# Guiding University Libraries Forward: Leadership Maxims from Dean Belanger

Annie Bélanger joined Grand Valley State University as Dean of University Libraries in June 2017. When describing her approach to leadership, Bélanger often uses unique metaphors and maxims to articulate her vision.

## Boulder in the Path

When an obstacle is in yourpath, you can move it, go overit, go around it, or stay in place. Various factors will impact which option you choose.

## The Cookie Elephant

No problem or issue can be solved in one go–take a bite, and then another.

## Gobstopper

Change happens in layers, moving outward from those directly involved, then back inward with input from others.