



ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1 , ISSUE 1

May 5, 2009

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



The Academy for Leader Development & Civic Engagement seeks to provide curricular and co-curricular experiences that facilitate student discovery of their God-given talents and responsibility to lead others in a journey toward a more just and humane world. We have completed our fourth year of existence and what an incredible journey so far. Inspired by our mission and six core beliefs, students, staff, and faculty pursue excellence in the study and practice of leadership and service. In November of 2008 our staff participated in the Greater Waco Community Education Summit and was inspired by the opportunities and challenges community stakeholders face to produce a community of leaders for the twenty-first century and beyond. From the summit came eight assumptions that impact student learning from birth to postsecondary success. Students of the Academy through coursework have already begun the task of building sustained relationships in our local schools, building the foundation for programs that impact student achievement and creating supportive opportunities for parents. In the book, *The Last Dropout*, Milliken writes, “kids need to be turned on to living before you can turn them on to learning.” Like Milliken, we believe self-empowerment through purposeful and meaningful relationships helps to build healthy schools.

These are just some of the ways the Academy partners with others to transform communities for the greater good. Please enjoy this newsletter and see all the many ways our students are engaged in the study and practice of leadership.

Name: Sam Han

Major: Biology and Medical Humanities Double Major

Class Year: (Classification: Junior by hours) Sophomore

Graduation Date: 2011

Involvement: Fellow Candidate; Student Government – Senator and Vice Chair of Diversity Committee and Finance Committee; Asian’s For Christ (Intervarsity) – Large Group Coordinator and Praise Team; Alpha Epsilon Delta pre medical service fraternity – pledge class president; Raising Awareness of North Korea – Vice President

What do you like most about being in the Academy? I love the fact that the Academy presents an environment where you can step out into the Baylor and Waco Community with fellow peers who have the same drive and passion to serve. The Academy has truly helped me build long-lasting relationships with amazing servant leaders who will make a lasting mark on this world.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Jordan Stouffer, Senior Pre-Med major recently completed his fourth year as a student leader in the Leadership Living-Learning Center. He is the first student to have to have served a four year term. Over the years he has served as a Mentor, Senior Mentor, and Student Director. Jordan has poured time and energy into the LEAD-LLC and has made a lasting impact in the lives of students who live in the Allen-Dawson community. He approaches every opportunity with a servant mentality. Upon graduation in May, he will be getting married and will begin medical school next fall.



COMMITMENT

FELLOW PROGRAM

The Academy welcomes three new Fellows. On April 27, 2009, Ben Collins, Yazmin Mancilla and Matthew Pierce were awarded the Academy Fellow Medal for successfully fulfilling the commitments of the program. The Fellow Program is designed for students of any background and academic major who are interested in the concept of leadership. Students self-select into the program by agreeing to pursue a series of curricular and co-curricular commitments. Fellow commitments include eight hours of leadership courses, a 50 hour civic engagement project, a reflective essay, and a leadership portfolio.



COLLINS



Ben Collins, Academy Fellow

Civic Engagement Project: Assisting in Medical Research
Community Partner: Waco Family Health Center

I have been impressed by Ben's ability to pick up on complicated research tasks with the smallest of instruction. He is quite intuitive when it comes to figuring out problems and is prompt at completing assigned tasks.

—Sally P. Weaver, PhD, MD, Research Director,
 Waco Family Health Center

MANCILLA



Yazmin Mancilla, Academy Fellow

Civic Engagement Project: Immigration Committee, Bank Fair
Community Partner: Community Race Relations Coalition

Yazmin was passionate about improving race relations in the community. We gave her the opportunity to work in a very specialized area with immigrants from Mexico. Yazmin planned and organized a "Bank Seminar" in order to promote financial literacy amongst Waco's immigrant population from Mexico. At this event, immigrants were educated on how to open a bank account.

—Ms. Betty Bauer, Community Race Relations
 Coalition Board Member

PIERCE



Matthew Pierce, Academy Fellow

Civic Engagement Project: Black/Minority Achievers program
Community Partner: Doris Miller YMCA

Matthew brought his leadership skills and academic promise to our organization. His passion to assist us in getting our Achievers Program implemented has been beneficial. He attended training sessions with staff and coordinated a PowerPoint presentation to give information regarding the Black/Minority Achievers program. He researched our community needs assessment and gathered information on recruiting community volunteers including mentors for the program.

—Ms. LaNita Lucky, Doris Miller YMCA Branch Director



SALISBURY ATTENDS CLINTON GIU



Fellow Candidate, Saralyn Salisbury, sophomore International Studies major, has a passion for spreading awareness about human trafficking, especially that which occurs within our United States borders. In order to gain more experience in the field of social change, Saralyn attended the Clinton Global Initiative University (CGIU) conference in Austin, Texas over Valentine's Day weekend. The CGIU website explains that the conference is "a growing community of young leaders who don't just discuss the world's challenges -- they take real, concrete steps toward solving them. Throughout the year, and as a prerequisite of attending the CGIU meeting, students, youth directors, and university officials develop their own Commitments to Action: a specific plan of action that addresses a pressing challenge on their campus, in their community, or in a different part of the world".

Saralyn's commitment for the conference, which is also her Academy Fellow project, involves "spreading awareness to Baylor and the Waco Community about human trafficking in Waco" by working with Dr. Kim Kotrla, Assistant Professor in the School of Social Work, in her organization HOTSTOP: Heart of Texans Stopping the Trafficking of Persons. Saralyn will aid this organization by informing businesses, college and school campuses, and the police department about the identification and proper treatment of victims of human trafficking.



Saralyn described the event as being an interactive, technologically advanced environment where she attended seminars, round-table discussions, panel discussions, and break-out sessions. Speakers at the event included former-president Bill Clinton, actor Matthew McConaughey, and actress Natalie Portman, among many others. While attending the conference, Saralyn met people from all over the world, including a woman from Cambodia who was a victim of human sex trafficking and a rape victim from Nigeria who saw no justice for the crime committed against her. Saralyn reflected that, "the fact that they went through this and are now fighting it was empowering. They haven't lost hope. Look what they're doing to fight back!" Saralyn would like to go again if possible, hopefully taking fellow members of International Justice Mission with her, making the commitment to change a group pledge rather than a personal one. When asked if she would recommend this conference to other students, she replied, "yes, regardless of your political leanings, you have to admit that [Clinton] is doing a good thing by getting these students together. We can do so much as students."



FELLOW PROGRAM



BOND ENGAGES WITH ENGINEERS



Earlier in the semester, Fellow Candidate Greg Bond attended the Best Practices Conference hosted by the Texas Engineering and Technical Consortium (TETC). This conference focused on the best practices for establishing and maintaining relationships between Junior Colleges and Universities. Ideas presented during the conference dealt with the retention of students, partnerships with high schools in STEM fields – Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics – and updates and overviews of what has happened and worked for different groups who have already started these partnerships. As Greg’s Fellow Project deals with “develop[ing] partnerships with local high schools through the

School of Engineering and Computer Science,” he was most interested in the experience of university groups partnering with high schools. Greg took note of a representative from UTEP who discussed their success in a similar project, learning about their partnerships with corporations to help boost their events, including Lockheed Martin, who provided a flight simulator for an Engineering Week they held. Greg would like to go with this approach, and has talked to the producer of Ares, the new rocket that will be replacing the shuttle, and he will be coming to speak at Baylor. Greg plans to extend invitations to his high school partners to this event. In addition to this learning experience, Greg was also able to network with a contact at All Across Texas, an organization that maintains a website which posts job opportunities for engineers and information about student ambassadors and support systems. Greg’s experience at the Best Practices Conference has given him some reassurance about future success, and he hopes to attend a leadership conference sponsored by TETC later in the year. Overall, Greg found the conference to be extremely helpful for people looking to start projects in their community, saying, “It was good to be able to learn from their experiences in order to avoid making some mistakes yourself.”

Story by: Annelise Hardegree, Student Assistant

FELLOW RETREAT A HUGE SUCCESS

February 20-21, the new class of Fellow Candidates departed for the Glenn Lake retreat center. The weekend included deep discussions about the Social Change Model of Leadership, a campfire reflection with s’mores, a ropes course experience, and an engaging presentation about the Birkman Leadership Assessment from Dan MacGee and Associates.



NEW LEADERSHIP TEAM



"The LEAD-LLC has seen some tremendous growth and changes since its creation in 2004. I'm really excited about the direction that the program is going. We have evaluated the needs of the first-year participants and created new curriculum and activities to meet those needs. Also, the program is allowing returning students to step up and take action in the program. Students are encouraged to actually lead out and take initiative. I'm so excited for next year because we have an excellent, passionate, well-rounded group of students returning. I think next year has the potential to be incredible."

-Jessica Reynolds, 2009-2010 Student Director



Servant Leadership Course
Group Service Project at
West Avenue Elementary



Spring Retreat



Introduction to Leadership Course Fall 2008
Leadership Celebration

LEAD Student Director: (4th Year) Jessica Reynolds

Senior Mentor Coordinator (3rd Year): Samantha Jones

Mentors: Becky Grimes (3rd Year); Chelsey Schaffeld; Julie Sutherland; Angela Gray; Lizzeth Rodriguez; Chelsea Williams; Cassi Poindexter; Marcus Wilson (3rd Year); Eric Stahl; Philip Skinner; Grant Taylor; Bradley Teel; Shaun Wysong; Taylor Huske; Wes Kammer; Matt Linder; Steven Autry; Peter Dang; Ernest Herrera

Service Team Co-Coordinators: Brannon Loughridge (3rd Year) and Clayton Dorsa (3rd Year)

Team Members: Whitney Desmond; Jake Russell; Suk Namkung

Promotions and Recruitment Coordinator: Evan Weppler (3rd Year)

Team Members: Jasmine Brown; Michael Brading

Community Co-Coordinators: Donny Kristianto (4th Year)

Team Members: Kyle Boehm; Cayla Gerton; Austin Kasich



08-09 LEAD Team serving
on Move-In Day



Welcome Rally



Celebrating at the Retreat

LEAD-LLC



CCS 1100 COURSES ADOPT SCHOOLS



This semester the Academy for Leader Development and Civic Engagement, in conjunction with Waco ISD, launched a service-learning partnership with six elementary schools to work with our CCS 1100 servant leadership courses. Over 120 students applied concepts of active citizenship and socially responsible leadership within the context of tutoring and mentoring elementary students on a weekly basis. Preliminary responses from students and schools have been overwhelmingly positive. In addition to tutoring and mentoring, students were placed in teams to conduct extensive group projects for their schools. Projects ranged from Peer-Mediation Training, TAKS support events, community gardens, to reading and science programs, all of which addressed short-term and long-term needs identified by administrators. At a recent appreciation luncheon, bringing together school principals, staff, and servant leadership instructors, student reflections were shared highlighting the significance of these partnerships and of intersection of their school experiences and the course curriculum:

"By examining various statistics and viewpoints presented by my classmates in their social issues presentations and considering them in the context of the children I work with at school, I've been able to evaluate the causes of many issues that I wouldn't have considered evaluating prior to this course...At the beginning of the semester, I believed I was at the conscientious citizen stage of the citizen model. I realize now I was at the volunteer level. I cared about my community and did some things here and there for it, but I wasn't well educated on social issues that impact our community..."

School officials affirmed their desire to continue with these dynamic service-learning partnerships in 2009-2010. Moreover, several Baylor students have expressed their desires to continue on as mentors, tutors, and advocates of their respective elementary schools beyond the parameters of the course and program requirements. Many thanks to our school partners: Sul Ross, Brook Avenue, West Avenue, Dean Highland, Mountainview, and J.H. Hines.



Brannon Loughridge, LEAD-LLC Service Co-Coordinator addresses principals at luncheon

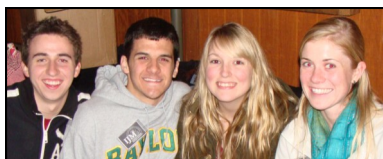


LEAD-LLC



STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

IJM



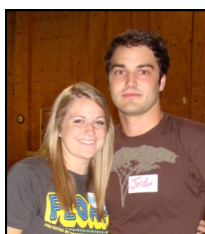
The International Justice Mission (IJM) Baylor Chapter held their first Justice Week during March 2-5, 2009. Justice Week's purpose was to spread awareness, engage in prayer, and raise funds to support IJM in their efforts to rescue victims of injustice. They kicked off

the week with a benefit concert featuring the Baylor Rising Artists Network. Jim Martin, International Justice Mission representative, served as a keynote speaker both in Chapel and for the Tuesday evening Justice Summit. On Wednesday evening, Mission Waco sponsored a Hunger Banquet and the students closed the evening with a moving prayer and worship service. The week came to a close with the viewing of the movie "Trade" in the SUB Den. IJM members hoped to inspire the Baylor campus and Waco community to take action in becoming advocates for those suffering around the world. Justice Week proved to be an inspiring week that encouraged our community to take action.



Justice Week Display Board

FLO



08-09 Co-Directors

The Freshman Leadership Organization has had an exceptional year filled with engaging events for the Freshman Class and service opportunities in the Waco community. They kicked off the year with a member retreat at the Talitha Koum Institute in Waco and cleaned

the grounds for their first service project. Additionally, funds raised from their annual Freshman Frontier and Freshman Formal events were donated to Mission Waco and World Hunger Farm. Members also served at these two sites to learn about the work they do for the Waco area. It has been an amazing year of relationship building, learning, and service to the community.



FLO Students serving at Talitha Koum

BLC



On March 28th, 2009, Baylor held its annual Multicultural Student Leadership Summit hosted by the Department of Multicultural Affairs and the Academy of Leadership Development and Civic Engagement's own

Baylor Leadership Council (BLC). The summit included keynote speaker Tim Wise, a closing lunch address by Dr. Dub Oliver, and several sessions discussing the importance of leadership, communication, and issuing pertinent to various cultural groups on campus. BLC was active and present throughout the day assisting with various aspects of the summit including registration and the facilitation of each break out session. BLC also conducted a workshop entitled: "Strength in Numbers: Practical and useful ways to build community within your organization," which demonstrated team-building exercises and techniques for building community for student leaders allowing them to bring these practices back to their organizations.



New Officers: Chelsea Pattillo, Alex Daniel, and Halla Baassiri



NEW WEBSITE DESIGN COMING SOON

Academy staff and the Information Technology Department have been working on the launch of a new website layout that will be more user-friendly and better reach out to our varied audiences. The website will be launched in the coming months. Please stay tuned for the fresh new look with endless photos highlighting our outstanding students.



Screen shot of our new entry page

GRADUATE STUDENT PRACTICUM



Name: Mito Espinoza
Field of Study: Master of Science in Education Student Affairs Administration
Graduation Date: May 2010

Why did you want to engage in a practicum in the Academy?

Since I was an undergraduate student at Texas A&M University, I have been intrigued by leaders and the practice of leadership. The ability to inspire others, serve others, and be responsible for programs or events has always been something I enjoy. Working in the Academy became an opportunity to work closely with others that share those passions, while also being able to work with students in their pursuit of leadership.

What functional areas are you interested in working in after you complete your practicum?

I am not 100% sure. I would like to stay involved in directly impacting students lives. Working with student organizations and programming is something that excites me, but I also think being able to impact policy changes may be something I could enjoy.

What have you enjoyed most from your practicum?

Without a doubt the people I am able to work with. Students and staff involved in the Academy are tremendously talented, passionate individuals. Being able to feel their excitement and experience their levels of commitment serve as inspiration.

What have you learned as a result of your experience?

I have learned how there are many approaches to leadership and throughout college campuses many opportunities to share ideas.



Mito facilitating icebreaker at the Spring 2009 Fellow Retreat



NATIONAL LEADERSHIP STUDY



The Academy for Leader Development and Civic Engagement is participating in the Multi-Institutional Study of Leadership (MSL) with over 100 colleges and universities across the nation. "The purpose of the MSL is to contribute to the understanding of college student leadership development—with special attention to the role of higher education in fostering leadership capacities. The study addresses individual institutional considerations while contributing to a national understanding of: Student needs and outcomes, effective institutional practices, and the extent of environmental influence in leadership development." (www.leadershipstudy.net) Results from the study will be coming soon.

LEADERSHIP LECTURE SERIES



FALL 2008

Brian Mosley

*Executive Director
RightNow Campaign
Leadership in the Church*
Wednesday, September 10, 2008

Dr. Roland Goertz

Executive Director of the Heart of Texas Community Health Center and McLennan County Medical and Education Research Foundation
Leadership in Social Contemporary Issues
Tuesday, September 30, 2008

Senator Royce West

State Senator, District 23
Leadership in Public Life
Tuesday, October 7, 2008

Dr. Mitch Neubert

Chavanne Chair of Christian Ethics, H.R. Gibson Professor—Management & Entrepreneurship
Leadership in Private Enterprise
Wednesday, November 19, 2008



SPRING 2009

Dr. Levi W. Price, Jr.

Professor of Christian Ministries and Director of Pastoral Ministries, George W. Truett Theological Seminary
Leadership in the Church
Thursday, January 29, 2009

Monroe Nichols

Special Aide to the Mayor for Workforce Development and Youth Initiatives, Tulsa, OK
Leadership in Public Life
Thursday, February 12, 2009

Tim Wise

Antiracism activist and author
Leadership in Contemporary Social Issues
Saturday, March 28, 2009

Elizabeth Smith

Director for Cooper Foundation;

Ashley Allison

Director for Waco Foundation;

Tom Stanton

Director for Rapoport Foundation

Leadership in Contemporary Social Issues—Panel
Monday, April 6, 2009

ACADEMY UPDATES



NATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATORS (NASPA):

In March, Academy staff members were involved in three presentations at the 2009 NASPA Annual Conference in Seattle, Washington. Staff highlighted best practices and current research, and provided advice for other institutions across the country to take back to their campuses. Academy staff were involved in the following presentations:

Building Academic and Student Affairs Partnerships in a Leadership Living-Learning Center

Shannon Dean, **Joel Scott**, **Melissa Shehane**, **Ramona Curtis** (pictured left to right)



Creating, Implementing, and Assessing Cross-Departmental Student Leader Learning Outcomes

Keane Tarbell, Rishi Sriram, **Melissa Shehane**, & Emily Sandvall (pictured left to right)



Leadership Empowerment for Multicultural Student Organization Leaders: An Interdisciplinary Approach

Ramona Curtis, Kat Reed, Kelley Kimple, Elizabeth Palacios, & J.T. Snipes (pictured left to right)



LEADERSHIP EDUCATOR'S INSTITUTE (LEI):

Additionally, Ramona Curtis and Melissa Shehane presented at the Leadership Educators Institute at the University of Maryland this past December. Their presentation was entitled *Ferris Bueller No More: Creating a Significant Learning Community within a Leadership Living-Learning Center*.

SHEHANE ELECTED NATIONAL CO-CHAIR



Melissa Shehane, Associate Director for Leader Development & Civic Engagement, was recently elected as the 2010-2012 Co-Chair for the Student Leadership Programs Knowledge Community. She will serve in this position with Dr. Jan Lloyd, Director of Student Affairs & Dean of Students at the University of South Florida Polytechnic. Together they hope to enhance the use of technology, boost graduate student involvement, increase communication within the Knowledge Community, and seek more avenues to share best practices about student leadership programs across the country. At the NASPA annual conference in Seattle, Shehane attended several training meetings in preparation to transition into the Co-Chair role next year.

