CRA New Chairs Workshop
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Goal Setting

● What does the department need?
  ○ This is separate from what individual faculty might need
  ○ Stakeholders outside faculty
  ○ What does the administration want?
  ○ What is your own opinion.
  ○ How might you know what people think? Can you persuade them?
  ○ Synthesis is a hard art
The First Six Months

- Engaging with faculty and staff in a new role
  - You’re both administrator and faculty
  - You probably already know the general “politics” of the department, but there are always surprises, especially in larger departments
  - There is college/university issues – understand how your department fits into the bigger picture
  - Link back to goals, get people on board
  - Be transparent, listen respectfully, especially when you say no
Critical Skills and Processes

● Understand the processes, systems, and people
● Understand your university’s “University 101”
  ○ You’re unlikely to have dealt with them except in some perfunctory way as a chair
  ○ Who decides in the department, and what “power” do you have?
● Understand budget!
  ○ Especially your university’s revenue model
● Not everyone will agree with you. Manage conflict, it can’t always be avoided