









University Relations & Communications

MSU Billings Official Social Media Guidelines & Best Practices

• Personal Account: Asocial media account for the sole purpose of personal use. There are no identifications of the person as a representative of MSU Billings and content is restricted to personal information.

• Public Account: Asocial media account where a person represents MSU Billings as faculty, staff or a representative of a university-related organization. This includes personal branding accounts, such as a coach's blog, in which the employee identifies as a position facilitated by their employment with the university.













Branding Basics

Trevor Belnap, Chad Schreier, Kealy Dowd & Lacey Solheid













5 Factors That Define A Brand • Brand Promise • At its core, a brand is a promise to consumers. What will consumers get when they purchase a product or service under your brand umbrella? • Brand Perceptions • Brands are built by consumers, not companies. Ultimately, it's the way consumers perceive a brand that defines it.





The Bottom Line

- Bottom-line, a brand is clear, reliable, and believable to both your consumers and your employees.
- However, brands aren't built overnight.

Source: https://aytm.com/blog/research-junction/branding-factors/













What is a Brand?

- A brand is more than a logo, tagline, advertisement or mission statement
- It is a story of your office, your department, the division, the university.

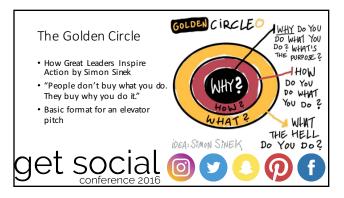












Crafting the Elevator Pitch

- Know your office, department, and/or division
- Sit down with your staff members and consider the following:
 - What impact do you have on the lives of students? Faculty? Staff? Alumni? Donors? The community?
 - What are the strongest skills of your department? What kinds of programs, events, lessons, lectures, etc. do you offer the campus community?
 - · What is different about what you offer? What can you offer the campus
 - What drives your department? Why do you do what you do?











An Example:

As an office, the SUB believes student success and the student experience are immensely enhanced through engagement outside of the classroom. We work both individually and collaboratively with other departments and organizations on campus to offer meaningful and educational programs and entertainment for the campus community. We're responsible for all activities and events that take place outside of the academic realm.













Creating Brand Ambassadors

- Brand Ambassador:
 - A person who works for an organization to represent its brand in a positive light and by doing so help to increase both brand awareness and sales.

















Who are your brand ambassadors?

- · Faculty/Staff
- Active Community Members
- Students!!!!













Being an Ambassador on Social Media

- Select your ambassador carefully, and make sure they understand your brand.
- Use a variety of media to relay your message; Tweets, Videos, etc. . .
- · Strive for authenticity.













Brand Consistency

- The difference between a good brand and a great brand...
- · What is consistency:
 - · Part of your marketing strategy
 - Easy to recognize
 - Flows across marketing channels
 - · Reinforces your identity with customers



Brand Consistency

• Basic steps for your office: · Communication is key

• Follow the Branding Guide from University Relations

• Leverage the Campus Store resources

Access to information

 Accountability · Budgeting for success











Brand Consistency

- What makes consistency important?

 - Familiarity
 - Strategy
 - · Gives authority

 - Promotes conversation
 Encourages customer interaction at a higher level



























Brand Consistency

- http://www.msubillings.edu/urelations/guidelines.htm
- http://www.msubillings.edu/urelations/Editorial Guidelines.htm
- www.northstarmarketing.com
- www.venveo.com
- www.brandobility.com















Questions?













Measuring Success: **Understanding Analytics**

Shayla Fox, Mandy Madler, & Elizabeth Almann













How can you measure success?

- 1. Define Success Why are you on social media (or want to be)? Set departmental or office goals
- 2. Analyze Results Social Media has built-in analytics tools which include reach and engagement











Setting Goals

- \bullet Setting goals is the first step in creating a successful social media
- · Goals could be:
 - Increasing turnout to an event.
 - Informing students of a deadline.
 - Creating a positive campus environment.
- Can you think of any examples of goals you would set for a post or event on social media?





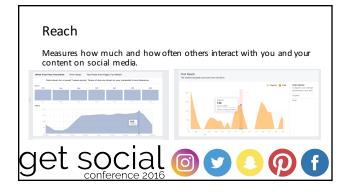












Engagement Measures how much and how often others interact with you and your content on social media. Likes Facebook Page Likes get social

Facebook Insights · Facebook Page Insights:

- Monitor what's working and not working on your Page.
- Understand the people who like your Page and engage with your posts.
- Make decisions about the best ways to connect with your audience.
- Post Reach: the number of people who saw your post, broken down by paid posts, organic posts, or a side by side comparison.













Influencers on Campus



- Offices (OCI, Housing, Student Union, Money Smart, Advising & Career Services, Jackets & Co., Library, etc.)
- Clubs (TRiO Advocates, SUW, SAB, RHA, Veterans)
- Students













Trial and Error

- Creating a successful social media presence requires trying different things to see what works.
 - · Different content: videos, pictures, links to articles, word-only.
 - · Posting at different times.
- Trial and error will help you figure out when your specific audience is online and increase your overall reach and engagement.



Example #1 Cans Around McMullen was one of the cans Around incivilier was one or the most successful social media campaigns the Office for Community Involvement ran and this specific post had lots of engagement. Reasons: Competition Pictures Tagging other departments Goal: Promote Giving back to the community



