as the digital divide. And now we're seeking ways to in in equity.

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00:19:05.940 --> 00:19:09.480

Shamika Simpson: I thought this was a great opportunity for us and it will BCC to participate.

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Shamika Simpson: And the removal of find to academic libraries, of course, removes the inequity that prevent students from a rolling in classes or having, hold on. No transcripts or any other issues that may impact their financial aid.

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Shamika Simpson: I felt as the collection development librarian that I wanted to eliminate any fines for the collection that I manage I pitched the idea to a couple colleagues.

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Shamika Simpson: Just sable and belly lot of Joby and they assisted me with the proposal carrying the idea with library managers and they helped me also with the food for fines initiative.

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Shamika Simpson: Moving forward, we are now finalizing the elimination of overdue fees and all of our general collection. So starting next semester we will not have any more finder fees.

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Shamika Simpson: And unfortunately, due to just some technicalities we didn't continue with the food for finds aspect of it allows students to pay it forward. However, I plan in the future to have some more opportunities for students to to donate. You know, we donate stuff all the time to various

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00:20:10.140 --> 00:20:14.400

Shamika Simpson: women's shelters or homeless shelters, as well as to the veterans.

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00:20:16.020 --> 00:20:22.770

Shamika Simpson: As far as getting involved. Sometimes I have an idea. And I tried to include people that think they be interested or maybe like minded.

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00:20:23.430 --> 00:20:34.920

Shamika Simpson: Sometimes I am I am approached about also about helping out with something or if I hear about a campus project. You know, I don't hesitate. The email and reach out and ask, Oh, hey, how can I collaborate. How can I be a part

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00:20:36.240 --> 00:20:49.170

Shamika Simpson: Just recently I was asked to help with the Healthy. Healthy Vikings initiative wellness book club and this book club will be the catalyst for students to open up and have dialogue surrounding mental health issues.

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00:20:49.800 --> 00:20:58.380

Shamika Simpson: And this is an opportunity of epic proportions. It's more than just a book club and of course this is right up my alley. You know, this is the library. Of course, we love booklet.

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00:20:58.950 --> 00:21:07.110

Shamika Simpson: And since I also started the library book talks I felt that we can also transcend from having our physical face to face look live

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00:21:07.440 --> 00:21:16.020

Shamika Simpson: To having our dialogues about mental health and about the book we have selected to discuss it on our excuse me in our library book talks.

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00:21:16.800 --> 00:21:26.130

Shamika Simpson: Which we have had for quite some time, but we have now revamped them so that they are digital for social media and they will resume next semester after a long hiatus.

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00:21:28.140 --> 00:21:29.220

Shamika Simpson: Yeah, absolutely.

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00:21:29.490 --> 00:21:31.620

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Can you tell us a little bit more about

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00:21:32.190 --> 00:21:47.250

Aisha Conner-Gaten: The book talks in terms of. So is it like faculty that talk about their favorite books or do you choose, like a title and how did you get people to buy into that idea. I think so many of us have initiatives, but it's really hard to kind of find collaborators and get things off the ground.

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00:21:48.510 --> 00:21:51.450

Shamika Simpson: Yeah, well, the buying is definitely an issue.

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00:21:52.200 --> 00:22:01.170

Shamika Simpson: So it started off with it being more like face to face. So it was essentially like a book club and we will select the book and just say, Hey, everybody, you know, chime in on this book.

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00:22:01.410 --> 00:22:09.180

Shamika Simpson: Have you read it. Did you like it, you know, here's an excerpt from the book. What do you think about this. Here's a quote from the author. What do you think about this, just to kind of

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00:22:09.720 --> 00:22:19.980

Shamika Simpson: Capture students opinions and dialogue. So it started off more of happening at our we used to have a library club at our library club meetings. And so it was more face to face.

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00:22:20.610 --> 00:22:32.100

Shamika Simpson: And with this digital world, I felt like, okay, we are missing out on capturing an audience that is today and on social media. So what I decided to do was I use a video platform.

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00:22:32.790 --> 00:22:41.130

Shamika Simpson: And what I've done is so I've reached out to various faculty and staff on campus who may have written a book, who would like the opportunity to discuss the book.

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00:22:41.370 --> 00:22:48.540

Shamika Simpson: So That Students may know that they've written a book and maybe learn about it here from their perspective on why they were passionate about writing that book.

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00:22:49.260 --> 00:23:00.210

Shamika Simpson: That way, for those of our students authors who may be interested in writing a book as well. That way they can kind of see the author's path and how they've taken the steps to produce their, their work.

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00:23:00.930 --> 00:23:06.600

Shamika Simpson: In addition to that, I've also reached out to. We have a future teachers club.

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00:23:07.170 --> 00:23:17.640

Shamika Simpson: And so what they're focusing on our students who want to become teachers in the future. And so for them. They would love to read various stories, especially when it comes to children's and juvenile literature.

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00:23:18.000 --> 00:23:26.010

Shamika Simpson: So I've reached out to them. I've asked them if they would like to perhaps read a story on video or if they would like to discuss a children's book on video.

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00:23:26.250 --> 00:23:38.820

Shamika Simpson: That way we can get more people out here to learn about the various things we have to offer as well as what other libraries have to offer. Of course, what we have in our collection. You know, it isn't just for us, you know, everyone probably has a copy somewhere.

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00:23:40.110 --> 00:23:44.100

Shamika Simpson: So it's we just really want this is just a tool for us to promote literacy

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00:23:44.460 --> 00:23:57.510

Shamika Simpson: And to get to people to be aware of what we have an LB CC. Sometimes they think of us as a community college library, but they don't realize how much wealth, we have within our collection. We actually have a quite a big expensive urine collection.

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00:23:58.470 --> 00:24:02.850

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Is that from a specialty, or was it like a donation, or just a part of the collection.

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00:24:02.850 --> 00:24:05.340

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Management. That sounds very unique for a

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00:24:05.670 --> 00:24:06.900

Community College.

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00:24:09.120 --> 00:24:17.310

Shamika Simpson: I believe it started off with one of our librarians a long, long time ago. Who's retired. She just had a love for children's books. I believe she has a children's librarian background.

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00:24:17.790 --> 00:24:29.190

Shamika Simpson: And then we do also on campus. We do have a child development center. And so now, in recent years, we are reading to at what one of the campuses not both the campuses.

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00:24:29.910 --> 00:24:38.460

Shamika Simpson: And our Pacific Coast campuses, the preschool is located on campus at that campus. The students do take a field trip to the library on Fridays.

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00:24:38.730 --> 00:24:46.470

Shamika Simpson: And they are read a story and I will start of our one of our retired librarians Marian Hinton and now let's continue by one of our librarians Judas Toby.

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00:24:46.830 --> 00:25:00.090

Shamika Simpson: And so I assist with that in any facet I'm me you know I order, of course, any Storytime books or any subject books for children that she feels would be an asset to them. And so we're hoping to make this even bigger than it is.

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00:25:01.140 --> 00:25:06.720

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Oh yeah, that sounds great. I mean, we actually. So I'm in Loyola Marymount University also located in

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00:25:07.170 --> 00:25:17.850

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Los Angeles, California for folks who don't know and we have kind of a similar thing. We have an education doctoral program and we also have a curriculum materials collection that has juvenile and

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00:25:18.480 --> 00:25:27.180

Aisha Conner-Gaten: young folks materials. Funny enough, I don't think I see a lot of students using them. But we do get actual just like people bringing their families in right so creating this kind of

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00:25:27.570 --> 00:25:34.200

Aisha Conner-Gaten: An actual kind of community library field and a very academic space which is really interesting and kind of cool to see

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00:25:35.280 --> 00:25:38.970

Aisha Conner-Gaten: I don't know if you've had a lot of experience in like public libraries. I haven't

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00:25:40.230 --> 00:25:51.090

Aisha Conner-Gaten: But so anytime somebody else comes in that's not an academic or not doing research, and they're using our collections in new ways. I get really excited and it's kind of cool to see what's going on with them. So that sounds like a

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00:25:51.570 --> 00:25:52.830

Shamika Simpson: Wedding daddy. Yeah.

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00:25:52.890 --> 00:25:54.570

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Yeah, very unique way to connect with

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00:25:54.570 --> 00:25:55.170

Shamika Simpson: Some folks.

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00:25:55.800 --> 00:26:01.200

Aisha Conner-Gaten: So yeah, so with all the initiatives you named including this new wellness healthy Vikings book.

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00:26:01.590 --> 00:26:13.140

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Wellness initiative, it sounds like it's it, you kind of have a good record of getting people involved in getting people on board and you've mentioned reaching out to collaborators, including other faculty

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00:26:13.680 --> 00:26:23.280

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Do you think there's kind of a difference in terms of how faculty collaborate and interact on community college campuses versus maybe you've seen in the literature in other spaces.

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00:26:26.340 --> 00:26:34.860

Shamika Simpson: Well, when it comes to dealing with faculty, I only have experienced here at this Community College. I've worked in public library school libraries.

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00:26:35.880 --> 00:26:44.550

Shamika Simpson: In the collaboration with teachers at a school library was quite different than it is here. So I really don't have much to compare it to.

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00:26:46.500 --> 00:26:51.090

Shamika Simpson: But getting people on board like it has its challenges. It definitely does.

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00:26:51.570 --> 00:26:57.870

Shamika Simpson: But once you find one or two people who just have the same zeal and love for something as you do.

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00:26:58.200 --> 00:27:08.250

Shamika Simpson: It just takes one or two of them to kind of they get excited about it. They spread the word other colleagues and then word spreads and word spreads. And usually, to me, that's how

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00:27:08.880 --> 00:27:18.420

Shamika Simpson: The collaboration works here. That's how you know, things get spread it takes one person to just to get excited about it. Get one other person excited about it and then it kind of takes off from there.

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00:27:18.840 --> 00:27:28.110

Shamika Simpson: Unless you get someone on board, who is just as excited about it as you are. It can be quite cumbersome to kind of just keep reaching out keep reaching out

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00:27:28.290 --> 00:27:30.720

Shamika Simpson: Sometimes you hear back sometimes you don't

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00:27:32.340 --> 00:27:39.450

Shamika Simpson: But it, you know, so it's not without its challenges. However, so far so good. I've had a good experience with this part.

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00:27:41.070 --> 00:27:42.810

Aisha Conner-Gaten: I'm so glad to hear. I mean, it's

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00:27:43.170 --> 00:27:51.780

Aisha Conner-Gaten: I feel like a lot of so campus is different. I think wildly, and that this even a staff status or like a faculty status.

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00:27:52.380 --> 00:28:01.800

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Has some sort of input into how relationships continue if people are like really receptive to your ideas too. Did you find that different being

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00:28:02.640 --> 00:28:14.670

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Assistant and associate or being on the tenure track and not quite getting that yet versus when folks knew that you were a tenured faculty member, was there a difference in how they interacted with you and collaborated with using

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00:28:15.750 --> 00:28:18.330

Shamika Simpson: YES I YES I would have to say yes.

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00:28:18.360 --> 00:28:21.000

Shamika Simpson: To that, because there is definitely a difference.

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00:28:23.220 --> 00:28:29.670

Shamika Simpson: Of how how don't want to say how you're treated, but how well your received when you're in a different hierarchy.

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00:28:30.150 --> 00:28:41.790

Shamika Simpson: And as staff. I do think it was a little more challenging getting faculty and getting others on board or to help to participate with anything. And so I think as staff. I mostly worked with students.

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00:28:42.180 --> 00:28:55.290

Shamika Simpson: So very involved in student clubs very involved with other staff members and now that I am faculty. I think because of my staff background because I was staff because I had already developed those relationships.

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00:28:55.890 --> 00:29:04.080

Shamika Simpson: I don't have that hierarchal hurry are sucking through the word right now. I don't even have that struggle when it comes to reaching out to folks.

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00:29:05.340 --> 00:29:05.820

Shamika Simpson: Okay, so

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00:29:06.300 --> 00:29:20.040

Aisha Conner-Gaten: It seems like and at least in your sense and the community college world that kind of having a familiar familiarity to go through the system in different roles has really actually bolstered your faculty collaboration and interactions.

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00:29:20.880 --> 00:29:22.200

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Where I know I've heard in

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00:29:22.260 --> 00:29:23.340

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Different spaces being

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00:29:23.340 --> 00:29:29.280

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Staff and then becoming on as a faculty member, people might even actually question your ability to be

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00:29:29.550 --> 00:29:40.680

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Present and rigorous and then in the practice, but in your case, it seems with Community College, the more relationships that you have, the better you seem to be off, especially when it comes to collaboration. Does that sound right.

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00:29:41.580 --> 00:29:42.750

Shamika Simpson: Yes, I would agree. I

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00:29:42.750 --> 00:29:48.810

Shamika Simpson: would definitely say this is that without its challenges. There's there. There's always those naysayers, there's always someone

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00:29:49.470 --> 00:30:04.470

Shamika Simpson: Even on my level as faculty. I feel like kind of look down on you. They kind of feel like, well, you don't have as much faculty experience as I have. So sometimes your ideas. The first time they are pitched are kind of brushed off and

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00:30:05.610 --> 00:30:18.000

Shamika Simpson: I have learned to be a little persistent. So I bring things back up later on when they seem like they're relevant again and then sometimes they are well received versus the first time when I had the same exact idea.

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00:30:18.510 --> 00:30:27.870

Shamika Simpson: So, um, it's, it's something that I feel like you just have to keep working it just have to keep out there, keep putting your name out there, keep putting yourself out there.

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00:30:28.470 --> 00:30:43.080

Shamika Simpson: And just showing people that you have a reputation for supporting the students loving the students and you know that itself will will transcend in me and any doubts, they may have about you.

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00:30:44.280 --> 00:30:51.570

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Yeah, I'm glad to hear the students are centered in the community college space. I feel like a lot of our, of course, our university say that

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00:30:52.230 --> 00:31:00.000

Aisha Conner-Gaten: But from what I've seen, at least that's something that is pretty common across a lot of the Community College landscape that I've seen since I've been here.

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00:31:00.240 --> 00:31:15.690

Aisha Conner-Gaten: In the short while. So, and that's why many of us continue to work in Las is because of the work with our students can you talking about the students specifically at LB CC. What makes them unique and and what work with the students are you most proud of as an associate professor

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00:31:16.770 --> 00:31:23.760

Shamika Simpson: Okay. Well, like any other college we have students from all walks of life. And I found that our students here.

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00:31:24.690 --> 00:31:31.230

Shamika Simpson: They're a little bit different, like in terms of, you know, most of the time when you know you meet college students. They seem to be kind of shy.

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00:31:31.890 --> 00:31:39.900

Shamika Simpson: First time around college to kind of navigate themselves, but I don't know the students that I've run into maybe because most of them aren't freshman at the time. They're very vocal

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00:31:40.440 --> 00:31:53.640

Shamika Simpson: They love to participate, they get out there. They make change. They don't mind rallying the troops and and coming together for a common cause. And so like I said because they're all walks of life. I just, I found that I'm

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00:31:54.090 --> 00:32:03.840

Shamika Simpson: Working with these students and giving to meet these students have made me a better person. I've learned so much more about various issues that I didn't really know before

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00:32:04.320 --> 00:32:09.240

Shamika Simpson: Especially like within the trans community. I've had the opportunity of

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00:32:09.810 --> 00:32:23.790

Shamika Simpson: Having very intimate dialogue with one of our trans students, and it wasn't because of any issues or anything. I just, I wanted to know for myself. I wanted to know, you know, are there certain stigma. Are there certain things that we shouldn't say or we shouldn't

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00:32:24.480 --> 00:32:34.770

Shamika Simpson: allude to or how as faculty do we help these students get along and I'm not, of course, by no means like a trendsetter of anything like this on campus. But for myself.

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00:32:35.040 --> 00:32:50.970

Shamika Simpson: I wanted to make sure that if I ever had the opportunity to help a student and if whatever comes comes my way that I am able to effectively help them. And so having this dialogue with this student really helped me to understand

211

00:32:51.930 --> 00:32:58.350

Shamika Simpson: And to have a greater appreciation for what the students are going through

212

00:32:59.340 --> 00:33:11.970

Shamika Simpson: And so, um, and like I said, I do agree. You know that that we that we continue to work in Ireland, due to the students. And that is definitely the reason why to get out because some days I'm not necessarily so. Sure. Definitely frame.

213

00:33:13.590 --> 00:33:16.500

Shamika Simpson: But I'm definitely proud when students know

214

00:33:17.010 --> 00:33:20.790

Shamika Simpson: And they do reach out to me when they know that they can come talk to me about anything.

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00:33:21.030 --> 00:33:31.770

Shamika Simpson: Whether it's regarding their academic success here or whether it's regarding a personal issue that they can always come to me if they just want me to sit here while they vent, they are free to do so.

216

00:33:31.980 --> 00:33:40.830

Shamika Simpson: If they will like me to work through a problem with them, they are free to do that is will, and I just feel like we all need someone in our lives, who will be in our corner, who are not judges.

217

00:33:41.400 --> 00:33:46.200

Shamika Simpson: And I wish that I had someone that I could have gone and visited to when I was in college, you know,

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00:33:48.000 --> 00:33:54.060

Shamika Simpson: Taking wrong classes or whatever the case may be. I just wish I would have had someone to go sit down and say, hey, can you help me with this.

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00:33:55.290 --> 00:33:59.670

Shamika Simpson: So that is my my purpose for for that. And then I'm also proud.

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00:34:00.150 --> 00:34:05.730

Shamika Simpson: That as an advocate for students that of course you know you already know about it that I started the food pantry in the library.

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00:34:06.060 --> 00:34:16.230

Shamika Simpson: And so it started off with me just buying you know a few snacks here and there, for students in my face to face classes or for my student workers or students in the library club.

222

00:34:16.740 --> 00:34:25.770

Shamika Simpson: And I know as a college student, you know the struggle. I didn't want Congress to ever be an issue. And so when I was the advisor, the library Club. I'm

223

00:34:26.400 --> 00:34:31.980

Shamika Simpson: spreading the word about me having snacks on the library was pretty easy because it's do this pretty much did all the work for me.

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00:34:32.790 --> 00:34:42.060

Shamika Simpson: But now I will BCC as a part of the healthy Viking initiative, of course, we have the, the, the major football. And then we also would have what we have, what we're called the mini Viking vault.

225

00:34:42.450 --> 00:34:51.810

Shamika Simpson: And so basically the mini Viking models are just where those of us who may have had small pantry items, a small little snack areas in our respective areas.

226

00:34:52.200 --> 00:35:00.750

Shamika Simpson: Where we support students and we provide snacks and various things for them. And so it's great, now that we have this campus wide college wide.

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00:35:01.500 --> 00:35:15.120

Shamika Simpson: Healthy Viking initiative because now we can all be under one umbrella and assist with the same like goals. And so it's really great that we have now have was coined as the mini Viking vault in the library. So for hours. I'm mostly by like

228

00:35:16.650 --> 00:35:20.040

Shamika Simpson: A cup of noodles and granola bars and stuff like that and now

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00:35:20.550 --> 00:35:25.950

Shamika Simpson: A couple of my colleagues, you know, they, they see the need of what as well and they go out and whenever they go grocery shopping

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00:35:26.130 --> 00:35:41.220

Shamika Simpson: You know they bring me back real fruit snacks and granola bars and various things. So I'm very, very grateful. You know, for the assistance of others that is making it so that we can provide more for more students. And of course, okay. I'm sorry.

231

00:35:41.310 --> 00:35:43.230

Aisha Conner-Gaten: No, go ahead. I was just saying so great.

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00:35:45.180 --> 00:35:56.490

Shamika Simpson: And so of course interactions with the students at outreach events and campus fears of course are my favorite. And that's why I'm very proud of. I could not complete this

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00:35:57.480 --> 00:36:05.190

Shamika Simpson: Interview without speaking on this at all. I just, I will me personally I strive to break the stigma of libraries.

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00:36:05.730 --> 00:36:13.770

Shamika Simpson: We are more than just booked for more than just steady tables and study rooms and information, we are actually approachable. We are actually personable.

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00:36:14.130 --> 00:36:26.070

Shamika Simpson: And and so it's really great when we get to engage students out outside of the library walls at various events, you know, I've created like library trivia games.

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00:36:26.400 --> 00:36:35.130

Shamika Simpson: I play cultural games with them. I have a buzzer that we use to kind of play. You know who buzzes first gets the answer the question. You win a prize type games.

237

00:36:35.670 --> 00:36:44.460

Shamika Simpson: I've created photo booth. So, you name it. I've done it and I pride myself and everyone always says, oh, you always decorate your tables, the best

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00:36:44.820 --> 00:36:53.370

Shamika Simpson: Of having, of course, the most decorated the most out there outlandish table ever at the library at the outreach events because I want people to see that.

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00:36:53.670 --> 00:37:01.170

Shamika Simpson: You know we are human beings. And we do care. And we do have fun because you know once you break down those walls of people kind of been

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00:37:02.490 --> 00:37:06.690

Shamika Simpson: A little intimidated by coming to a library. I feel you get more students in

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00:37:06.900 --> 00:37:17.820

Shamika Simpson: And so it's really nice to get to play with students to interact with students and let them know, hey, the library said, Did you know you can do this. Did you know you can do that and you kind of learn, you know, you start that dialogue with them. And so it's been really nice.

242

00:37:18.630 --> 00:37:19.020

Shamika Simpson: Wow.

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00:37:19.530 --> 00:37:20.370

Shamika Simpson: I feel like that.

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00:37:21.810 --> 00:37:25.050

Aisha Conner-Gaten: I think speaks really well to the community college kind of

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00:37:25.590 --> 00:37:29.700

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Opportunities that are presented to a lot of folks who want to be information.

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00:37:29.700 --> 00:37:39.810

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Professionals, this idea of, you get to have the rigorous teaching and pedagogy and interactions with students for research of a professor

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00:37:40.320 --> 00:37:46.680

Aisha Conner-Gaten: But you also get to like have fun and, you know, create and it sounds like a lot of unique opportunities get created.

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00:37:47.610 --> 00:37:58.080

Aisha Conner-Gaten: And that might be a part of it will be sees sees specific campus culture, but hopefully I think it's something that I've also seen across things where a community college really are willing to try to

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00:37:58.140 --> 00:37:59.940

Aisha Conner-Gaten: do outreach in different ways.

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00:38:00.180 --> 00:38:13.080

Aisha Conner-Gaten: And again, it sounds like from what you said partnering with other faculty comes, quite naturally on campuses of Community College specifically because they know how diverse their students are and that they connect in different ways and maybe someone

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00:38:13.080 --> 00:38:14.940

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Who does the four year institution.

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00:38:16.140 --> 00:38:17.850

Aisha Conner-Gaten: That's really interesting. Yeah, very

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00:38:18.060 --> 00:38:20.790

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Very cool. Yeah, gaming and gamification and

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00:38:21.390 --> 00:38:24.390

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Figuring out how to make the library their space.

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00:38:24.870 --> 00:38:26.580

Aisha Conner-Gaten: When very often universities don't

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00:38:26.580 --> 00:38:29.340

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Really feel that all that welcoming to a lot of us, especially

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00:38:29.430 --> 00:38:40.740

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Students of color so that I think your, your presence clearly makes an impact even aside from just you actually going out there and doing the extra things that you do. So just great sounds amazing.

258

00:38:42.030 --> 00:38:52.050

Aisha Conner-Gaten: So, given those things. I mean, it sounds like you're able to accomplish a lot on your campus, but we all have worked in systems where there might be some bureaucracy, there are supervisors their administrators

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00:38:52.050 --> 00:38:54.750

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Who don't have that contact with students who don't see that.

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00:38:54.750 --> 00:38:59.580

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Impact day to day. So what sort of issues do you

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00:38:59.580 --> 00:39:11.310

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Face most commonly on your college community college campus and what are some strategies you think that maybe someone who's kind of getting into this for the first time I consider as they kind of make those collaborations happen.

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00:39:13.230 --> 00:39:18.300

Shamika Simpson: Well, let's just say I did it kind of drip this question, since you provided me with the questions in advance.

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00:39:20.160 --> 00:39:34.140

Shamika Simpson: I was just like, Oh my gosh, you know, I just want to speak about the great things, but I understand everything good at all also has a bad side so we must discuss all facets of of this topic. And so I'll start off with the issues.

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00:39:35.460 --> 00:39:46.980

Shamika Simpson: So for me, and now I'm at a great place. But there was a time, especially during my 10 year probationary period. And I was treated

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00:39:47.490 --> 00:39:54.960

Shamika Simpson: In equitably I've experienced in validation micro aggression, not to say that I still don't face those things because I do

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00:39:55.260 --> 00:40:06.090

Shamika Simpson: But it's just I guess the way I handled them now versus when I was handling them then is totally different. So when you're going through this probationary period, you know, you have this fear that

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00:40:06.630 --> 00:40:13.800

Shamika Simpson: Every wrong step you make every wrong turn, you make is an automatic. Okay, they're not going to hire you back, you're not going to be

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00:40:14.610 --> 00:40:26.130

Shamika Simpson: Approved for that particular year academic year. And so you won't be able to continue at the college, you know, and so every year, you're kind of on pins and needles info you finish your four year probation.

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00:40:26.790 --> 00:40:33.420

Shamika Simpson: Just to see if you can make it. And so I, you know, had some negative feedback, some of it warranted. Some of it not

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00:40:34.680 --> 00:40:45.600

Shamika Simpson: And so I'm one of those people, you know, I like to continuously grow. I like to continuously, you know, improve upon myself. And so I really take things like that to the heart, especially when I feel it's not valid.

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00:40:46.530 --> 00:40:59.220

Shamika Simpson: And so I had to learn a lot of self care had to learn how to just take breaks take walks kind of journal. My experience journal MY FEELINGS BECAUSE I found myself.

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00:40:59.790 --> 00:41:07.050

Shamika Simpson: Thinking deeper and deeper, just to be in a recluse in my office I wasn't participating as much with our reach events.

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00:41:07.350 --> 00:41:12.360

Shamika Simpson: I wasn't hanging out too much with students. I wasn't doing anything because I just feel like okay well

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00:41:12.780 --> 00:41:19.830

Shamika Simpson: If they don't appreciate what i'm doing them. Why should I do. Why am I here and I, you know, honestly, I would kind of a dark period because of all that

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00:41:20.760 --> 00:41:31.830

Shamika Simpson: And so I'm the part of the issue. So the biggest obstacle has been to acknowledge that I have my own philosophies, I have my own opinions and I have a voice.

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00:41:32.400 --> 00:41:40.230

Shamika Simpson: And I had to learn how to get over the fear of using my voice and I had to get over the fear that because I am a woman of color that

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00:41:41.190 --> 00:41:49.620

Shamika Simpson: Is my opinion different that it will be labeled as aggressive or antagonizing, and so like I said, I hate in the shadow, so to speak.

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00:41:50.040 --> 00:42:01.080

Shamika Simpson: To avoid certain confrontations. And this was detrimental. You know, I think I lost a year or two of really being the best to me because I was

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00:42:01.530 --> 00:42:18.120

Shamika Simpson: So afraid and just trying to avoid all of these things. And so I highly advise everyone against that, you know, just be you be free to be you and just the bureaucracy. It is what it is you can't fight that. But you can learn how to navigate it.

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00:42:22.830 --> 00:42:23.190

Shamika Simpson: No, no.

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00:42:23.910 --> 00:42:24.180

Please.

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00:42:25.560 --> 00:42:28.800

Shamika Simpson: And so because of that, you know, my learning curve.

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00:42:30.030 --> 00:42:38.400

Shamika Simpson: The button will better things, these aren't as bad as my experience with my issues, but I'm just learn how to navigate college culture.

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00:42:38.880 --> 00:42:50.340

Shamika Simpson: And understand, you know, the charge of committees and different work groups, find your niche find where you belong. Don't just join them committee because maybe your higher ups as well. You need to join 12 committees.

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00:42:51.030 --> 00:42:58.680

Shamika Simpson: That's fine, that you join 12 committees, but make sure their committees, where you feel like you would have an impact, where you feel like you would have a voice.

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00:42:58.950 --> 00:43:11.190

Shamika Simpson: Because there's nothing worse than someone in academia, who's just basically a placeholder on a committee, they don't contribute. They don't participate and you know it's really not a good look at all and then

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00:43:12.450 --> 00:43:19.530

Shamika Simpson: Of course, another learning curve just be proactive. When you're accomplishing tasks and different reports and deadlines, because on academia. That's definitely

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00:43:19.830 --> 00:43:32.850

Shamika Simpson: For me, that was a big change and coming from a school library from a public library and just having to have all these things all these deadlines, just to make sure that you're aware of it and that you stay proactive and keep ahead of everything. Huh.

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00:43:33.810 --> 00:43:39.750

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Yeah, I like that idea of organization that's something even as a staff member library and

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00:43:40.380 --> 00:43:42.570

Aisha Conner-Gaten: That I've kind of struggled with. And I think that's a very

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00:43:42.780 --> 00:43:45.960

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Much a new library and issue as we kind of don't

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00:43:46.200 --> 00:43:48.480

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Ship opportunities and management, I think.

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00:43:48.510 --> 00:43:51.750

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Managing yourself as a part of that I think people forget that part.

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00:43:51.870 --> 00:43:54.780

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Because we're so busy trying to be like outwardly amazing

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00:43:55.710 --> 00:44:01.980

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Yeah, like organization is so important and like figuring out how to organize yourself and I love we actually did.

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00:44:02.010 --> 00:44:03.120

Shamika Simpson: An episode.

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00:44:03.600 --> 00:44:05.880

Aisha Conner-Gaten: For folks who haven't checked that out yet episode.

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00:44:05.880 --> 00:44:18.600

Aisha Conner-Gaten: 43 I believe is on mindfulness. So when you talk about, you know, going through a hard time during your process and developing a self care practice that really sustains you that I think is necessary for all folks specifically

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00:44:19.110 --> 00:44:23.040

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Alert, and I can only imagine the 10 year process and having people critique.

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00:44:23.070 --> 00:44:26.040

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Critique you in ways that you've never been critiqued before

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00:44:26.190 --> 00:44:27.990

Aisha Conner-Gaten: For work that you've probably been super proud.

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00:44:28.170 --> 00:44:31.560

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Of. Right, right. You say, some of it, but

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00:44:31.950 --> 00:44:33.000

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Most of it is

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00:44:33.000 --> 00:44:37.710

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Probably steeped in some of these other systems of oppression that we always have to navigate. So I'm glad.

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00:44:38.370 --> 00:44:40.380

Aisha Conner-Gaten: That it's like a kind of a key piece of kind of

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00:44:40.380 --> 00:44:51.060

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Getting through this process, which was not long. I mean, it was not short right being a day that day, your process is yours. So yeah, you really have to make something sustainable for yourself.

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00:44:51.750 --> 00:44:54.480

Shamika Simpson: Yeah, definitely. Definitely.

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00:44:54.600 --> 00:44:58.980

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Great. That's really helpful. So you've kind of talked about the strategies that you've used to

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00:44:59.340 --> 00:45:13.890

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Again, get over some of those kind of bureaucratic obstacles or even like internal obstacles, where you just feel like you're you're shutting down for folks who are kind of interested in even just pursuing a community college present position so folks who have never worked in

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00:45:13.950 --> 00:45:15.690

Aisha Conner-Gaten: College before you transition

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00:45:16.110 --> 00:45:23.550

Aisha Conner-Gaten: From very different library types. What are three things that you would suggest for people who are interested in community colleges as a as a job.

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00:45:25.140 --> 00:45:27.750

Shamika Simpson: I would say number one for sure professional development.

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00:45:28.560 --> 00:45:35.910

Shamika Simpson: stay updated improving your skills learn new skills, even if you don't think the things that you're learning are the things that you

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00:45:36.150 --> 00:45:45.150

Shamika Simpson: Hear updating yourself on are applicable to the community college, they are because in the community college because we deal with so many students are many different walks of life.

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00:45:45.390 --> 00:45:57.300

Shamika Simpson: Because we work in so many facets within the library. I think anything. Everything that you learn from our lovely, wonderful library world is definitely applicable here.

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00:45:57.690 --> 00:46:05.490

Shamika Simpson: And that's just my number one you just absolutely have to professional development because I've seen many people come, many people go

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00:46:06.360 --> 00:46:16.650

Shamika Simpson: And just knowing different librarians and the worst thing to me is a complacent library and especially at an academic you know institution or community college because

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00:46:17.070 --> 00:46:23.220

Shamika Simpson: When you become complacent. That means you aren't bringing to the table, new ideas that means you're happy with the status quo.

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00:46:23.490 --> 00:46:29.970

Shamika Simpson: That means that you just because it's been done for the same way for years and years and years. That's the same way you want to continue to do it.

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00:46:30.180 --> 00:46:35.220

Shamika Simpson: And I just think that's detrimental to student success. Just because we've done it 100 years

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00:46:35.460 --> 00:46:50.460

Shamika Simpson: Does it mean that you should still continue to do it the same way 100 years and even if it is deemed successful. That doesn't mean they're still isn't room for growth for improvement. And so to me that's like the worst librarian or faculty library you can ever become

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00:46:54.060 --> 00:46:54.840

Shamika Simpson: Shots fired

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00:46:57.990 --> 00:47:06.570

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Out here. So just. You heard it here first, like once you can place it in a job, you need to really look at what you're doing and think about your purpose in that position.

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00:47:06.600 --> 00:47:07.230

Shamika Simpson: Yeah.

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00:47:07.860 --> 00:47:15.780

Shamika Simpson: And I say the same. Yes, I say the same thing for all levels, you know, I know, right now I'm saying my brain is in this because I'm coming from the library perspective.

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00:47:16.080 --> 00:47:24.990

Shamika Simpson: However, I want to say the same exact thing from support staff or staff perspective as well because when I was, for example, when I worked at the Public Library

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00:47:25.380 --> 00:47:31.590

Shamika Simpson: I was a library aid, which means you know you just textbooks in and out at the circulation desk, but

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00:47:31.950 --> 00:47:40.170

Shamika Simpson: On when we had downtime. I will go in the back, and I would try to help the assistant librarian whenever she needed whatever she was working on. I wanted to know what she was doing

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00:47:40.800 --> 00:47:51.750

Shamika Simpson: I will go out, even though wasn't my job. I will help re shelf books. I will help straight now books. I will show fried. I would clean. I will help with the tutoring, I will have whatever asked because I could because I wanted to know.

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00:47:52.080 --> 00:47:56.490

Shamika Simpson: If I ever became a library. And I don't want to be one who has one specific

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00:47:57.540 --> 00:48:02.280

Shamika Simpson: Piece of knowledge. I want to know every facet of libraries from every point of view.

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00:48:02.490 --> 00:48:09.090

Shamika Simpson: I want to know how it feels to be stressed out from kids, maybe yanking out hundreds of books at a time and you have to go and put all these books back

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00:48:09.330 --> 00:48:20.880

Shamika Simpson: I want to know how it feels to to work at the circulation desk and maybe have issues and maybe not being able to communicate with a patriot and you know you want to. So I learned you know Spanish very quickly on the job because where I worked

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00:48:21.930 --> 00:48:31.020

Shamika Simpson: It was a Spanish speaking neighborhood. And so it helped me to learn Spanish, even though I really don't remember much now, but then, you know, I was very proficient at it and I didn't mind.

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00:48:31.350 --> 00:48:38.280

Shamika Simpson: With all my broken Spanish trying my best to help patrons and they love me for it. You know, they absolutely remembered me for it.

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00:48:38.640 --> 00:48:46.140

Shamika Simpson: And so I just say that of all levels, because there's nothing like I said, there's nothing worse than the complacent librarian and it's just, it's not a good look at all.

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00:48:46.740 --> 00:48:57.600

Shamika Simpson: Number. My second tip will be the culture of the college. So before you pursue or are you interested in a community college or a specific Community calls me rephrase that.

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00:48:58.500 --> 00:49:07.620

Shamika Simpson: I would find out the culture before you apply because not every community college has the same culture and you may not want to work there. You know, you want to know how our faculty treated

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00:49:08.190 --> 00:49:14.520

Shamika Simpson: Is some professional development promoted and not only that, is it financially supported

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00:49:15.450 --> 00:49:22.650

Shamika Simpson: Is there room for growth. Can you evolve your position, or do you have to stick to your job description. Are you just a drone.

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00:49:23.070 --> 00:49:32.640

Shamika Simpson: And look at people to see. Are they happy during their job. You know that they've worked there for years. Are they happy still doing their job and then for me most important is, you know,

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00:49:33.390 --> 00:49:42.990

Shamika Simpson: We have this, you know, and I don't want to say it's all levels, but I would say, you know, we have this system of, you know, we have all these groups of these committees, we have all these things.

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00:49:43.530 --> 00:49:53.430

Shamika Simpson: Working in place to do to set policy procedure, etc. But you have a lot of people who are either a worker or a talker. I feel like you can't do. You can't be both.

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00:49:53.910 --> 00:49:57.420

Shamika Simpson: You're either a person who's going to talk about doing the work. Talk about

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00:49:57.720 --> 00:50:04.260

Shamika Simpson: You know, nutrients, talk about what needs to happen or you're a person who's going to say, okay, we've talked about it. Let's think about it.

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00:50:04.500 --> 00:50:11.370

Shamika Simpson: Let's get it done. You know, mind getting your hands dirty. You don't mind, you know, helping with in various aspects. You don't mind any of it.

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00:50:11.610 --> 00:50:24.630

Shamika Simpson: And so to me, if you're talking, talking, talking, talking, you absolutely can't be working because you just too busy talking. And so we just in Community College. Well, for me personally, I just see a lot of talkers and I wish I see a lot more workers.

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00:50:25.800 --> 00:50:34.230

Shamika Simpson: Wow. And then there's this, I would say, is a support system. So before you make that move. If you decide to

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00:50:34.500 --> 00:50:40.830

Shamika Simpson: Find out if you will have a support system, whether it's within the library or the college

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00:50:41.100 --> 00:50:49.770

Shamika Simpson: Find out, you know, for the sake of morale and the sake of growth. So you don't go through a dark period like I did find out if you will have a support system because

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00:50:50.250 --> 00:50:59.460

Shamika Simpson: We as librarians faculty, staff, we all thrive better when we know that we have someone in our corner just like the students do we need the same exact help

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00:51:00.000 --> 00:51:10.200

Shamika Simpson: And there's a big learning curve, especially if you're coming from a school or a public library or even a four year to a community college, you know, there's all of these, all these differences.

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00:51:10.590 --> 00:51:17.760

Shamika Simpson: And so the transition just isn't easy without some help and support along the way. Wow. I think that's

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00:51:18.090 --> 00:51:24.390

Aisha Conner-Gaten: That's a great way for anybody. A lot of those things will apply. I mean, we're talking community colleges, which is awesome but

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00:51:25.530 --> 00:51:33.060

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Especially touching on this idea of community and asking that of the institution before you start coming in and trying to do things. So you already know what's

356

00:51:33.480 --> 00:51:34.560

Aisha Conner-Gaten: What's happening there.

357

00:51:34.950 --> 00:51:37.830

Aisha Conner-Gaten: And I mean, so many of us. I feel like think

358

00:51:37.830 --> 00:51:40.770

Aisha Conner-Gaten: We are somewhat trapped are limited in terms of if we want to

359

00:51:40.770 --> 00:51:43.020

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Stay in a geographic area or if we have a

360

00:51:43.020 --> 00:51:48.030

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Partner. We want to stay someplace. Specifically, or we want to make a certain amount of money and that really

361

00:51:48.210 --> 00:51:49.920

Aisha Conner-Gaten: I think does does a disservice.

362

00:51:49.950 --> 00:51:53.850

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Because we don't do our due diligence and our research on institutions.

363

00:51:54.510 --> 00:51:54.810

Shamika Simpson: Right.

364

00:51:55.290 --> 00:51:57.480

Aisha Conner-Gaten: And we don't take the time to really ask those

365

00:51:57.480 --> 00:52:01.320

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Really pertinent questions before we even begin to jump in and say, like,

366

00:52:01.410 --> 00:52:03.360

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Oh, this is actually a big issue.

367

00:52:04.200 --> 00:52:05.910

Aisha Conner-Gaten: And then you're late and you're kind of figuring

368

00:52:05.910 --> 00:52:07.380

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Things out last minute and your dark

369

00:52:07.380 --> 00:52:09.750

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Place when you don't want to get there. So,

370

00:52:10.080 --> 00:52:10.740

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Really good.

371

00:52:10.830 --> 00:52:11.430

Shamika Simpson: I agree.

372

00:52:12.120 --> 00:52:21.210

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Getting Started. Well, thank you so much shoemaker Simpson. This has been absolutely helpful. I hope folks listening feel a little bit more

373

00:52:22.230 --> 00:52:27.660

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Familiar with community colleges after our talk here, and we've given a lot of information.

374

00:52:28.260 --> 00:52:39.480

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Not only the process of kind of coming in but also sustaining yourself in terms of self care and finding a community and asking the right questions. When you're looking into a community college position. So thank you so much for joining me.

375

00:52:40.500 --> 00:52:44.160

Shamika Simpson: Oh, you're very welcome. Thank you. So you can find Tamika

376

00:52:44.160 --> 00:52:53.490

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Simpson on Instagram at LB CC library or at library Mika that's library SH a m i k

377

00:52:53.880 --> 00:53:10.110

Aisha Conner-Gaten: She also be presenting at the Seventh Annual active learning leaders teaching conference on January 25 2020 at Palomar college on using flip grid and course discussion. So if you want to meet her in person. I mean, I guess library stockings. Okay, in this context, feel free to

378

00:53:11.190 --> 00:53:23.460

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Reach out. Yeah, reach out and just say, Hey, I listened to you on break room chat and love what you had to say and talk about some community college stuff. So thank you for listening and thank you again some ego, for joining us.

379

00:53:24.180 --> 00:53:27.900

Shamika Simpson: Thank you so much. I appreciate the opportunity. Wonderful.

00:00:06.210 --> 00:00:15.450

Aisha Conner-Gaten: Thank you for listening to break room chats to continue the conversation, please visit the new professionals community of practice Facebook group at facebook.com Forward slash groups, forward slash llama NPS this is Aisha along with our podcast team including Heather James, Jessica M. Kibler, Robin Puck Goodfellow Malamud, and Brady Lund, signing off.