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DEVELOPMENT leadership initiative



The Student Affairs Leadership Initiative offers opportunities for students to grow as leaders and to develop the skills and confidence to take on leadership roles while at Duke and beyond. Through the Leadership Initiative, the Division of Student Affairs provides students with opportunities to engage with campus and community leaders, and to participate in a variety of leadership development activities.

Leadership is an elusive quality often applied to a variety of roles and responsibilities. The Division of Student Affairs, through the Leadership Initiative, helps students define leadership and presents opportunities for students to study, practice, reflect and refine their views of leadership. This initiative operates from proven principles and practices and offers the development of skills and values such as problem solving, communication, organizational development and ethics, preparing students for affecting change during the Duke experience and after graduation. The benefits of the Leadership Initiative span the student body, the University and beyond.

At the core of the Student Affairs Leadership Initiative is a partnership with Fuqua's Center on Leadership and Ethics (COLE). Through the COLE model, we will transform leadership education, enhance the education of ethical leaders, and bridge the gap between theory and practice. Our partnership with COLE provides a science on which

for more information

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“Student leadership at Duke isn’t just an opportunity to do things around campus; it is an opportunity to set the stage for other universities, high schools and communities. The acts that student leaders put into play here at Duke don’t just affect our student body, they affect the world.”

—Leslie Adriani T’12

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to base our efforts, a vocabulary to express our objectives and processes and be used for assessment.

Through the Leadership Initiative, Student Affairs staff will partner with faculty to integrate classroom learning with a broad variety of experiences. Future leaders will be provided with the knowledge, analytical competence, and skills needed to exercise sound and effective leadership in student groups and campus organizations and through entrepreneurial efforts and daily interactions with peers and others. Through partnership with the Hart Leadership program in the Sanford Institute of Public Policy, coursework and practicums are being combined to promote leadership development among elected and selected student leaders.

In addition to these academic partnerships, Student Affairs will also work to provide students with opportunities to travel to conferences hear from leadership experts, to engage with and learn from students from numerous institutions through exchange programs and symposia. As an example, an annual ACC Leadership Conference is now being held.

The following are examples of leadership opportunities that students benefited from during the 2007/2008 academic year:

- Duke International Relations Association sent five representatives to the 2007 National Collegiate Security Conference in Washington, DC.
- Duke Environmental Alliance sent four representatives to Power Shift! in Washington, DC.
- Students representing various organizations were sent to the Women as Global Leaders Conference in Dubai.
- Approximately sixty students attended sixteen Leadership Roundtable sessions, engaging with campus leaders in discussion and leadership learning over the course of the year.
- Last summer, fifty students attended the three-day Beaufort Leadership Roundtable, designed to provide students with the necessary tools to improve their leadership skills and to build successful organizations.

We invite you to learn about other giving opportunities in Student Affairs:

- **Career Services**—The Career Services Initiative promotes awareness that students must develop ways to be adaptable, diversified and efficient to maintain their competitive edge in a dynamic and increasingly complex world.
- **Diversity**—The Diversity Initiative recognizes that we live in a world where diversity is the norm. Through our efforts, we will promote cultural diversity through innovative student-initiated events, faculty and staff led dialogue, social interaction, and experiential learning.
- **Student Engagement**—The Student Engagement Initiative is at the forefront of student programming and leadership exploration. This initiative will provide continued opportunities to fund speakers, performers and presenters, to sponsor competitions, to showcase student talents and to ensure a lively and robust campus life.
- **Wellness**—The Wellness Initiative recognizes that academic success is related to good health, and that good physical and mental health habits developed during the undergraduate experience will contribute to a more balanced, purposeful and gratifying life in the years beyond Duke.