



# Leadership Link

Center for Leadership Development  
The University of Tennessee

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### Special Points of Interest

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## Ignite Program is a hit!

By Elizabeth Chapman

With unprecedented numbers of participating freshmen, the 2004 Ignite program has been quite a success. The weekend of July 9-11, 2004, almost 140 freshmen, facilitators, and upperclassmen team leaders attended the Ignite Summit, a weekend retreat designed to help freshmen get an early start on campus and learn more about what it means to be a volunteer. Not only was there a great turnout, those who participated felt it was a very beneficial weekend, with the team leaders and facilitators agreeing that, not only were they helping out the freshmen, they were renewing their own volunteer spirit. (See Ignite Summit picture on Page 3).

The teams portion of the program is separate from the summer Summit opportunity and allows freshmen to meet once a week with team leaders during the fall semester. With ten

teams of freshmen, ranging in numbers from 8 to 15, team leaders have been covering a variety of topics ranging from balancing a demanding schedule, to troubleshooting on campus, to networking on the university level. The teams attended a program with Anton Reece speaking about how to “Diversify Your Portfolio.” The last week of regular meetings will be the week of October 4, and the Ignite Commencement Ceremony will be on October 12, 2004.

If you are interested in getting into a very rewarding position on campus, apply to be an Ignite team leader. It is a great way to help freshmen find a niche on campus, but also to learn a lot about yourself, your leadership style, and your interests on campus. Applications will be available in the Center for Leadership Development and online at [web.utk.edu/~leader](http://web.utk.edu/~leader) in January 2005.

## 2005 Orientation Leader Applications

By Patrick Ladd

As you’ve certainly noticed all around campus, those posters are up again for Orientation Leader Recruitment! Simply put, if you decide to apply, it will be one of the best decisions of your life. Being an Orientation Leader is more than just getting up early, always being excited, and conducting tours of campus. It is the experience of a lifetime! It is rewarding, exciting, and challenging! When parents have questions, OL’s answer them; when students need directions, OL’s guide them; and when something goes wrong, OL’s fix it! Orientation Leaders become closer than family. Not only do OL’s work together to welcome over 4,000 new freshmen to campus, they also enjoy time away from campus doing many other things! Compensation includes a stipend of \$2,300 and a nice new room in Morrill Hall for the summer. For me, being an Orientation Leader was the experience of a

lifetime. I strongly encourage you to submit an application to come be part of the Orientation family. Apply online today at <http://web.utk.edu/~orient> or in 412 Student Services Building. Applications are due October 21st. Interviews will take place in late October. If you have any questions, please call the Student Orientation Office at 974-2435.



## Vote! *By Julia Taylor*

With this year's Presidential Election just around the corner, there is voting information everywhere you turn. You may be asked to register to vote multiple times across campus; even MTV has commercials airing with P. Diddy encouraging you to vote. Rock the Vote may even have taken over your favorite program. Why are so many people pushing for you to cast your ballot? Because our generation, the 18-24 demographic, has the lowest voter turn out of any demographic. Voting is one of the most important rights that we hold as United States citizens. Voting is your chance to voice your opinion.

Of course many people will say, "My vote doesn't really count." But, in fact, it does and our generation can make a huge difference. There are several examples where our generation has changed the outcome of an election. In November of 1998 former wrestler Jesse Ventura was elected Governor of Minnesota. This was no accident. The polls showed that over 75% of voters from 18-24 voted, more than double what it was in previous years. Political analysts said without those votes, Ventura would have never been elected.

Others may argue against the use of the Electoral College as a reason not to vote. The Electoral College was originally designed to keep the larger states from dominating the election. The Electoral College is based on a system that was used by the Roman Republic. In 2000, many people began to doubt the effectiveness of the Electoral College because

the majority of the electoral votes went to George W. Bush, but the popular vote went to Al Gore. This was only the second time in our nation's history that this has occurred.

Use this election as a chance to make your voice count. For a lot of people this will be their first Presidential election. Voting takes place November 2, and everyone registered to vote on campus will vote in the University Center. Make your decision wisely, and vote for whom you think would be the best leader, who represents your ideals and values and will take your country in the right direction. Remember, it is your choice, so be informed. There are several places you can go to find out more about the candidates and their stands on issues by simply logging on the Internet.

### Sites to Check Out

- [www.mtv.com/chooseorlose](http://www.mtv.com/chooseorlose)
- [www.rockthevote.com](http://www.rockthevote.com)
- [www.vote-smart.org](http://www.vote-smart.org)
- [www.GeorgeWBush.com](http://www.GeorgeWBush.com)
- [www.JohnKerry.com](http://www.JohnKerry.com)
- [www.votenader.com](http://www.votenader.com)
- [www.Badnarik.org](http://www.Badnarik.org)



## Principles in Practice: Leadership Lessons from our Mentors

*By Chris Dollar*

Recently the writers of Leadership Link asked several students to comment about their mentors. Students responded with thoughts about family members, UT administrators, community leaders, and other students. Here are some student responses we received:

"My sister b/c she is a great role model because she is encouraging and a light for others." Rachel Frey

"My leadership mentor is Dr. Joe Johnson. Dr. Johnson is an individual who loves UT more than anyone I have ever met. He has an impact on each and every person who is lucky enough to meet him. He has a charisma that will capture the audience no matter where he is, the intellect that will impress the unimpressible and is a man of sheer integrity. All are signs of a true leader. I try to talk to him each and every chance I get because I know each time I will take away something that will help mold my own leadership abilities." Chaz Molder

"My dad because he constantly strives to better himself and those around him through both his words and actions." Brett Giordano

"My dad. The respectful qualities this man holds are plentiful. Qualities that are becoming less and less prevalent in today's fast paced society. The qualities I respect are the fact that he has been married for more than 25 years and has been a model to myself and my brother of what a good upstanding citizen and man in today's society should be." Ben Simpson

"Will Carver because he inspires students to strive for excellence through his own actions. He practices true servant leadership." Julie Anderson

"Camellia Meehan, because no matter what is going on or what she is doing, she is always more than willing to drop everything and help you out." Nathan Zipper

As students we learn different qualities from different people. It is important to remember that the characteristics we most admire of our mentors are the qualities that members of our organizations seek from us. Remember to take the time to reflect on traits you have learned from others and use those in your daily actions as student leaders. Putting these principles in practice can produce incredible results for you and your organization.

## Leadership Guides

*By John Foster*

Leadership Guides is a group of students committed to developing and presenting leadership skills on campus. This team presents programs to all student organizations on campus free of charge. They specialize in many areas like motivation, time and stress management, and communication.

Leadership Guides are a relatively new group on campus, but their enthusiasm and focus on sharing leadership is very strong. Twelve members make up this year's group. Last year, the team presented programs to 987 people. Chris Dollar, the Graduate Assistant in the Center for Leadership Development states, "Leadership Guides provides a great service to organizations, student leaders and departments across campus. The impact these programs has had on many groups has been tremendous."

Leadership Guides also help present the SGA Presidents' Roundtable every month. Here, presidents from campus organizations meet to find new ways to better their organizations. Every spring semester, Leadership Guides, as part of the Center for Leadership Development, help present the Leadership Conference. This single day conference is presented to help students in learning and developing personal leadership skills. Another feature of Leadership Guides is the *Orange Pages*. This is a listing of contacts that organizations can use when planning events and activities. It can be accessed online at the Leadership Guides website: <http://web.utk.edu/~leader/>.

The Leadership Guides are located in the Center for Leadership Development on the third floor of the University Center. If you are interested in requesting a program for your organization, you can complete a request form online. You can also contact Leadership Guides at 974-2313 or [leader@utk.edu](mailto:leader@utk.edu). If you are interested in joining the Leadership Guide team, applications are due in the office by Monday, November 8th. Please contact the Center for Leadership Development for more



2004 Ignite Summit Participants

## Emerging Leaders

*By Witne Nicely*

Emerging Leaders is a worthwhile class for anyone looking to improve and expand on their leadership qualities. This is the only class on campus with numerous leadership opportunities built into the curriculum. The Emerging Leaders class is not just for students who are already involved on campus. It is for all students who want to have an active leadership role at UT. Emerging Leaders learn all about different styles and attitudes towards leadership. This class will also aid students in finding their own sense of pride for the University of Tennessee.

Emerging Leaders is not just a class- it's an experience. This experience is enhanced by the close friendships Emerging Leaders develop. As a freshman, I was ready to get involved but I didn't know what area of campus I wanted to explore. During the first two weeks of class, we had discussed, and been introduced to over 20 different organizations. Before I knew it, I was busy filling out applications. Not only did I find leadership opportunities, I also found some

amazing people to call my friends. These friendships had started to blossom since the beginning of January, but in April when we took a road trip together, those friendships took root. As we were leaving Knoxville, we were informed that we would be spending the weekend at The Ohio State University and the University of Cincinnati. Our assignments were to meet with leaders at each school and learn about their programs and how we might apply them at UTK. By taking this trip together and being able to interact outside of the classroom, I learned so many things about so many people. Today, I see these friends all over campus and we still feel strongly about the Emerging Leader program. This experience has greatly enhanced my college experience and I would like to encourage you to take part in this class. The deadline for Emerging Leader's application is November 17, 2004. You may apply



2004 Emerging Leaders



2004 Ignite Team Leaders

## Alternative Fall Break Offers Personal Reward

*By Courtney Hubbard*

With papers, midterms, and organizational commitments, many wonder why any student would give up their fall break to do community service. For me it is about Volunteer pride. As a student here at the University of Tennessee, Volunteer spirit is greatly emphasized and everyone is always encouraged to do community service. It is about more than feeding the homeless or helping to build a house. It is also about feeding your soul and building your foundation as a person. Waking up early and going out to do work may not seem like the ideal way to spend your precious few days off during Fall Break, but for me the fulfillment of giving time unselfishly makes it all worth it. And in the process I will have the opportunity to meet and work with others students who feel the same way. Alternative Fall Break allows you to do more than simply sleep or watch T.V. on your time off. It gives you the opportunity to grow as a person as well as establish friendships that will last a lifetime. I truly believe that the experience will help me to return back to school more refreshed and energized that going home would ever have. Contact the TeamVols Office located in 315 A University Center for more information or call 974-8481.



## Upcoming Events

### October

October 18-22	Race Equality Week
October 21	Orientation Leader Applications Due
October 25	Philidanco
October 29	Alternative Spring Break Applications Due

### November

November 8	Leadership Guide Applications Due
November 17	Emerging Leader Applications Due

## New Campus Calendar

*By Kensley Marcus*

Have you ever had to go to a "cultural event" on campus, but you just don't know how to find out what is going on and when? Or have you ever wondered if there are any speakers coming to town that you would like to hear but found out about it after the fact? Well, if this describes you then you are in luck. Finally, The University of Tennessee is planning to launch a Campus Calendar that will be available on the university website. This calendar will consist of any organizationally sponsored program taking place on campus. All organizations and students that wish to have the privilege to post events must become registered through the Office of Information Technology. All registered organizations that wish to publish an activity on the calendar will be able to do so by going to [events.tennessee.edu](http://events.tennessee.edu). Those submitted events will be reviewed and approved by the Dean of Students Office before they are posted on the calendar. This is an excellent resource for the student body that has been in demand for quite some time. The calendar was launched on Wednesday, October 6 and is currently available for viewing by students and staff. Anyone may view the calendar by going to the main UTK website and clicking on the provided link.

## Thon On!

*By: Caroline Sarros*

Dance Marathon is here again! Dance Marathon is a fundraiser held annually to benefit East Tennessee Children's Hospital Hematology and Oncology departments. Last year the dancers raised over \$100,000 for Children's Hospital. This year it will be held February 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. The event lasts over 24 hours and is designed to replicate the sleep deprivation that children undergoing certain cancer treatments must endure. Dance Marathon is currently taking registrations. You can also register through their website [www.dancemarathonatut.com](http://www.dancemarathonatut.com).



*"Dancing today for a brighter tomorrow"*