

U N I V E R S I T Y
O F
C O N N E C T I C U T

2007 LEGACY SUMMIT KICKS OFF THE YEAR!

Unsure of what to expect and anxious to get started, thirteen students began their Legacy Experience on January 14th at the Nathan Hale Inn. The students participated in team builders and workshops led by Drs. Joseph Briody, Christine Wilson, and Jennifer Lease-Butts. Workshop topics included the importance of leadership, and how, as leaders, they can have a positive impact on others. Students were also excited to finally meet with their Faculty and Alumni Mentors, many of whom were present at the retreat. Initial feelings of the program were captured by Legacy Student Allison Lemkin, "This program gives us a support system for the remainder of our college experi-



ence and a network to rely on after graduation.

The evening continued with a formal dinner at the Alumni House. President Phil Austin and Vice President

John Saddleire welcomed Doug ('85) and Melissa Bernstein and thanked them for their donation which helped jump start this program. Legacy Student Charlayne

McStay mentioned how impressed she was with the various accomplishments of every person in the group. "Each of us brings knowledge and insight from the different activities we are involved in on campus, and what is more exciting is that there is such little overlap between our activities." Legacy Student B.J.Bayers noted, "I was expecting to be a part of a special group, but my expectations were blown away once I got to know everyone. Each member brings something special to the group and that is what makes this program so unique. I think that this program is going to do great things for not only the University, but [also] for ...the members in this group."



'OF THE PEOPLE' EVENT: ADDRESSING POLITICAL LEADERSHIP

The Leadership Legacy Experience co-presented a discussion titled, 'Of the People, By the People, For the People' with the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center on Thursday February 8th. This well-attended event explored the relationship between private and non-profit entities and the government in the development of good public policy. Featuring former Congresswoman Barbara Kennelly, and Ed Silverman a lobbyist with RBS Greenwich Capital, both lobbyists

in Washington, D.C., the conversation touched on the current state of affairs involving lobbyists, lobbying reform, recent related scandals, and the impact of recent laws to restrict lobbying activity. Mrs. Kennelly and Mr. Silverman brought a welcomed perspective on this hot topic and shared their views and experiences from both the lobbying and political viewpoints. This conversation was moderated by Dr. Barry Feldman, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer and Adjunct Pro-

fessor in the Master of Public Administration Program at UConn. Additionally, the speakers welcomed questions from the audience and then dined with our Legacy Students after the event. The Legacy Experience will continue to bring experts from a variety of arenas to speak about current issues and leadership in our society.

Leadership is more than having the ability to inspire change within a community, but it is also having the confidence to say it can be done and the devotion to see it through"
-- Charlayne McStay

Upcoming Events

February 25th – Mid-semester Luncheon for Students and their Mentors

March 29th - Dr. Bernard LaFayette: 'Leadership in the Face of Adversity'

April 15th - Outdoor Experience

April 22nd—Student Life Awards

LEGACY LIT BY JON SIERAKOWSKI

The Leadership Legacy Experience is a unique program. A first of its kind for UConn, it has assembled a group of qualified individuals with the goal of improving leadership ability and leaving a mark on the UConn community. More so, it is not a “beginner’s” course – this program is geared toward continuing leadership development that is already taking place. We thirteen participants come from a wide variety of backgrounds, disciplines, and experience, yet that most basic linking trait will bond us for the next year and beyond.

While it is possible to reflect on many aspects of the purpose of the program, one of the most important is what is to be expected of us as leaders? What does it take to be called a leader? This term may be defined in a number of ways, but I will attempt to articulate it reflective of how the group has defined it. One central theme was growth. Leaders facilitate the growth of individuals, their hearts, and minds. We are also expected to encourage the growth of each other by sharing and relating our experiences to form a more complete perspective of the world and the human beings that occupy it. Another component of leadership is leave our community better shape than when we first encountered it, for this is the first step in bettering the world. As leaders with ability to take action and make important, sometime difficult decisions, we also have a responsibility to do the right thing when called upon.

Programs like this are extremely important. Eventually, a new generation of individuals will have to step up and act as stewards for community, business, and government. By concentrating and forging a collective experience, we will be better equipped to engage these challenges. A passage from ‘Jack: Straight From The Gut’ by former General Electric CEO Jack Welch struck me as very relevant to this discussion; “The people with whom I have been associated with have worked harder, enjoyed it more, although not always initially, and in the end, gained increased self-respect and self-confidence from accomplishing more than they thought previously possible.” My hope is that by the end of the program, we will sum up our experiences using those same words.

LEGACY LIMELIGHT: ALYSSA MOSS



Alyssa discovered her passion for helping people when she traveled to Africa to volunteer at an orphanage. She is a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, and an active participant in Community Outreach, UConn Relief Core, and Cross Cultural Solutions. She has dedicated her time to volunteer with the Special Olympics and has offered her hand in assistance in Mississippi and Tanzania. Alyssa’s Faculty/Staff Mentor is Beth Settje from Career Services, and her Alumni Mentor is Steven Hoffler (*95) from New Haven and working with Casey Family Services Inc.

The Future of Legacy Leads

This first edition of *Legacy Leads* points us in the right direction for sharing with folks like yourself who are interested in recognizing and supporting student leadership and excellence at the University of Connecticut. We invite your suggestions for future features and segments in this newsletter. Here are some of the things we’re working on....

- Legacy Mentor Spotlight
- Campus and Statewide Leadership Development Opportunities
- More Event Recaps

Please let us know what you’re thinking and tell a friend or colleague about the Leadership Legacy Experience.



More Summit Shots....(clockwise from upper left) 1) Anne Silva (Alumni Assoc.), Legacy Students Christian Mendonca and Adonis Chamble; 2) Legacy Students plotting their course; 3) VP John Saddle mire, President Phil Austin, Doug and Melissa Bernstein, and Sr. Assoc. Dir. Kevin Fahey; 4) Legacy Students Ryan McHardy, Emily Gelbard, Alyssa Moss, and Associate Dean of Students Christine Wilson; 5) Doug Bernstein meets with the Legacy Students.



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