



Leadership Link

Center for Leadership Development
The University of Tennessee

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*"One that beareth the torch
shadoweth oneself to give
light to others."*

Volunteer Creed

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Alternative Spring Break

By Kelley Donovan

When everyone was making plans for beaches and mountains this spring, a group of special students were going above the call to do good for the community. These students did not concentrate on getting that perfect tan or just lying around the house. Not only did they sacrifice a week of their life to serve others, they sacrificed spring break. They have decided to volunteer their spring break by participating in Alternative Spring Break.

This year's Alternative Spring Break was split into two teams, both of which went to hurricane-ravaged areas of Mississippi, Jackson and Biloxi, to assist with the continuing clean up and recovery efforts. For the thirty-five students who made the journey, it was a chance

for them to witness and assist with the regrowth of these two communities. From those I have talked to, many say that it was one of the most rewarding experiences of their lives. They not only received the opportunity to give to the community but also to meet wonderful people along the way. Many of these students would have not even met, much less formed such lasting friendships, if ASB had not been in their agenda.

If you really want to make a difference in the lives of community members and other students, please contact the TeamVOLS office at 974-8481. You can also find information on programs and opportunities on their website web.utk.edu/~teamvols. I encourage all students to take advantage of the wonderful opportunity that is being placed before them while at the University of Tennessee.

Peer Mentoring

By Erica Bone

Are you interested in getting inVOLved? Become a peer mentor! Peer mentors are students who act as a role model, mentor and contact person for students who enroll in First Year Studies 101 classes and have completed at least 12 hours of college classes. First Year Studies is a one-credit class open to first-time freshmen and is designed to help them make a smooth transition from high school to college.

In addition to these roles, peer mentors help the instructing faculty member organize class and think of fun ways to teach the students about college life and UT.

Being a peer mentor isn't all fun and games. Selection takes place late in the Fall semester, and those who are selected are required to take a training class entitled "Peer Mentor Techniques" in the spring semester, before they start their term as a peer mentor. Not only do mentors receive credit for taking the class, but they are also exposed to counseling techniques that will be useful

throughout their lives.

Benefits of being a peer mentor include meeting new students and earning a one hour credit for every First Year Studies class that they mentor.

When asked what her favorite thing about becoming a mentor was, Tiffany Simms replied, "Receiving the chance to guide new students through their college experience and seeing them grow and learn throughout the semester was just one of many benefits that becoming a peer mentor gave me."

You can find more information about the peer mentor program at the Student Success Center's website, which is <http://studentsuccess.tennessee.edu/>. Once at this site, click on the "Student Success Center" tab. You can also receive information by calling (865) 974-HELP.

Center for Leadership Development Programs

By JT Taylor, George Frazier III and Eric Smith

Emerging Leaders

Have you ever wanted to be a leader? Here is your chance. Emerging Leaders is a course that teaches the ins and outs of being a true leader. It is an exciting and dynamic class that shows each and every student how to reach full potential.

EL class is worth 3 elective credit hours and is only offered in the spring. Registration is by application only. Applications come out towards the end of the fall semester, but do not worry; it is an easy and painless selection process.

Each semester the class goes on a leadership exchange program to another university. The trip is a chance to broaden horizons and learn about different leadership approaches and styles. This year's group recently had the opportunity to visit the campuses of Georgetown University and University of Maryland-College Park.

In addition to the class trip, students spend the semester creating a portfolio that exhibits their life accomplishments, past, present and future. Junior, Eric Seifert has participated in EL class, he says, "EL class helped me develop my leadership styles and showed me where my strengths and weaknesses lay."

If Emerging Leader class sounds exciting to you, keep an eye out for applications in November, or contact the Center for Leadership Development at 974-2313 for more information.



Leadership Guides

The Leadership Guides are a team of students committed to learning about leadership and serving the campus community as a peer resource team.

Leadership Guides train weekly to become knowledgeable about various leadership development related topics, so they are prepared to be available to any UT student or organization to provide resources, services, and information about UT.

Additionally, LGs are available to present programs to any student group on those topics, which include leadership, motivation, parliamentary procedures, team building and a broad range of others. All of the programs, handouts, and workshops can be tailored to fit your needs. The programs are designed to include and engage every participant to facilitate a

learning environment for personal and group development.

Currently, Leadership Guides are actively seeking or "fetching" new and old organizations to come serve through programs and workshops. If you or your organization are interested in having a program presented, please fill out a program request from the link posted on the webpage <http://web.utk.edu/~leader/>. Click on the Leadership Guides link.

Ignite

Ignite is a program that offers freshman the opportunity to learn many ways of getting involved on campus, while teaching them leadership skills and helping them adapt to college life. Currently, Ignite is in the middle of the semester of the training period. Ignite has been



focusing this semester on communication and accountability.

To learn more about communication a professor from the College of Communications, Dr. Suzy Prentiss, came in and spoke about the effects of non-verbal communication. The program was excellent and has helped many participants be better communicators. Also, to build accountability within the group, all the Team Leaders went to HPER and participated in a large wall climb. Here, accountability was examined and explained as a chief factor for group unity.

As a final thought, Ignite participants are deciding what to do for our Teams and Summit themes. Be sure to invite all of your incoming freshman friends to participate in the Ignite Summit this summer to discover their true leadership potential. For more information please visit the Ignite website web.utk.edu/~leader/ignite/

For more information about all programs available through the Center for Leadership Development, including the Leadership Library, please visit room 315F in the Student Organizations Suite of the University Center. Information is also available at <http://web.utk.edu/~leader/>. You can also contact the Center at 974-2313 or leader@utk.edu

Becoming a Resident Assistant

By Shanika Sanders

Two years ago, I was looking for an opportunity that would allow me to gain leadership experience, impact the campus community, and meet a variety of people. I found that the resident assistant (RA) position not only provided all of those qualities, but it also paid!

The road to becoming an RA is challenging, but the personal and financial rewards that follow are great! In order to become a RA candidate you have to complete the following steps:

- 1) Candidates must have a 2.5 GPA to apply for and retain the RA position
- 2) Fill out the online application at <http://web.utk.edu/~reshalls>
- 3) If the application is accepted, the candidate will have the opportunity to participate in a group and single interview.
- 4) After the interview rounds, the remaining candidates enroll in RA class. A variety of topics are covered to assess your capabilities as an RA, as well as, provide information about the responsibilities of the RA position. The class lasts for 8-weeks, and you receive 1 hour of university credit.

As classes wrap up, candidates interview with different halls for which they would like to work. I was fortunate to be hired by Massey Hall and have thoroughly enjoyed my two years as a resident assistant. Holding this position has benefited me in a number of ways, and it can do the same for you.

First, there is an opportunity to meet great people to enrich your college experience. I am surrounded by a supportive and fun staff, and I have learned so much through my interactions with residents.

Second, the variety of situations you will encounter will further develop your leadership skills. Every time I go on a company interview, I am able to draw from my experience as an RA, which has provided me first hand experience with people, time, and project management.

Third, I have the best "commute" to work, flexible hours, great pay, and an employer that cares about my academic success.

Lastly, the growth you experience as an RA will aid you in your endeavors as it has me.

If you would like to learn more about becoming a RA, talk to your RA or hall director. Live off-campus? Stop by one of the residence halls to set an appointment with the hall director. You can also receive more information at the Department of Housing website, <http://uthousing.utk.edu/> or by calling 974-2571. So go ahead and check it out; it could possibly be the best decision you make in college!

TeamVOLS

By JT Taylor

A chance to serve yourself, your school and your community...sound like a great opportunity? All these things can be found by being involved with TeamVOLS here at UT.

TeamVOLS is an organization started by students to serve others. Getting involved with this exceptional organization provides a chance for UT peers to make an impact in the community. With thirteen different programs of service to choose from, TeamVOLS has a program for every interest. From assisting in youth outreach to beautification, TeamVOLS could be the link to getting you involved or even more involved at UT. Along with service programs, TeamVOLS also offers alternative Spring and Fall break trips where students travel throughout the country helping other communities.

You can visit the TeamVOLS website at web.utk.edu/~teamvols or contact the office located at 315A of the University Center for further information about getting involved. You can join TeamVOLS at any time throughout the year, so show your Volunteer spirit and be a part of one of the largest organizations on campus!



Study Abroad

By: Kendra Young

Have you ever wanted to explore another culture or another part of the world? One great opportunity to see what life is like in a foreign country is to study abroad. Studying is made available through the Programs Abroad Office, which is a part of the Center for International Education.

While abroad, the length of your program can depend on how long you would like to travel, programs last from two weeks to several semesters. There are a variety of activities that one is able to participate in while going abroad. Some students choose to volunteer, while others go abroad to become more familiar with another language and culture. No matter what your major, studying abroad is a wonderful experience in which learning takes on a different meaning.

If you would like to study abroad, now is the perfect time to begin planning. What you experience abroad will remain with you for a lifetime. For more information visit the Programs Abroad office located at 1620 Melrose Avenue or call (865) 974-3177. All this information and more can be found at the web site <http://web.utk.edu/~globe/pao/>

Career Services

By Michael Gay

What are your plans for the summer? If they include a summer job or internship your first stop should be Career Services. The Career Services Office, located in 100 Dunford Hall, is not just for seniors looking for jobs after graduation. The office is for all students at any point in their education to seek new ideas and explore opportunities for a career.

Career Services offers services from helping write the perfect resume to bettering interview skills. The office has resources for every step of the hiring process. Many of these resources and services are located on their website <http://career.utk.edu/>. Career Services also conducts special events during the year. On February 15th there was a Summer Job/Internship Fair.

Companies from Disney to Nike were on hand to talk to students and offer jobs and internships for the summer. They are also having the Career Expo 2006 on April 6th. Many employers will be there advertising their companies and looking to fill full-time positions for soon to graduate students.

If you are looking for information dealing with a job or internship, Career Service is the place to start. The office is open Monday to Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

Student Alumni Associates

By Joanna Caldarulo

The Student Alumni Associates (SAA) is an organization on campus that allows students and alumni to connect with one other and works to enrich the relationship between them. The organization is also a resource for the student body regarding alumni, campus, and service activities.

The Student Alumni Associates has recently accepted new members to their organization. They are currently involved in many activities and fundraisers. One of these fundraisers is the Big Orange Birthday Bash. This event allows you to place an order at anytime for a cake for someone special at UT for their birthday or any other special occasion.

SAA is also working on another fundraiser entitled Baby Vols. Baby Vols are packages of UT baby stuff like a snack cup, magnetic photo frame, t-shirt, and many others that they sell as a fundraiser for only \$25 each. The more money they are able to raise the more they are able to help the University community.

The Student Alumni Associates pledge to be "Students serving Students . . . Past . . . Present . . . Future", and they continue everyday to make a positive impact on the campus. For more information, please visit their website, <http://web.utk.edu/~saa>.

Upcoming Events

April

April 7	Carnicus—AMB Cox Auditorium 7:00
April 7	Film <i>Walk the Line</i> — UC Auditorium 7:00
April 10	Step Afrika — 7:00
April 10	Los Angeles Guitar Quartet — UC Auditorium
April 12	April Play Day
April 12	Film <i>Saved</i> — UC Auditorium 7:00
April 18	Speaker — Stephen Lewis — UC Auditorium 7:30
April 19	The Guerrilla Girls — UC Auditorium 7:00
April 20	President's Roundtable
April 21	Relay for Life
April 23	Film <i>Good Night and Good Luck</i> — UC Auditorium 7:00

May

May 3-9	Final Exams
May 12	Commencement

Central Programming Council

By: Erica Watson

The Central Program Council (CPC) is one of the primary sources for student programming at the University of Tennessee. CPC consists of seven committees, each geared toward educating and entertaining **all** UT students.

The first committee that falls under CPC is *All Campus Events (ACE)*. ACE continues traditions that are unique to UT's campus which include Homecoming and Carnicus. These events give students the opportunity to be creative and to show school spirit. The *Campus Entertainment Board* hosts events like VOL Night Long, Battle of the Bands, and Volapalooza. Each gives the students something different to enjoy. The *Cultural Attractions Committee*, *Film Committee*, *Issues Committee*, and the *Visual Arts Committee* all provide programs that provoke thought as well as enlighten students on various topics. The *Women's Coordinating Council* sponsors events geared toward helping women advance.

For more information on the Central Program Council please visit their web site at web.utk.edu/~cpc1 or contact them by e-mail at cpc1@utk.edu.