



CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP & INVOLVEMENT (CfLI) ANNUAL REPORT 2015 - 2016



CfLI STAFF

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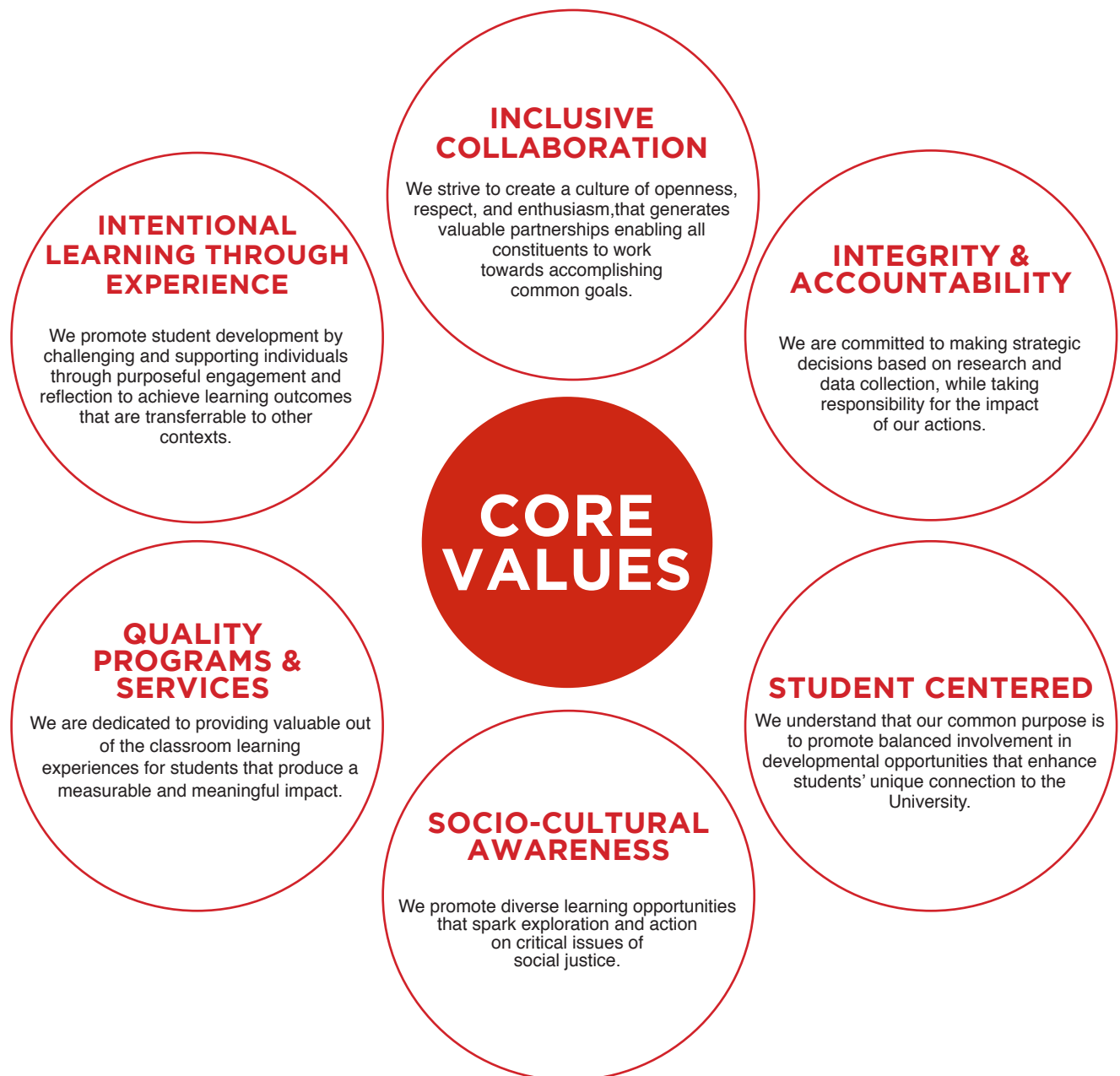
A LOOK INSIDE cFLI

MISSION

To cultivate and engage students through practical leadership skill development and involvement experiences.

VISION

Aspiring to be the premier center for integrated leadership development and involvement resources for all students.



DEPARTMENT SERVICES

INVOLVEMENT

- Student Organization Fair
- Involvement Sessions for Parents and Students

LEADERSHIP

- UW-Madison Leadership Certificate
- UW-Madison Leadership & Involvement Record

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS/ TECHNOLOGY

- Register Student Organizations
- Advise Student Organizations and Advisors
- Committee on Student Organizations (CSO) - Hold Student Organizations Accountable
- Wisconsin Involvement Network (WIN)

GREEK LIFE

- Advise Four Governance Councils
- Order of Omega
- Coordinate Greek Intern Program

CFLI AFFILIATED ORGS & PROGRAMS

- Adventure Learning Programs (ALPs)
- Student Leadership Program (SLP)
- Wisconsin Singers

A LETTER FROM THE ASSISTANT DEAN

Dear Students, Colleagues, and Friends:

The Center for Leadership & Involvement (CfLI) has spent the last year reflecting on how we do our work, which has resulted in a new staff structure including additional staff support for Greek Life.

This past year, CfLI engaged in setting our strategic priorities for the next three years. Through surveys and focus groups, CfLI was able to develop four strategic priorities. These priorities will have CfLI focusing on increasing our accessibility of resources and information, creating a more welcoming and inclusive office climate and looking to make sure students know that CfLI is here to help them get involved and develop their leadership skills.

The Greek Life community and CfLI worked diligently this past year to develop a more robust plan to support Greek Life. With the generous support of Greek Life students and the Chancellor, we have been able to add an additional staff to this area of the office.

In creating a more substantial unit of staff and resources devoted to Greek Life, CfLI has also restructured our professional staff to have an Associate Director and three Assistant Directors. The new Associate Director position will enable me to focus more externally on conducting leadership and involvement work across campus and in our professional fields.

The UW Madison Leadership Framework has continued to become rooted in programs and curriculums across campus. The framework can now be seen in academic course curriculums, staff development models and in UW-Madison's Leadership Certificate, which in its first year with this new model increased recipients by 40%.

As always our sponsored organizations continue to strengthen CfLI's ability to enact its mission. Adventure Learning Programs (ALPs) has served over 3,000 students in the past year. The Student Leadership Program (SLP) had another 500+ students at its All Campus Leadership Conference. Finally, Wisconsin Singers held interactive workshops for more than 1,000 junior and senior high students.

This past year has set the foundation for CfLI's future as we strive to serve all students at UW-Madison.

On Wisconsin!



Eric Knueve
Assistant Dean/Director

A YEAR IN REVIEW

CfLI FY16 HIGHLIGHTS

- UW-Madison Leadership Framework continues find roots across campus. Specifically, the framework is being comprehensively applied in the School of Human Ecology and Division of Athletics including curriculum revisions, programming and staff development.
- After receiving approval from Greek Life students, we are hiring an additional staff member to bolster support for Greek Life to continue to improve the community
- CfLI completed a year long process to identify strategic priorities for the next 3-5 years. These priorities will focus on making CfLI resources and services more accessible and inclusive. Also, CfLI staff have committed to adding one social justice goal to be evaluated on in their annual performance review.

BY THE NUMBERS:

Registered

1,001 STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS during the year.

Provided nearly

\$28,000 IN GRANTS to student organizations through the Wisconsin Experience Grant.

A record number, **OVER 17,000**,

of students attended the fall and spring student organization fairs this year, which was a **13% INCREASE** from the previous year

Leadership Certificate saw a **40% INCREASE**

in recipients in the first year of the certificate being directly tied to the UW-Madison Leadership Framework.

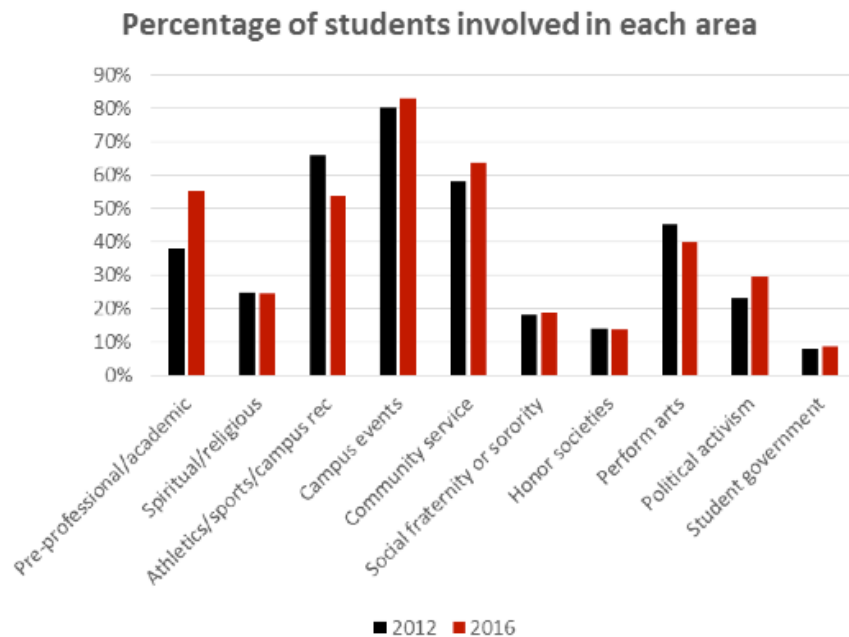
INVOLVEMENT



This year we participated in the NASPA (Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education): Assessment & Knowledge Consortium, Campus Activities Student Survey. Survey was administered by email in the middle of Spring 2016

semester. We previously administered the same survey in 2012. Here are a few trends that emerged when comparing this year's data to the data received four years ago:

Student clubs and organizations offered is becoming a more important factor (40% increase) in choosing a college or university. A 12.5% decrease occurred in the percentage of students who do not attend events/activities and a 16% increase in those who hold leadership positions in events/activities. 12% more correspondents reported gaining more skills relevant to their academic major in 2016.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Haley Jo Kimmen, Involvement Intern
Hometown: Hastings, Minnesota
Major: Legal Studies & Sociology

What inspires you to get involved on campus?

When I first started at UW, I knew I wanted to get involved because I knew it would be a good way to meet new people and make new friends. However, after attending my first Student Organization Fair, I found that getting involved is so much more than that at UW. There are over 900 Student Organizations each with their own unique goals to meaningfully make a difference on this campus and all over the world. You wouldn't believe some of the impressive things so many students are doing on campus through the orgs!



What have you loved about being the Involvement Intern?

As the Involvement Intern (believe it or not) I help students get involved! My main project is helping to coordinate the Student Organization Fair that hosts over 400 of our Organizations and thousands of students looking to get involved. I love speaking with new students about all of the opportunities that await and I also love hearing from Student Org Presidents about how their org has grown over the years.

Do you have any advice for new students looking to get involved?

I would definitely recommend attending the Student Org Fair (I may be a little biased) but it is the best way to see what these organizations are all about and speak with some of the members of the org! The fair can be overwhelming for some with so many options and people – so I would also recommend checking out win.wisc.edu to view a list of all of the organizations on campus to get an idea of what you may be looking for at the fair. Once you find what you want to get involved in, challenge yourself to grow with the org rather than be a passive member! Run for an executive position, organize an event, it all goes by much too fast to just watch from the sidelines.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Fall 2015 Student Organization Fair attendance: **14,000 (18% INCREASE FROM FALL '14)**

Spring 2016 Student Organization Fair attendance: **3,251**

Featured as the keynote speaker/presentation at the first ever seminar for new transfer students:

INTRODUCTION TO THE WISCONSIN EXPERIENCE

Created a new program for Parent's Weekend called **INVOLVEMENT 2.0**

Staffed **18 RESOURCE FAIRS** all over campus for Welcome Week Events, Admissions Office, and other schools and colleges; presented at **28 FRESHMAN SOAR PARENT PROGRAM SESSIONS**

LEADERSHIP

This spring marked the fifth year of the Coordinated Leadership Initiative's commitment to leadership for the purpose of positive change at UW-Madison. Many campus partners have leveraged UW-Madison's Leadership Framework, which demystifies and grounds critical leadership concepts, to support individual development and spark change in beliefs, values and behaviors. The School of Human Ecology (SoHE) has approached Framework implementation in a more comprehensive manner as a result of support from CLI members and CfLI staff. Their strategic approach serves as an exemplar for the campus community. SoHE's implementation of the Framework has directly benefited students, faculty and staff.

SoHE's stated commitment to improving the quality of people's lives and solving life's oldest problems directly aligns with the core tenant of the Leadership Framework – supporting leadership for the purpose of positive change. Throughout the past year, and with support of CfLI staff, SoHE has explicitly and effectively infused leadership development into retreats for staff and faculty, incorporated leadership outcomes into course curriculum for undergraduate and graduate students and encouraged on-going employee development through a focus on coaching and feedback skills.

"The UW-Madison Leadership Framework has been a valuable tool for the School of Human Ecology, from the Coaching and Feedback sessions in our all-school faculty and staff retreat to the full curriculum re-design in our Communities and Nonprofit Leadership undergraduate program," remarked SoHE's Dean Soyeon Shim. "In addition, we've discovered that the Framework and its accompanying materials are very accessible to our team as well as our campus staff and students."

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

COORDINATED LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS

- Presented the Leadership Framework at regional and national conferences – including NASPA Region IV-E and the National Conference on Student Leadership
- Infused the Leadership Framework into the Division of Student Life's new staff training
- Developed an online Leadership Resource Directory for students, faculty and staff that includes a submission form and administrative functionality (to be unveiled FY17)
- Developed new brand for this effort on campus, now known as Leadership @ UW

LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Transitioned to "new" Certificate program, spring 2016 with new learning outcomes
- Celebrated a record number of Leadership Certificate recipients in both the fall and spring semesters – increasing the total by **40%**
- Collaborated with **29** review committee members across **12** units/departments and **11** schools and colleges

LEADERSHIP & INVOLVEMENT RECORD ACHIEVEMENTS

- **34** "Experiences" were added this past year
- **987** approved events
- **28,562** involved users

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Alexandria Pham, Leadership Certificate Recipient
Hometown: Kenosha, Wisconsin
Major: Graduated in Management and Human Resources

Why did you pursue the Leadership Certificate?

I decided to pursue the Leadership Certificate because I admired the way that the Leadership Certificate encouraged a structured reflection to leadership experiences in college. It creates a solid foundation for taking not only a leadership role, but a mentorship role, throughout all aspects of the undergraduate experience. This kind of positive, inclusive dialogue encouraged me to think about how every single one of my decisions and my actions affected my overall goal of being a leader of positive change in my community, at my job, and on my campus.

What did you learn through the Leadership Certificate application process?

I was able to understand that people respond to leadership in different ways. It encouraged me to discover new ways to communicate, teach, and lead, so that I was creating the most inclusive and engaging environment that I could. This shift in perspective, from my own to others, made me realize that the barriers that are drawn up between people, rather it be a cultural, social, or any other kind of barrier, can be eliminated through communication.

How do you think you will benefit from the program in the future?

Something that I will carry with me from the Leadership Certificate is the importance of personal reflection, as well as the importance of integrating values and competencies into my everyday behavior. As a new professional in the Learning and Development industry, these competencies remind me of the importance of interpersonal connection, and affirm the value of making personal relationships.



STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISING & TECHNOLOGY

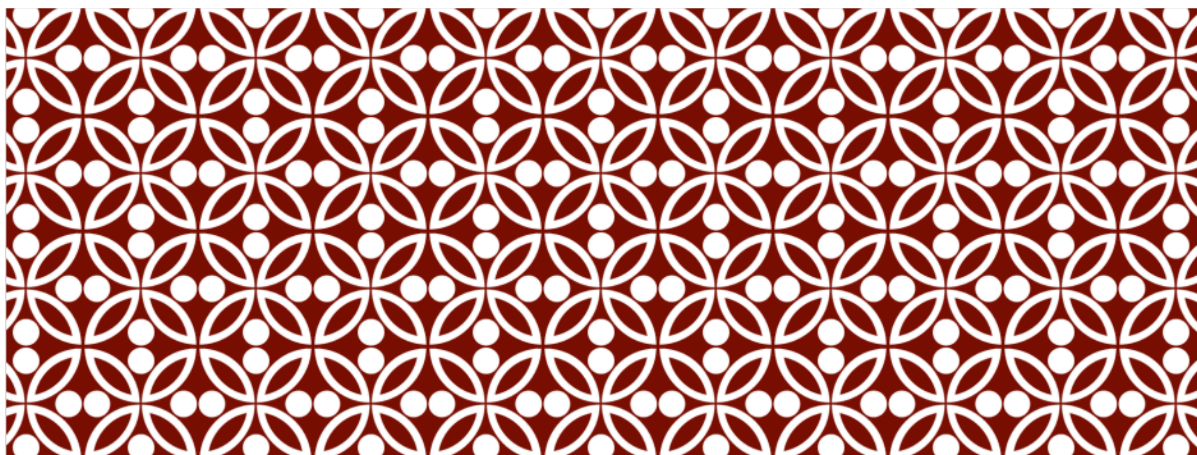
PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT:

OATs in Action

This academic year, the Organization Advising & Technology Services (OATS) Staff worked to create and present a series of workshops for Registered Student Organization (RSO) Advisors. While orientations and information are regularly geared toward student members of RSOs and the leadership of those organizations, there was a clear lack of resources provided to organization advisors. We see RSO Advisors as a great resource in the promotion and success of our RSOs, thus it was imperative to improve our connection with them and the information they were getting from our office.

Two general “RSO Advisor Orientation” sessions were conducted during the Fall 2015 semester. These orientation sessions covered the basics of what advisors would need to know about RSO operation at UW-Madison (registration, benefits, policies, organization management, finances). At the end of the Fall semester, a survey was sent out to all listed RSO advisors to get feedback on what they wanted to hear more about, as well as the times and locations that worked best for these workshops. Using the results from this survey, the OATS staff created an additional two workshops (Risk Management and Financial Management) and presented each session, along with the orientation session, twice in the Spring 2016 semester. Additionally, CfLI Graduate Staff Member Katherine Hayden facilitated a Student Organization Diversity, Social Justice, & Inclusion session in the Fall 2015 semester.

All trainings were posted online in the Student Organization Resource & Policy Guide for easy access or review. The OATS staff will be looking to continue these presentations and building resources for RSO advisors in 2016-2017.



**STUDENT ORGANIZATION
ADVISOR ORIENTATION**

Center for Leadership & Involvement
TJ Sargent
Kasie Strahl

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Joey Janz, ODC Committee Chair

Hometown: Waukesha, WI

Major: Neurobiology, Leadership Certificate

What Registered Student Organizations were you involved with during the 2015-2016 Academic year?

During 2015-2016 I was involved in two groups: the Student Leadership Program and “We’re Better Than That” - Men Against Sexual Assault.



What are some of the most memorable experiences from your RSO involvement this year?

My most memorable experiences from my involvement in these groups were in weekly committee and board meetings. While I loved putting on events and workshops for these groups, my favorite part of the student leadership role is in discussion with group members. At these meetings we had an opportunity to reflect on our accomplishments, break down tough social issues through discussion, and plan for future events. Many of the learning outcomes and relationships I built through these groups came during weekly meetings.

What impact has RSO membership/leadership had on your learning while at UW-Madison?

RSO involvement and leadership helped me build the critical reasoning skills I employ in challenging science courses. I learned how to better navigate complex problems by thinking outside the box and considering alternative perspectives. I also improved my writing skills, which I didn’t expect as I began these experiences; a lot of the work I did involved a heavy load of emails, writing process documents, and writing justifications for RSO financial decisions. I learned to clearly and efficiently communicate my thoughts, which has helped me do so in the classroom and as I apply to jobs and graduate school programs.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Creation and implementation of Advisor Training series
- More accessible instructions for managing the Wisconsin Involvement Network (WIN) and updated WIN Instructional Videos
- Expanded Student Organization Resource & Policy Guide content
- **1,001** Active RSOs during the 2015-2016 Academic Year
- Over **\$28,000** allocated to RSO programs and events through the Wisconsin Experience Grant
- Improved implementation, tracking, and impact of Badgers Step Up! Program in partnership with University Health Services

ADVENTURE LEARNING PROGRAMS



Every year the Staff Training and Risk Management team for ALPs puts together a specialty training for facilitators to hone their skills and become more effective at leading groups. This year's training focused on intentionality. Phil, a professional facilitator from the nearby Bethel Horizons camp worked to provide us with tools and insights to make sure our facilitators are planning workshops with the time and care each group we work with deserves. Our work with groups on campus is only effective if the facilitators are fully engaged and have taken the time to plan a workshop that is specific to the needs of the group they are working with. Through activities that had us think more deeply about our strengths and weaknesses as facilitators, Phil helped us improve our programming, allowing us to better serve the campus community. The training was filled with meaningful discussions with our fellow facilitators. Everyone left feeling more prepared and with a more thorough understanding of why what we do as facilitators is important. Every group we work with has unique needs and goals, and the activities and facilitation styles that work with one group may not work for another. This is why it is important for us as facilitators to be trained in how to plan intentional and effective workshops.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

*Hannah DePorter, ALPs Member
Hometown: Chicago, IL*

Major: Conservation Biology and Community & Environmental Sociology

What is your favorite part of being in ALPs?

I love all the people in ALPs and the skills I have gained from being part of it. I am constantly using my facilitation skills for so many other realms than just ALPs that I will carry with me for the rest of my life.

What is your biggest take away from being in ALPs?

My biggest take away from being in ALPs has been to really think critically about group situations and how I can best help a group achieve a goal in really any sense-not just in team building activities.

If you could have anything growing out of your belly button what would it be?

If I could have anything growing out of my belly button I would want clementines because they are my absolute favorite fruit and then I would have an endless supply.

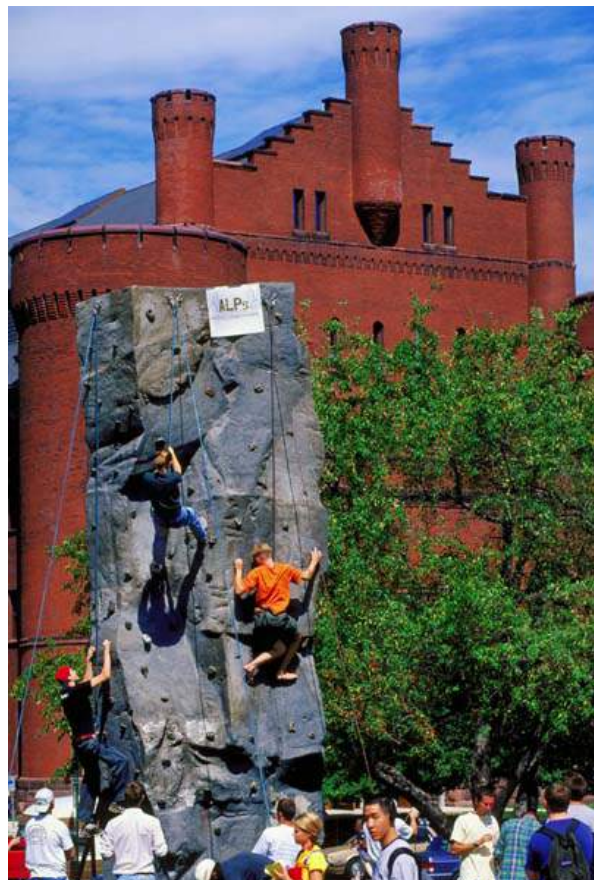


ACHIEVEMENT & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

This was an exciting year for ALPs. We hired a diverse group of 25 new facilitators this fall—our largest hiring class to date! The new facilitators were the first hiring class to go through our improved staff training process, which was developed by veteran facilitators based on what they thought was missing from past staff trainings. We have also created a new process for groups to evaluate our workshops. The new evaluations are more closely linked to the goals and mission of ALPs, allowing us to better track our performance in areas that are important to the growth of our organization.

The new comprehensive evaluations offer us concrete analytics on what we are doing well, where we can improve, and what participants are learning in our workshops. Based on the data gathered from our new evaluations 70% of participants challenged themselves during their experience with ALPs, 85% developed their communication skills, and 99% of participants learned about their peers.

This year ALPs served over 3000 students from different groups across campus and expanded our programming to previously unserved areas. Two new programs we worked with were the Physician's Assistant Graduate Program and the SAFE Walk program. According to the feedback we received after the workshop they both loved their first experience working with ALPs and are planning their next program with us! Finally, this year ALPs developed a new logo along with new stickers and other updated marketing materials.



GREEK LIFE

This year, members of the Greek Community formed the Greek Sexual Assault and Gender-based Violence Task Force to address the issue of sexual assaults taking place in Greek residences, illustrated by the data from the AAU Sexual Assault and Gender-based Violence Climate Survey. The task force chose to take a comprehensive approach to this problem that focused on what students can do to be part of the solution, in terms of prevention and intervention. The six recommendation areas are as follows: Bystander Intervention Training, Support Member, Recruitment, Accountability, Chapter Involvement and Peer-to-Peer Discussion. The task force felt it was important to work in partnership with the Violence Prevention Specialist at University Health Services (UHS) in the development of these recommendations in order for them to reflect best practices and evidence based strategies. The taskforce presented these recommendations to Chancellor Rebecca Blank on December 14, 2015.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Greek students voted to fund the Greek Life Specialist position, adding one more full-time staff member to the staffing structure!
- The Greek Community participated in the Fraternity and Sorority Experience Survey through The Center for the Study of the College Fraternity.
- The Greek Community raised approximately **\$360,000** for charitable causes this year and donated hundreds of service hours.
- Mental health, social justice and sexual assault bystander training components were added to the Greek Presidents & Council Officer Leadership Retreat
- The Greek Life Social Justice Peer Facilitator Program was piloted this year by the Multi-cultural Student Center and was incorporated into Greek Week.
- The Greek Community grew from **3,935** members in Spring 2015 to **4,295** members in Spring 2016, an increase of nine percent.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Devon Hamilton, President of Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity, Inc.

Hometown: Los Angeles, CA

Major: Landscape Architecture



Please share a little bit about your involvement with the Greek Community this past year.

This past year, I was elected President of the Gamma Theta chapter of Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity Inc. Along with my brothers, I assisted in running various programs our organization hosts including Supermercado Latino, one of the largest Latin based social events and organization fairs on this campus, Common Wealth Student Panels, where we discuss college with young students across the Madison area, and collaborated with four other Greek letter organizations across three councils to host a discussion series around cultural competency, one of the first of its kind. I was also a member of the Men's Project and the Greek Life Sexual Assault and Gender-based Violence Task Force, where our team worked to create a list of recommendations for the campus wide Greek Community in response to the AAU's Sexual Assault Survey.

What does being a part of the Greek Community at UW-Madison mean to you?

The Multicultural Greek Community has provided me the family and support I've needed to get through the many difficulties of being a student of color at this institution, many miles away from the comfort of home. I owe so much of my success, well-being, and growth to members of my fraternity and brothers and sisters I've found in other Greek letter organizations. Through my experiences with Lambda Theta Phi and unity among other organizations, I've learned many valuable lessons, one of the most meaningful being the difference between band-aid solutions in self-promoting philanthropy and systemic change. Though defined by my work with the Multicultural Student Coalition (MCSC), this difference I witnessed in styles of organizing has defined the work I involve myself in and promote within my chapter.

What are you most proud of?

I am incredibly proud of the Multicultural Greek Community's ability to unite with the general student body in the work students of color and allies have done to expose racism and injustice across the campus and Madison community. Throughout my five years of organizing on campus and hearing the many stories of movements at UW before me, I believe that though many of the issues have not changed, our vision has developed both in our ability to support one another as we would our respective fraternal brothers and sisters, as well as our collective dedication to build around the systemic change that we seek in learning from the past. I am proud of the many positions and stances members of my fraternity and other organizations have taken in the name of our community and justice, not just our Greek letters.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

As one of the largest leadership organizations at UW-Madison, the Student Leadership Program (SLP) strives to develop effective and essential leadership skills in students and student groups through comprehensive leadership education and diverse experiences. Last spring, over 100 students attended five General Member Meetings (GMM's) held by the Student Leadership Program. The goal of these SLP meetings was to develop effective and essential leadership skills in students and student groups through comprehensive leadership education and diverse experiences.

The spring theme was Leading Positive Change: Identifying and Promoting Practices, Approaches, and Behavior that Cultivate Positive Change. Five topics were introduced, one at each meeting, which included: passionate leadership, communication, change management, conflict management, and leadership in the real world. The practices, approaches, and behaviors that SLP members learned during the spring semester will propel them to act in such a way to create, promote, or dedicate their life to positive change. Overall, SLP taught members to see change as a challenge and an opportunity, not a threat.

“The first step on the path to positive change is acknowledgement that change is necessary and possible. Open yourself to the possibility of seeing the world in a new way. What do you have to lose?” ~Alex Blackwell, Professional cricketer

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- One of the committees of SLP, the Student Consultants and Speakers Bureau (SCSB) accepts requests by other students and organizations that request a leadership workshop. SCSB develops customized workshops tailored to the specific group's needs. Over the past year, SCSB has facilitated workshops for over **150** people, focusing on topics such as social responsibility, work relationships, professional communication and much more.
- Another committee, The All-Campus Leadership Conference, hosted an event where over 500 students gathered together to hear a well-accomplished keynote speaker as well as attend and participate in various breakout sessions
- The Student Leadership Program understands and appreciates the importance of all individuals. By creating an inclusive environment, SLP provides equal opportunities for members to grow in their own unique leadership style to generate innovative outcomes that produce positive impacts throughout the campus.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Michelle Mumper, SLP Coordinator

Hometown: Wausau, Wisconsin

Major: Biology with a focus in Global Health

What have you learned about yourself through participating in SLP?



I learned that I don't fit the stereotypical model of what many people perceive a leader to be, but also that I can still be a very influential and inspiring leader to others despite that. My voice may not be the loudest in the room, but through my experiences with SLP I have learned how to use my voice effectively so that my thoughts and ideas are heard and that I am able to empower and impact others.

What is your favorite part of SLP?

By far my favorite part of SLP is having the opportunity to meet and work with such an incredible and diverse group of students within the organization. Whether it be through General Member Meetings or social events, I am so grateful to have the chance to interact with such interesting and driven individuals and to be able to learn from their unique perceptions and experiences.

How do you plan to use the skills from SLP in your future career path?

SLP has taught me the true importance of listening and how to engage in the thoughts and ideas of others. I plan to pursue a career path in the public health field, which is a field whose success relies on its ability to change and adapt to a constant flow of new information in order to implement the best health strategies to its communities. It will be especially important for me to be open-minded and have a willingness to hear the voices of others in order to be best equipped for whatever project I am involved with.

What advice do you have for future leaders?

Be confident in yourself and your leadership skills. Understand that there is not a one precise model for what a good leader looks like, and that good leaders come from all different types of backgrounds and personalities. Secondly, don't allow the fear of messing up or falling short stop you from putting yourself out there and having your voice be heard! Everyone makes mistakes, but it's how you choose to respond and grow from your mistakes that make you a good leader. And finally, sometimes the best way to lead others isn't actually by leading, but rather equipping them with the knowledge and skills they need to reach their aspired destinations on their own.

WISCONSIN SINGERS

At dozens of our shows this season, Wisconsin Singers hosted Mac Huff (Wisconsin Singers alumnus) workshops. Mac began arranging while in high school on a dare from his choir teacher who was also director of Wisconsin Singers at that time. Two years later Mac was at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, writing the entire show for the Wisconsin Singers. That relationship lasted 15 years where he says “he learned to write and arrange music.” Mac is now the most published arranger in the world of choral music and graciously donated the rights to perform one of his most popular songs called “Blame it on the Boogie” which is specifically written for elementary and junior high singers. Prior to the arrival of Wisconsin Singers on show day, young people rehearse and memorized “Boogie” with their own choir directors. During a sixty-minute workshop, the students learned movement to the song from our Wisconsin Singers performers. Backed by the talented Wisconsin Singers band, the Singers show would open with a full stage of guest students and Wisconsin Singers performing “Blame it on the Boogie.” Young musicians were thrilled to share the spotlight with our collegiates, learning “real” choreography, taking the stage as “entertainers.”



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Talented UW-Madison students from more than 33 different majors across campus, toured from Wisconsin to Florida with their 90-minute Broadway-caliber revue titled So Classic!
- Nine business, marketing, public relations, and graphic arts interns worked in a fast paced hands-on environment, managing this non-profit professional entertainment company.
- Wisconsin Singers shared the stage with thirty-nine junior and senior high school performing groups across the Midwest and taught interactive workshops for more than 1,000 of these students.
- The program helped to raise funds for a number of charitable organizations including Janesville Adaptive Music Program for developmentally challenged students and the Beaver Dam Lions Club.
- Wisconsin Singers added a third On Campus show in the spring for the first time in its 48-year history.
- Performers had an exchange concert with Northern Michigan University’s Lake Effects.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Atzie Sobotik, Wisconsin Singers Company Manager
Hometown: Madison, WI
Major: Biochemistry

What has been your favorite part of your involvement in Wisconsin Singers?

The lifelong friendships are definitely my favorite part of being a Wisconsin Singer. The people in this group have become some of my best friends, my extended family, and have helped me to feel like I have a home on Campus. We have so much fun together and push each other to be both better performers and better people. Wisconsin Singers allows me to continue singing and dancing, even though it is not my major, something I am forever grateful for!



What is it like to be Company Manager for the Singers and how did your leadership skills grow as you moved through your year?

Being Company Manager for the Wisconsin Singers has been a richly rewarding experience. The job itself is not easy—it requires time and commitment. However, after learning from both successes and mistakes, I grew immensely in my business and leadership skills. The Company Manager must communicate effectively with peers as well as adult professionals, differentiate between serious and fun time as a peer leader, and delegate tasks to help others grow their own leadership. These are skills that did not come naturally for me but I knew that I wanted and needed to address them. I've grown tremendously as a leader, and learned a lot about myself in the process. It has been exciting to see the work that my troupe and I have put in over the course of the year directly impact the communities we raise money for through our performances, the clinic students we do workshops with, and the feeling of community we built within the troupe.

What advice would you give to an incoming freshman student about becoming involved in an organization like Wisconsin Singers their first year on campus?

Becoming involved in an organization like the Wisconsin Singers, is the best thing that a freshman student can do. Involvement helps make our campus feel a little bit smaller and a lot friendlier which in turn helps with the adjustment to being in college, and they're fun! Pick out a couple of student organizations that you would like to try and then focus on the ones that feel "right" and try to get as involved with those groups as you can. Don't hesitate to seek out leadership opportunities. With over 1,000 student organizations on our campus, there is something for everyone!



STUDENT PERSPECTIVES

“Once you find what you want to get involved in, challenge yourself to grow with the org rather than be a passive member! Run for an executive position, organize an event, it all goes by much too fast to just watch from the sidelines.” (p.8)

– Haley Jo Kimmen,
Involvement Intern

“The Leadership Certificate creates a solid foundation for taking not only a leadership role, but a mentorship role, throughout all aspects of the undergraduate experience.” (p. 10)

–Alexandria Pham,
Leadership Certificate Recipient

“RSO involvement and leadership helped me build the critical reasoning skills I employ in challenging science courses. I learned how to better navigate complex problems by thinking outside the box and considering alternative perspectives.” (p. 12)

–Joey Janz,
ODC Committee Chair

“I am constantly using my facilitation skills for so many other realms than just ALPs that I will carry with me for the rest of my life.” (p. 13)

–Hannah DePorter,
ALPs Member

“I am proud of the many positions and stances members of my fraternity and other organizations have taken in the name of our community and justice, not just our Greek letters.” (p. 16)

–Devon Hamilton,
President of Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity, Inc.

“My voice may not be the loudest in the room, but through my experiences with SLP I have learned how to use my voice effectively so that my thoughts and ideas are heard and that I am able to empower and impact others.” (p. 18)

–Michelle Mumper,
SLP Coordinator

“The people in Wisconsin Singers have become some of my best friends, my extended family, and have helped me to feel like I have a home on Campus.” (p. 20)

–Atzie Sobotik,
Wisconsin Singers Company Manager

