

1. Name: Christi Anglea

2. Graduation year: 2002

3. Favorite places to play at UTC and Chattanooga:

Diving at the pool (which was in Maclellan Gym at that time), walking the Walnut Street bridge over to Coolidge Park for ultimate Frisbee games, Warner Park for ball games, intramurals and sand volleyball at the Baptist Student Union (BSM now).

4. Job Title:

Special Events Program Supervisor for Hendersonville Parks and Recreation Department in Hendersonville, TN.

5. Briefly explain what you actually do for your job.:

I'm in charge of coordinating all the special events in our city run parks. Almost all of our events are a facility rental. We tend to have several events going on at the same time. I make sure all paperwork and permits are obtained through the proper channels, each event has the proper insurance coverage for that event, fees are paid for the facility rental, financial reports are filed at the conclusion of the event, and coordinate things needed from our department for each event (electricity, trash receptacles, extra field maintenance, and much more). We have events including fishing tournaments (ESPN Bassmasters and others), sports tournaments, movies in the park, and festivals.

6. What made you choose Sport/Recreation/Leisure/outdoor as a degree program:

I have a true love of sports and leisure. I wanted to do something that would be challenging but fun.

7. What experiences helped shape you while you were at UTC (personally and Professionally)?:

The Baptist Student Union gave me many friends that I still keep in touch with today. I also gained a lot of experience through the volunteer opportunities with TRPA, NCAA and the Sports and Events Committee.

8. What do you wish you had known/done while you were at UTC to prepare for the profession?:

Network, network! Find lots of places to volunteer or intern so that you can get those much needed contacts.

9. What kinds of things should someone do if they wanted to get your job?:

Register with TRPA. That is a huge wealth of knowledge that helps in the field. Go to the conference each year. I've gotten tons of contacts from the conferences and have used many of them when we have questions about anything in the field. You can find out so much from other departments around the state to see what works and what doesn't. The big thing is to make sure you are getting those contacts for recreation people. To get a job now, it really helps to know people in the field already.

10. What are the challenges and blessings of being in this profession?:

There can be long and/or odd hours, it can be difficult to get into the field in the first place as there isn't as much turnover as other professions. Many people are sticking with it until retirement. It can also be extremely stressful at times. If you are able to learn how to perform under stress, you can be very successful. On the other side, this job can be very rewarding. There are many times that someone comes up to me and expresses how much they (or their kids) really enjoyed an event or a league that we have. It is also rewarding when someone acknowledges your hard work and a job well done. The best blessing is seeing the pure joy on the face of someone at one of our events and realizing that no matter how hard it is for me to make sure it's all pulled together properly, it has made that person's day much better and they are having a good time.