

STUDENT LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

YEAR ONE

SLI ONE: EMERGING LEADERS: STUDENT AFFAIRS PROFESSIONAL PANEL

What?

This SLI consisted of 4 members of the student affairs faculty at Ithaca College discussing their careers and why they find their jobs to be so fulfilling. They also talked about how they got into their respective professions. The panel consisted of a residential life director, a director in the office of student engagement, and a director of the LGBTQ community at Ithaca. Although they each do different things with student engagement, they all agreed that student engagement consists of student organizations putting on programs, leadership and leadership development retreats, and community service. All of these things are important because they allow us to be engaged with what we do in our classes. Many different groups such as residential life directors, the office of student engagement, and LGBTQ organizations lead student engagement.

So What?

Student engagement is a fulfilling career that consists of a variety of highlights and challenges, but the highlights and challenges are what makes it a fulfilling career. For example, you get to create diversity on a college campus but maintaining this diversity can be challenging. Great connections can be made between students but it's also hard to meet everyone's needs. The great thing about this job is that you can influence students while they're developing their professional lives and leave a positive impact on them, which could potentially lead to a positive impact on the community outside of the college. Some students even become a part of this field because of their experience with student affairs professionals, which was true for all the members of this panel.

Now What?

This career is all about impact. However, what the student affairs profession involves is different at every college or university, which makes it an interesting profession. If you do your job right students can do what they want, but this career has so much depth and there is so much you can do with it. There are many paths allowing you to enjoy what you're doing but also push you out of your comfort zone to see what you're passionate about. This can allow you to realize what you want to do and bring your passion into your work. This can be applied to all fields. No matter what you do, you should try to bring into your work what you're passionate about. If you're passionate about what you do, it's never really work. Never look down on an institution (student affairs) or a place of business because this may be the best place you work where you do the most fulfilling thing with your career.

SLI TWO: EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION AND LEADERSHIP

What?

This SLI gave great tools about how to better communicate when you're working as part of a group and when you're a leader of a group. I personally attended this workshop because one of my goals for this semester was about how to be a more confident leader. In order to work on leadership communication skills, we did a few different activities and discussed them afterwards. First, we did the "salt and pepper" activity where we each had an object on our

back, and we had to ask each other questions to figure out what we were. The next activity we did was, working with a partner, discussing a place you went on vacation while the other person tried to guess where it was.

So What?

I found that the “salt and pepper” activity was a great way to work on conversing back and forth with someone. Instead of having one person dominate the conversation, we took turns asking each other things about what object we were until one of us figured it out. Once one person figured it out, they stayed with the person until they also figured out what they were in order to find their pair. I thought that the turns in conversing and thinking of better ways to phrase a question to get a more valuable “yes or no” answer were valuable tools in leadership communication. Sometimes there has to be another way you need to ask a question in order to get the best answer. In conversation, the floor has to be shared equally and one person can’t dominate the conversation in order to accomplish a task. The next activity was also helpful because after a few descriptions of the place you had been you could see what the person found helpful and what they didn’t find quite as helpful. This showed that there’s many different ways to communicating and depending on what type of person you’re talking to (analytical, detail oriented, etc.) you may have to change the way you’re describing something in order to best suit what they would find useful.

Now What?

I thought that these activities provided me with some tools to communicate more effectively with others as well as adjusting the way I communicate. Now when I work with others, I will take more of these factors into consideration in order to more effectively communicate. In order to accomplish a task and be an effective and confident leader I want to start using some of these tools that I learned in this SLI. Typically, in conversation I tend to back out even if I have an opinion. After attending this SLI, I learned that in order to have effective communication, not only does everyone need to take turns in conversing, but everyone also has to be open to sharing their ideas and being open for communication, which is something that I don’t always do. In addition, I also learned that there are many ways of communicating and one method isn’t always the best for everyone. If I want to be a more effective communicator in leadership, I have to take that into account so that everyone can benefit from what I have to offer.

SLI THREE: PUBLIC RELATIONS STUDENT SOCIETY OF AMERICA'S 7th INTERNSHIP PANEL

What?

This SLI was run by students in the Public Relations Student Society of America and consisted of a panel of about 12 students. Each student discussed different aspects of their internships and many students had multiple internships to talk about. Each student provided useful tips and tools on how to get an internship, how to be a successful networker once you get the internship, and ways to actually get a job out of your internship.

So What?

Before I attended this SLI, I knew that networking was extremely important, but I wasn’t sure how to go about networking. Networking is quite literally the key to a successful career as well as the key to getting business opportunities. In this SLI they discussed effective ways to network and discussed their own experiences with networking. They talked about being friendly around the office in order to create relationships with the people in the office, rather than just sitting at their cubicles. Creating a friendly relationship with your coworkers and boss leads to a connection that you need to keep once you finish your internship. You have to reach out to the people in


the company once in a while in order for them to remember who you are. You need to prove your reliability as well as being friendly in order for your connections to lead to job opportunities. Even if you don't get a job at that company, members of that company may move on and work somewhere else and you could obtain a position there, so don't just foster connections with your boss. They also discussed ways to get the most out of your internship. After you prove to your boss that you're reliable, you can start to ask for additional responsibilities that you may be more interested in and will better benefit your career. They discussed how internships show you what you want to do with your career and that what you did in your internship may not be where you want your career to head as well. I also learned about the ways in which I can discover internships through Ithaca College's internship database as well as ways to find internships outside of the database.

Now What?

Although this internship panel was geared more towards Park School media majors, I felt that the things they discussed could be used in any aspect of business. Even though I am not a communications major, I am involved with Park through the radio station here at Ithaca and I would like to be able to do something with that in my career. Now that I am aware of the resources I can use to find an internship I will start searching for an internship for this coming summer. Once I get an internship, I will use the tools I learned about in this SLI to build an effective network and create and foster effective business connections in order to have a secure job and build my career after graduating college.

SEMESTER TWO:

March 6



How Remarkable Women Lead (LDW) (SACL Emerging Leaders Program)

Date and Time
Wednesday, March 6 2019 at 4:00 PM EST to
Wednesday, March 6 2019 at 5:00 PM EST
[Add To Google Calendar](#) | [iCal/Outlook](#)

Location
Taughanmock Falls Room

Description
What drives and sustains successful women leaders? This session will explore stories and insights regarding the five elements of Centered Leadership: meaning, framing, connecting, engaging, and energizing. Participants will have a chance to reflect on their own experiences and decide whether feminine leadership traits (for women and men) are better suited for our fast-changing, hyper-competitive and increasingly complex world.
Presented by Michele Lenhart, Director of Student Engagement.
This workshop will count for credit towards the SACL Emerging Leaders Program.

Categories
Leadership Development SLI Track: Leading in a Diverse World

SLI ONE: EMERGING LEADERS: HOW REMARKABLE WOMEN LEAD

What?

This SLI focused on women leaders and how they became such amazing leaders. Women in society are expected to have time for their family, raise their children, keep their household together, and have a successful career. This SLI discussed different strategies successful women took in order to be able to be successful in their leadership positions as well as living fulfilling personal lives.


So What?

During this SLI we worked in groups to answer different questions to reflect on our lives and how we each personally lead. There were two main things that stuck out to me that I feel I could apply to becoming a better leader and being able to juggle leadership and my personal life. Many leaders come into their position when there is turmoil going on, either because of the previous leader in charge or issues in the company etc. One of the things that this SLI talked about was being able to take responsibility for this issue that you may not have caused but is now your problem. Being able to take an issue that you didn't cause, spin it around and make it something positive, and fixing the issue with responsibility and a positive attitude is something that makes a good leader. Another thing that this SLI discussed is being able to balance personal life and leadership or a career.

Now What?

There are going to be some days that have to be spent late at the office and there are going to be some days that need to be taken as personal time for oneself or family. Being able to balance the two and knowing when to say enough time has been spent at the office is critical to balancing both things. Being able to spend time with family or have time to oneself and knowing that it is necessary to turn the phone off or knowing when to sacrifice a night out in order to keep up with workflow is imperative to balancing both a career, leadership role, and a personal life.

March 27th



Women Leaders Series: Started from the Bottom...Now We're Here (LO)

Date and Time
Wednesday, March 27 2019 at 5:00 PM EDT to
Wednesday, March 27 2019 at 6:00 PM EDT
[Add To Google Calendar](#) | [iCal/Outlook](#)

Location
Ithaca Falls Room

Description
This session will feature a panel of Ithaca Women in Business Network executive board and general body members sharing their experiences in internships. They will discuss where they first started to where they are now, how they got there, and what has challenged them along the way. Join this conversation about women in the workplace to learn more about stories and how various internship experiences made the panelists stronger candidates for future roles, and how they navigated sexism in the workplace.

Categories
Leadership Development SLI Track: Leading Others

SLI TWO: WOMEN LEADERS SERIES: STARTED AT THE BOTTOM...NOW WE'RE HERE

What?

This SLI was a panel of college students who all had corporate internships at large companies. There was a variety of companies that these women had worked for ranging from heavily female dominated to very male dominated, racially diverse or racially static. These women discussed how to make the most out of an internship.

So What?

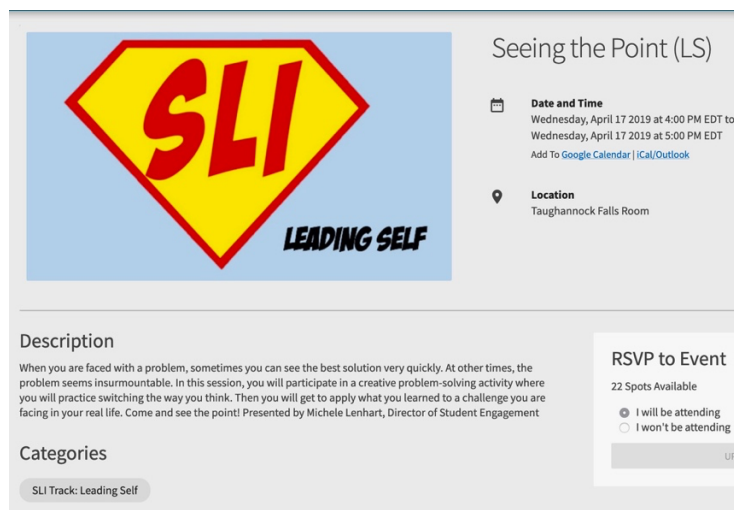
They discussed making sure you are solid on things that you learn in your courses because they will most certainly be amazing tools that send you ahead of other interns that are just only learning what to do. One of the main items they touched upon was networking and finding the people in the workplace that you know want to help you and staying in contact with them. Suggestions were made for asking for a reference letter at the end of the internship, but not to make that the last interaction you have with them. They emphasized making people remember you in order to receive opportunities and to be recommended in the future. People change companies and if you stay in

contact with many people, you not only have connections at the company you worked for but at new companies along the way giving you increased potential for job opportunities.

Now what?

One of the main things I learned is that keeping in contact with your boss and your colleagues is imperative to maintaining business connections. As a musician, keeping connections is something that is vital to having a successful career. If you ask someone to play on a gig, they'll ask you to play on a gig and that's just how it works. They also discussed taking notes about things people talk about with you. When you have a conversation with them again, you can refer back to the notes that you took. This makes you present as someone who listens and pays attention and will make people remember you. It is important to make yourself known in the workplace. If you know how to do something make people aware of your ability to do it. The point of an internship is to learn how to do things that you want to apply to your career. If you want an opportunity you have to ask for it. When you learn how to do something new, make sure you take note of what that new thing is. This way, when you are on interviews for a new position you are able to describe exactly what you did in your previous internship.

April 17



The image is a screenshot of an event page for 'Seeing the Point (LS)'. On the left, there is a logo for 'SLI LEADING SELF' which consists of a yellow shield with a red border and the letters 'SLI' in red, with 'LEADING SELF' written in black below it. To the right of the logo, the event title 'Seeing the Point (LS)' is displayed. Below the title, the 'Date and Time' is listed as 'Wednesday, April 17 2019 at 4:00 PM EDT to Wednesday, April 17 2019 at 5:00 PM EDT', with a link to 'Add To Google Calendar | iCal/Outlook'. The 'Location' is 'Taughannock Falls Room'. Below this information is a 'Description' section that reads: 'When you are faced with a problem, sometimes you can see the best solution very quickly. At other times, the problem seems insurmountable. In this session, you will participate in a creative problem-solving activity where you will practice switching the way you think. Then you will get to apply what you learned to a challenge you are facing in your real life. Come and see the point! Presented by Michele Lenhart, Director of Student Engagement'. To the right of the description is an 'RSVP to Event' section showing '22 Spots Available' and two radio button options: 'I will be attending' (which is selected) and 'I won't be attending'. At the bottom of the RSVP section, there is a small 'LIPD' button.

SLI THREE: SEEING THE POINT

What?

This SLI talked about different ways of seeing a problem and different methods and approaches to solving a problem. We discussed different ways we all look at a problem, including our initial reaction to a problem and how we go about solving it. We worked in groups of four to five people and were given a problem to solve. Using only the pieces provided to us we had to create as many arrowheads as possible. The activity seemed impossible, but we learned throughout the process that there are many aspects to solving a problem that would make this activity very doable.

So What?

Problem solving is imperative in everyday life, whether it is in the workplace, at home, or as a leader. Talking about different ways to solve a problem and hearing other people's ideas allows you to be introspective about the way you approach a problem. Working in a group allows you to see how to work and engage with others while solving a problem because oftentimes in a workplace you may be working on a project with other coworkers. Listening to other people and hearing their strategies is a great opportunity to obtain ideas on how to be a more levelheaded problem solver or to think more outside the box.

Now What?

After this SLI, I want to apply some of the things I learned about problem solving to my everyday life. In my discussion with the other members of my group, I found that when I go about solving a problem, I typically worry about what the problem is rather than just trying to solve it. Other members in my group talked about jumping in too quickly after they have their very first idea on how to solve a problem, which may not always be the right answer. I want to apply the ideas of levelheaded, well thought out, and creative approaches to solving a problem, similar to the way the other members on my team approached our problem.