

Leadership Studies, engaged students & engaged faculty

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Sandra J. Peart, University of Richmond; Ron Riggio,
Claremont McKenna College; Gama Perruci, McDonough
Center; Candi Hironaka, Kansas State University; Dave Miller,
Virginia Polytechnical University

Why leadership studies at AAC&U?

- Confluence of common interests:
 - Engagement
 - Interdisciplinarity
 - Diversity
 - Cross school collaborations
 - ILA
 - Summer Institute

Engagement: What is it?

Collaborative effort between students & institutions

- What students do:
 - Participation in activities that involve learning.
- What institutions do:
 - Practices, policies and experiences that induce students to participate in those activities.

Engagement

- Leadership studies attracts students and faculty who tend to be engaged.
- The curriculum of a LS program lends itself well to the language and coursework of engagement.

Leadership & Engagement at Virginia Tech

Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets

- Senior Military College
- Leader Development Program
- Two “tracks” -- military and civilian
- Mission: to graduate leaders of exemplary character and integrity, dedicated to the university’s motto of Ut Prosim
- Focus on academic and experiential learning

Leadership & Engagement at Virginia Tech

Academic

- Minor in Leadership Studies
- Academic support programs
 - Tutoring, ECQ, CAEE, Writing Center, Saturday Classes
- Leadership conferences (home and away)
- Leaders in Action Speaker Series
- Cutchins Lecture Series
- Gunfighter's Panel
- Cadet Leader School

A group of students in military-style uniforms (brown t-shirts and camouflage pants) are participating in a physical activity on a grassy field. They are in various positions, some kneeling and some standing, appearing to be engaged in a team-building exercise. The background shows more students in similar uniforms, some standing and some in motion. The overall scene is outdoors and appears to be a training or leadership exercise.

Leadership & Engagement at Virginia Tech

Experiential

- Component of Minor in Leadership Studies
- Physical Fitness
- Organized clubs and activities
 - EMTs, drill teams; Regimental Band, Color Guard, Honor and Executive Courts, etc
- Community Service Projects
- 24/7 leadership lab

Leadership & Engagement at Virginia Tech

Some indicators of success

- Average GPA about 3.0 (2.94 for fall 08)
- Undergraduate man of year, 5 of last 7
- Undergraduate leader of year, 3 of last 4
- Significant number of Who's Who
- # 1 Navy Midshipman in 2001 & 2005
- #1 Army ROTC program of SMC
- Largest non-corporate sponsor of D-Day Memorial

Interdisciplinary

- Leadership is inherently multidisciplinary
- Disciplinary approaches:
 - social psychology, business, economics, literature, religion, philosophy, history, political science
- Engages faculty in team teaching, cross departmental (cross school) collaborations.

Disciplinary and Interdisciplinary Courses

- Lit 163: Leadership in Literature & Film
- Lit 161: Leadership & Diversity in Literature
- His 102: Gandhi & Mao
- RLST 174: Religion and the American Presidency
- Gov 160: Statesmanship & Leadership
- Psy 141: Leading Entrepreneurial Ventures
- ID 141: Leadership & the Sciences
- ID 99: Civic Leadership, Responsibility and Involvement
- INT 199: Summer Internship in Leadership
- FHS 10: Science & the Human Condition
- FHS 10: Mystics, Prophets, & Social Change

Diversity

- LS attracts diverse array of faculty and students.
 - Note the diversity of institutions represented here!
- International opportunities and perspectives.
- Opportunities for collaboration across universities.

Diversity Makes a Difference in Student Engagement & Leadership Development

- Culture and Context in Leadership
- The Power of Personal Stories
- Understanding of One's Cultural Identities
- Development of Intercultural Sensitivity
- Concepts of Power and Privilege
- Developing Global Perspectives
- Inclusive Leadership Practices
- Fun, Challenging, and Meaningful Learning

Developing Diversity Knowledge

- Courses Across All Disciplines
- International Service Teams
- Study Abroad Programs
- International Buddy Programs
- Collaboration Among Diverse Groups
- Lectures and Presentations
- “Comfort Zone” Experiences
- Understanding and Managing Change
- Opportunities for Intercultural Dialogues
- Lifelong Process and Journey

Collaborations

- Involving students in collaborative research
 - Harvard's "America's Best Leaders" Project
- Cross-cultural experiences
 - Leadership Study Abroad
 - McDonough Bloggers Program
- Collaboration through co-curricular activities
 - LeaderShape Institute (Ohio University, Marietta College)

Collaborations

- New Affinity Groups at International Leadership Association
 - Undergraduate and Graduate Students
 - Deans/Directors/Chairs of Leadership Programs
- Agenda: Newsletter article(s), discussions, lunch gatherings, networking, information exchange
- Next ILA conference: Prague
 - November 11-14, 2009

Interest in collaboration

- 3 institutions (CMC, Jepson, Loyola-Marymount)
 - 4 year project, generously funded by W.M. Keck Foundation
 - To promote “teaching responsible leadership”
 - Development of new interdisciplinary courses
 - 2 conferences, culminating in “Summer Institute”

Cross school collaborations

- 120 scholars and students take part
 - 32 presenters, thematically-linked sessions (100+ submissions for 24 accepted papers)
- From 60 colleges, 27 states
- 8 countries: Canada, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Mexico, Pakistan, Singapore, Turkey, U.S.

Themes

**Day
1**

Character Education

**Leadership Across the
Curriculum**

Democratic Leadership

**International Perspectives on
Leadership**

Day 2

**Personal Religion, Public
Leadership**

**Philosophical Foundations of
Leadership**

Women in Leadership

Diverse Inclusive Leadership



Challenges, going forward

■ Assessment

- Do institutions view leadership development as part of student engagement?
- How do we assess leadership development within the context of student engagement?

■ Resources

- Are institutions willing to make the investment necessary to create a strong LS program on campus?
- Are there outside funding opportunities (donors, foundations)?

■ T&P policies

- How are LS faculty viewed in the T&P process?
- How are LS practices (service-learning, consulting, course development) incorporated into T&P?