1. On average, how many freshmen make their own RSO’s?
   a. I have no idea, we don’t track the class level of the student that is creating it, they just have to be a currently enrolled UW Seattle student.
2. Do people ever come into your office wanting to start an RSO but find one already exists for it?
   a. Oh yes! Absolutely. That happened last quarter, where someone started wanting to start a sports management one, and he was flabbergasted to learn there was another organization that has been in existence for 3 years, but he was working on the plan for the summer. The reason is because they were in the process of reregistering for fall quarter and so it disappeared from the website. So you gotta found out how you are distinct from each other. The student ended up talking with the assistant director and he was able to find the niche around the area of sports management. So both groups do exist, they are currently registered. However it’s uncommon, because groups want to be their own thing. We have lots of different versions of Christian stuff, but they all have their distinctions, either towards ethnicnicity of focus. So that’s how they make themselves distinct, is they’re suppopulations of intervarsity groups. We see that with engineering, there’s around 3 or 4 robotics group, with each with a different focus. Students wanna be there own thing, not just like everyone else. They wanna have some distinctiveness. I did have one student that was wanting to form a chapter of a group he was involved in at Bellevue community college, but before you do that, you might wanna take a look at the 50 groups that are business leadership, so take a look at those, and if it’s not fitting with the model you’re thinking about, then register your chapter. Currently 910 registered organizations, so chances are someones doing something that’s a fit for you.
3. How many RSO’s out there?
   a. Currently 910 are registered, and 52 that are currently registering right now, either they haven’t completed requirements or they’re still being reviewed. We may top out at 1000 this year, not sure.
4. How often can RSO’s register?
   a. Must register every academic year, by October 31st. Often limited number of registrations in winter and spring, for whatever reason didn’t complete stuff in the fall.
5. Have you received any comments or emails about the website?
   a. I don’t know. It’s more anecdotal feedback or saying stuff on social media pages. I do know it’s sometimes hard to find stuff, where certain info is parked isn’t always logical. We don’t have control over our own contact, because requests to change it has to go over to our marketing department, and then it gets into a queue, and then it gets lost and it’s a long process.
6. What is the one thing most frequently misunderstood from the website or about RSO’s in general?
   a. Students don’t know that they’re supposed to register annually, and part of that is that old officers aren’t passing along that info, and also it’s a little bit buried on our website. That is the most frequent thing I get. “Oh we’re supposed to do this?” So it’s definitely a huge pain point for us.
7. In general, what are the top 3 things you want to communicate about RSO’s?
a. Vibrancy because they contribute to the life of the campus and they contribute to the life of the individual student. If you’re sitting around eating Cheetos at 11 and you’re bored and you’re saying there’s nothing to do, you just lied. You just haven’t done the work to find it. Involvement improves grades, outlook on life, feeling of connection. I call it no duh research, We like being in groups, we are highly social pack animals, we like to form groups and be around people that like us and have similar interests.

b. Sense of belonging and connection that you have because you created a community for yourself that you’re here, because it can be a daunting place if you’ve never lived in a city of never gone to a school that has 43000 students in it. Even daunting as a staff and you’re new to the campus.

c. Make what is a huge experience smaller, and more intimate.

d. I hit all the legal stuff, because they are legally independent of the university and how it impacts naming and access to trademarks, and how it impacts the university brand, and how it impacts how themselves the officers conduct business on campus, because they are legally responsibly and held accountable for everything they do, and I don’t think that’s something that emphasized. But they absolutely should be doing things that are fun, engaging, and meaningful for them. It isn’t all serious all the time, you can’t always deal with the heavy topics. You gotta be able to love your life and find satisfaction, and that’s what RSO’s do but our website doesn’t reflect that at all.

8. Some of these groups are part of local and national, so there’s also different layers of compliance with stuff. Like frats and sororities have to comply with national stuff, and they go through heavy layers of risk management and so there’s a lot of seriousness around there and those organizations.

9. Anything else you want to tell me?