Using Slack to Mentor Public Health Research Assistants

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Our Story

[ We saw a Need
We found a Solution ]
Purpose

To create an online hub for student research assistants (RAs) to increase the number of students who can conduct research projects in their area of interest.
What is Slack?

A communication platform that allows for creating a workspace with various “channels” accessible by invitees.
Research Assistant Recruitment Process

- Recruited through faculty courses
- Required to submit resume and cover letter
- Must be a public health student, self starter
Public Health Research Assistants

Reference the RA job description at any time: Research Assistant Description.pdf

Public Health Research Assistant

Job Description:
Participants in the design and administration of data and secondary data. Analyze and evaluate data gathered during research. Ensure compliance with protocol and overall journal objectives. Requires active maintenance in an MPH degree or equivalent and 0-5 years of experience in the field or a related area. Self-starters, initiative, and minimal supervision are required. Typically reports to executive Dr. Delisa Berdan and Professor Delia Hernandez.

Potential Responsibilities:
- Conduct literature reviews
- Develop assessment and evaluation tools
- Develop research protocols
- Engage community in research
Sample Student Scenarios

1. Students are unprepared for RA role
2. Students struggle with time management and prioritizing an unpaid role
3. Outside of the online classroom, students struggle to maintain professional boundaries
Lessons Learned

- Students overwhelmed by information provided
- Students unsure where to begin; uncertain on "how" to use the information
- Student time management and prioritization
- Mentor boundary setting and student expectations
Your Turn

[Get experience using Slack]
Get in touch and let's have a chat!

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