

PC STUDENT LEADERSHIP DIGEST

Informing the leaders of today, inspiring the leaders of tomorrow



LIZ IANNESSA stands at the forefront of the Board of Programmers as this year's president.

October Student Leader of the Month: Liz Iannessa

Christopher Charron '07G

The lifestyle of October's Student Leader of the Month may best be described as a great balancing act. Senior Liz Iannessa has been able to find a healthy equilibrium between academics, extracurricular involvement, employment, internships, and social activity while here at Providence College.

As president of the Board of Programmers, Iannessa could easily find herself overwhelmed by the commitment of time and effort that is naturally demanded by the board. She does not stop there, though, in her active weekly routine. Currently, Iannessa acts as a Eucharistic Minister for Campus Ministry, holds an internship with Best Buddies, is a waitress at an off-campus restaurant, and works part-time as a desk assistant in the SAIL Office. Not to mention, she carries a full course load with a major in Social Science and minors in Business Studies and Italian.

With BOP, Iannessa has some very realistic goals that may result in the development of some outstanding campus programs. Her goal is simply, "to keep the board unified." By providing

support and direction, without dictation, Iannessa believes the board will have the opportunity to plan, organize, and execute successful events throughout the coming year. Iannessa considers her experience with BOP among her most rewarding at PC. It is with the board that she says, "I found unbelievable friends, but I also found a career." Upon graduation, she hopes to possibly get involved in the field of event planning, specifically with either weddings or cruises.

As a Eucharistic Minister, this marks Iannessa's fourth year of involvement with Campus Ministry. In her freshman year, she visited daycare centers as part of Outreach for Children and also participated in Habitat for Humanity. Over the next two years, she took part in one more Habitat for Humanity trip and became Habitat Chair. She says that Campus Ministry has, "allowed me to discover my spiritual self."

In addition to being involved with BOP for three years and Campus Ministry for four, Iannessa was a leader on both the Connections and Encounter retreats her

sophomore and junior years, respectively. Also, she was an orientation leader in the summer of 2005.

Not surprisingly, advice that Iannessa would give to underclassmen is to "get involved early." She encourages students to participate in anything and everything. It is her belief that, in doing so, "you end up where you're supposed to be." By testing out the waters of BOP and Campus Ministry, Iannessa personifies that notion very well. ●

Do you know an outstanding senior who deserves to be recognized as "Student Leader of the Month"?

We want to hear from YOU!

Visit the Student Leadership webpage or the SAIL Office for a nomination form

All nominations are due to the SAIL Office by November 13, 2006

The Changing Face of Leadership

Leslie J. Heller

Since returning to Providence College just a few weeks ago, I've noticed a number of things have changed in my short time away. New facilities have been erected. A new President has taken the reigns of leadership. I see new faces in the halls each day. Providence College has changed in many ways, and I'm excited I've returned to be a part of it.

As an involved undergraduate at PC, I participated in seminars and workshops sponsored by "Leadership 2000," a program that inspired students to look toward the future of leadership in the new millenium. In the time before iPods, cell phones, and Facebook, students were challenged to confront innovation and its affect on people, organizations, and society.

Today, the Lifelong Leadership (L³) program provides the student body with an updated look at leadership in today's changing world. PC students have more unique opportunities for involvement and leadership than ever before. And if the recent Transformations Leadership Retreat for first-year students is any indication, there is seemingly endless leadership potential within all facets of this campus community.

Right from the start, both new and returning PC students were encouraged to get involved this year, beginning with the annual Involvement Fair. Still have some free time in your schedule? Those looking to develop specific leadership skills should consider attending the Breakfast of Champions workshop series this fall or spring.

Looking ahead to next semester, those of you seeking to make an impact on new students should consider becoming an orientation leader. Finally, PC undergraduates will have the opportunity to join students from local colleges and universities for LeaderShape Rhode Island, an interactive institute to be held at Roger Williams University from May 28-June 3, 2007. As always, keep an eye out for upcoming editions of the Leadership Digest with up-to-date information on workshops and other activities, both on-campus and in the area.

With all the opportunities available to students at every level, I hope everyone will take full advantage of their potential and mark their place as leaders of today (and tomorrow). ●

For more information, check out: www.providence.edu/Student+Life/Student+Activities/Student+Leadership/

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LEADERSHAPE RHODE ISLAND

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

You cannot be a leader, and ask other people to follow you, unless you know how to follow, too.

-Sam Rayburn, former Speaker of the United States House of Representatives

Transformations Leadership Retreat *Stories*

The second annual Transformations Leadership Retreat was held September 9-10 at Camp Becket in Becket, Massachusetts. In attendance were 38 first-year students and 15 upperclass student leaders, including members of the Dirigo

Leadership Honor Society and alumni of last year's retreat.

The following are two students' reflections on the retreat experience:

Seeing the Retreat in a New Light

Moira Kelley '09

After returning from the 2005 Transformations Retreat as a freshman, I thought that there was no way any retreat could be better...that was until I was asked to be a leader for this year's getaway.

Our weekend started off like any other - a 6:30am alarm and a two hour bus ride to the Berkshires. I feel that I can speak for all those on the retreat when I say that a bus is the last place we wanted to be on a Saturday morning, bright and early. But that feeling quickly wore off upon arrival at Camp Becket. As the students and leaders broke up into groups, I realized that the 2006 retreat was going to be better than the previous year. I huddled together with the other 2005 Transformations alumni leaders and commented on the massive turnout of freshmen this year (nearly 40; up from about a dozen freshmen in 2005!).

The weekend proved to be one of the most relaxed and easygoing weekends a college student could ask for. From classic camp meals washed down with bug juice to four-foot trust falls into the arms of practical strangers, the retreat helped both the leaders and the freshmen learn that bonding can be tough, but

worth it in the end. Equally important, the retreat showed us leaders the new talent that has emerged in the class of 2010. The retreat was set up so that freshmen could have the chance to get an early foot in the leadership "door". Thankfully, it was a great success! These new students had the opportunity to learn more about themselves and the upperclassmen; whether it be in the middle of a s'mores cookout, the ropes course, or a quick kayaking session!

As a first-time Transformations leader, I discovered that life is a bit different from this point of view than from that of a new student. I now appreciate what those before me have done and what those after me will do - not just for the Transformations Retreat, but any getaway that PC kids have the honor of attending. If it weren't for others, I wouldn't be where I am today, and it is such an overwhelming feeling to know that my co-leaders and I will have the same effect on the class of 2010 and those after them!

Below: Participants untangle a "human knot".



Memories of Camp Becket

Michael Callahan '10

Who decides to wake up at 7:00am on the first Saturday morning of their Providence College career, only to drive for more than an hour to sleep in little cabins - in the middle of nowhere? Thirty-eight freshmen did (along with fifteen upperclassmen), and I am very confident that it was one of the best decisions we've made here at PC.

Although most of the students spent the entire bus ride in a comatose state, when we arrived at Camp Becket, everyone came alive for what would become an amazing weekend of trust games, ropes courses, and teambuilding; ending in the epitome of outdoor events - the campfire, complete with warm, gushy, melt-in-your-mouth s'mores.

It was during this campfire (with sticky, s'more-fingers) that I learned of Providence College's deeply embedded sense of community. With upperclassmen as our guides, we talked about the transition from high school to college, and how it can sometimes be challenging. We were free to ask anything: about college, about friendship, even about life. The leaders' answers were heart-felt, truthful, encouraging, and exciting. No longer were they haughty upperclassmen, but suddenly, they were our friends. We

left knowing that we could go to our new friends for help - anytime, anywhere.

After our feel-good campfire, we went off to bed, preparing ourselves mentally for the three mile run that was scheduled for 7:00am. Aw, who am I kidding? The optional run wasn't exactly a success - five people went. But in any case, we had great intentions.

Sunday came and no one was ready to leave. Before we left we played a quick game. As a description was read, we tapped the shoulder of the person to whom phrases such as, "You made me laugh," "You're a great leader," and "I'll never forget the time I spent with you" applied. It was remarkable to see how many lives you can touch in less than 48 hours.

I know I came to the retreat not knowing anyone. I was eager, but nervous; excited, yet scared. But during the retreat, I met so many great people. People who, after three weeks, I still eat lunch with, still sit next to in class, still laugh with about our great time at Camp Becket. The retreat not only taught me to be a leader, it eased my concerns about college, and blessed me with a group of friends, all of whom I will never forget. ●



Tuesdays at 8:30am in McPhail's
It's not too late - sign up TODAY!

For more information or to register, stop by the SAIL Office in Slavin 104.



Seeking juniors for College Leadership Rhode Island (CLRI)

Applicants should:

- be in good academic standing
- be a leader on campus
- be experienced in community service/volunteerism
- be interested in staying in the Rhode Island area after graduation

Applications may be obtained in the SAIL Office and are due no later than October 11.

On-campus interviews will begin October 16.

For more information, go to www.leadershipri.org

Note: Students selected must be available for five trainings on Friday afternoons this spring.

ATTENTION LEADERS

Leslie J. Heller

On Wednesday, September 27th, Career Services hosted an information session about the StartingBloc Fellowship. The fellowship program, sponsored yearly by the New York-based non-profit organization, aims to provide students with "the training, experience, and networks necessary to drive social, economic, and environmental innovation" (www.startingbloc.org). According to Denise Godin, Assistant Director of PC's Career Planning & Internship Service, StartingBloc has accepted six Friars into the program in the past two years.

Sophomores, juniors, or seniors interested in business, leadership, and facilitating social change should visit www.startingbloc.org for more information on this unique program. To be considered, applications must be submitted by November 30th. ●

Does your group have news to share? Let us know!
Email: lheller@providence.edu

WRITERS WANTED...

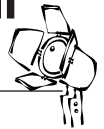
If you are interested in having your voice heard, look no further...



...write for the PC Student Leadership Digest! Contact Leslie Heller at lheller@providence.edu, or in the SAIL Office at x2211.

Spotlight on Leadership

Urban Action



Sharon L. Hay

Between August 31st and September 2nd, over 2,600 community service hours were donated to the City of Providence by this year's Urban Action participants. During their three days of service, 150 first-year students and 25 upperclass students completed a variety of projects including: clearing trails in Neutaconkanut Park, painting fences at Roger Williams Park Zoo, inventorying trees within the city, cleaning Merino Park, painting at Sophia Academy, and creating tree beds along Eaton Street.

Urban Action is celebrating its 16th year and continues to be a vital program for first-year students. It affords participants the opportunity to make connections with other new students, to start getting to know the PC campus, and to learn about their new city. It is truly a wonderful partnership between the City of Providence and the College.

All students are invited to be part of the year-round program which features community service work approximately one Saturday per month. Contact the SAIL Office for more information. ●

PC STUDENT LEADERSHIP DIGEST CONTRIBUTING WRITERS/EDITORS/ PHOTOGRAPHERS

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- Sharon L. Hay, SAIL
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