

a guide to  
**LEADERSHIP**  
and  
**INVOLVEMENT**  
opportunities

**UW-LA CROSSE**  
fall 2008



To: The UW-L Community,

The Leadership and Involvement Center serves as a "bridge" between students, faculty, staff, student organizations, and the La Crosse community. We're a great resource center for anyone looking to enhance their college experience through participation in campus and community activities, programs, and groups.

The Leadership and Involvement Center operates as a program of Student Activities & Centers at the University of Wisconsin - La Crosse. We seek to be active members of the university and surrounding community.

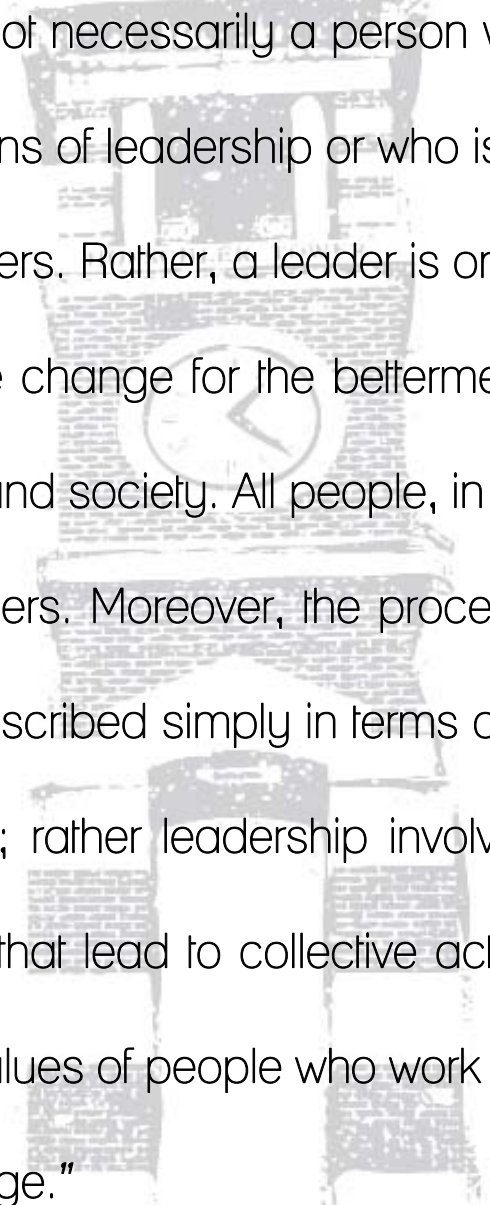
We put together this guide with the hope of increasing awareness of the many valuable leadership and involvement opportunities our campus offers. The benefits of getting involved in or around campus (especially in leadership capacities) are extremely rewarding: meeting new people, networking, cultivating lifelong skills, resume building, gaining real-world experience, and just having fun!

Please keep in mind that this guide is in no way an exhaustive list of all leadership, involvement, and volunteer opportunities at UW-L and in the La Crosse community. Keep checking MyOrgs throughout the year to learn about further opportunities and join any and all student organizations that appeal to you – the best way to learn about these many opportunities is to get involved early and take an active role! If you would like more information or some help determining what you would be interested in doing, please feel free to visit the Leadership and Involvement Center in 221 Cartwright Center or by e-mailing us at [involvement@uwlax.edu](mailto:involvement@uwlax.edu). Megan and I are here to help you learn more about UW-L and everything the campus has to offer you – we look forward to seeing you!

Cheers,

Ellie Ahmann and Megan Buhrandt  
Leadership and Involvement Center Graduate Assistants

# LEADERSHIP DEFINED:

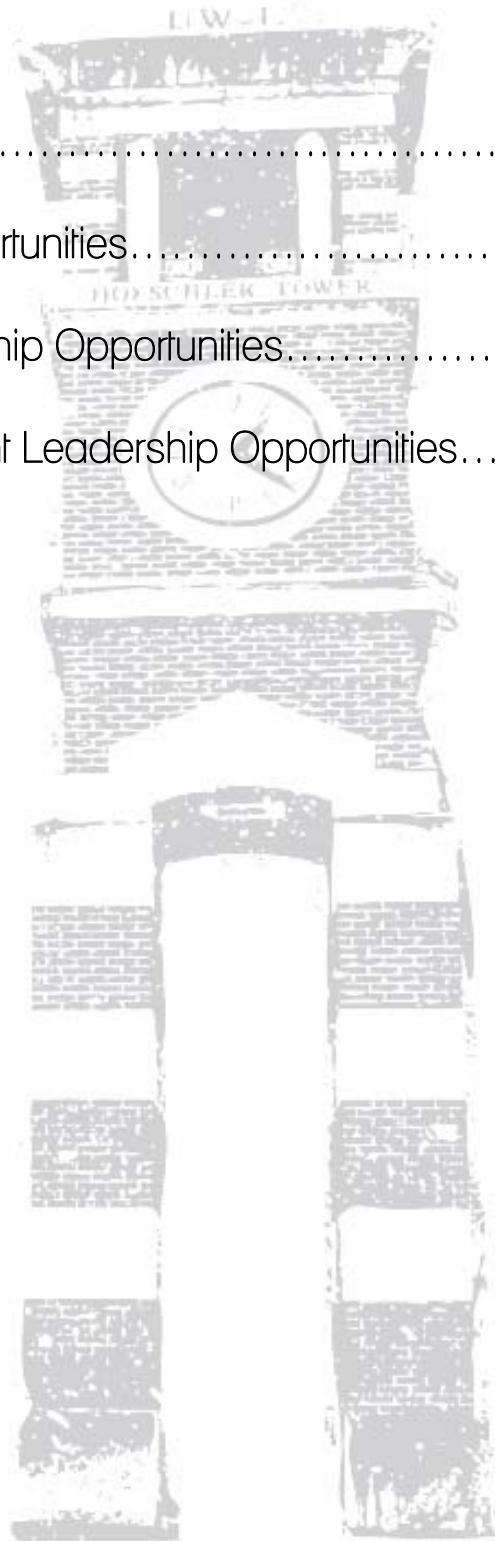


“A leader is not necessarily a person who holds some formal positions of leadership or who is perceived as a leader by others. Rather, a leader is one who is able to affect positive change for the betterment of others, the community, and society. All people, in other words, are potential leaders. Moreover, the process of leadership cannot be described simply in terms of the behavior of the individual; rather leadership involves collaborative relationships that lead to collective action grounded in the shared values of people who work together to affect positive change.”

*–Higher Education Research Institute*

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# UW-L MYORGS

In mid-September, UW-L debuted MyOrgs, a new way for students to learn more about campus organizations and events. MyOrgs is a very useful tool for creating a detailed co-curricular transcript of your involvement and leadership activities; it is also a helpful information system for students looking for more information about specific campus groups. All registered UW-L student organizations are included on MyOrgs and are listed both alphabetically and categorically, so if you're not aware of all the involvement and leadership opportunities at UW-L, MyOrgs is a great place to start!

To Access MyOrgs:

Go to <http://uwlmyorgs.collegiatelink.net>

-OR-

Access the site from the University Centers homepage  
and click on UWL MYORGS, located on the left.

To create an Account:

Enter name and working campus e-mail  
Login info will be e-mailed to the account you registered with  
Login: use your username (e-mail address) and password

# LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

## Eagle Roundtable

Student leaders are given the opportunity to dialogue with the Chancellor on a variety of issues of concern to students. Call 785-8888 for more information (held once per semester).

## Etiquette Dinner

A diploma and resume aren't the only things you need to be successful after graduation. Proper manners and etiquette are essential skills in today's competitive professional environment. Get a leg up on your competition by attending the Fall Etiquette Dinner Wednesday, Oct. 15, at the Cleary Alumni & Friends Center. Nationally-known speaker Maria Everding will provide dining and business etiquette during a four-course meal. The event begins at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are available for \$10 at the Cleary Alumni & Friends Center. The program fills quickly, so register early. For more information and to register, contact the Alumni Association at 785-8494. Held once per semester

## Hall Councils

Each of the 11 residence halls has a hall council that creates programs and activities for the students of that hall. Hall councils also serve as governing bodies within each community. Everyone is welcome to attend! For more information, visit:

[www.uwlax.edu/reslife/reshalls.html](http://www.uwlax.edu/reslife/reshalls.html)

## Involvement Fest

Come check out Involvement Fest to get information and meet over 80 different on-campus organizations and community agencies. Find out which one(s) is right for you. Involvement Fest is held twice per year—don't miss the next one, Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

## On-Campus Jobs

Having an on-campus job is an excellent way to interact directly with faculty, students, gain valuable work and time management skills, and make some extra cash. Part-time job fairs are held twice per year: at the beginning of the fall and spring semesters. You can also find information about on-campus jobs at <http://www.uwlax.edu/finaid/studenthelp.html>. Apply for on-campus jobs as soon as possible since it can be very competitive at times. You can also go directly to different campus departments to inquire about openings.

## Student Alumni Ambassadors

Student Alumni Ambassadors (SAA) is an organization that builds bridges between UW-L students and alumni through events and programs. They meet every other Tuesday evening at 8pm during the school year at the Cleary Alumni and Friends Center. Email [ambassadors@uwlax.edu](mailto:ambassadors@uwlax.edu) or call 608-785-8494.

## Student Association

The UW-L Student Association is the student governance body at UW-L, with offices located on the mezzanine in Room 235, Cartwright Center. Each student enrolled at the university is a member of the Student Association. Executives and senators are elected by the student body each year. The Student Association gives official recognition and funding to campus organizations, allocates segregated fee money, brings forth student issues to the administration, and is the official voice of the students at UW-L. The Student Association Committees are: Apportionment, Student Organizations, Athletics, Cultural Affairs, Student Services and Buildings, Legislative Affairs, Academic Affairs, Student Technology Fee, and Student Diversity. Visit the Student Association office (235 Cartwright Center) to learn how to get involved.

## Vanguards

Vanguard is a volunteer student public relations organization that represents the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse student body during campus tours, Campus Close-up programs, college fairs, high school visits, and freshmen registration. The primary responsibility of the Vanguard organization is to promote UW-La Crosse to prospective students. Contact the Admissions office to find out more.

# DIVERSITY LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

## ALLY Training

An ally is a member of the dominant social group who takes a stand against social injustice directed at a target group(s) - for examples, white people who speak out against racism, or heterosexual individuals who speak out against heterosexism and homophobia. An ally works to be an agent of social change rather than an agent of oppression. If you would like to become an ally, please contact [PrideCenter@uwlax.edu](mailto:PrideCenter@uwlax.edu) for more information.

## Art Gallery Displays

The gallery displays works by student, faculty, regional and nationally-known artists in all areas of art. In conjunction with the gallery program, the Art Department presents a visiting artist series of lectures, demonstrations and workshops. Gallery director John Ready and a staff of student workers manage gallery operations. The gallery is on the first floor of the Center for the Arts.

## Awareness Through Performance

Awareness through Performance is a production created by students that brings together both upbeat and serious scenes which encourage audience members to acknowledge the dignity and worth of all people. Through creative and artistic messages, the audience is provided with the tools necessary to further engage in dialogue and take action to educate others about the topics discussed. For more information about Awareness through Performance, please contact the Research & Resource Center for Campus Climate at (608) 785-5092 or visit our website at [www.uwlax.edu/campusclimate](http://www.uwlax.edu/campusclimate).

## International Banquet

The 43<sup>rd</sup> International Banquet will be held April 4<sup>th</sup> in Valhalla, Cartwright Center. Organized by the International Student Organization (ISO), the evening provides a rare opportunity to taste delicious foods from countries all over the world, prepared by the

students themselves. Traditional foreign dancing, music and entertainment are also presented by the students. Get your tickets early, this event always sells out.

## Lectures

Visit the Campus Activities Board (CAB) website at [www.uwlax.edu/cab](http://www.uwlax.edu/cab) for a complete listing of cultural, educational and entertaining lectures for UW-La Crosse students, community, faculty and staff.

## White Privilege Conference

Contrary to its name, the conference engages discussion in areas of privilege beyond color. Additional areas of privilege include gender, sexual identity, economical status and religion. Sponsored by the Office of Residence Life, Multicultural Student Services and Student Association.

\*Be sure to check out a full listing of the many diversity organizations on campus, which offer numerous involvement and leadership opportunities including: the LASO Fiesta, Pow Wow, Drag Show, the American Multicultural Leadership Conference and others. Got to: <http://www.uwlax.edu/mss/> or <http://www.uwlax.edu/campusclimate/documents/PDFs/diversitycalendar.pdf> to view a calendar of events which is updated weekly.

# CIVIC ENGAGEMENT LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

## 2009 J-Term Vietnam Trip

This January, gain an in-depth understanding of issues facing contemporary Vietnam. Civic engagement and culture are the themes of this extraordinary J-term study tour to Vietnam. You will experience Vietnam through visits to rural and urban areas, and by participating in volunteer experiences in a variety of locations/settings. In addition, you will explore historical and cultural sites. On the itinerary are visits to Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City as well as smaller communities. These cultural encounters are designed to help students better understand the complexities of the cultural, political, and economic issues facing Vietnam today. For more information regarding this trip, contact Kaye Schendel in University Centers or Karolyn Bald in Career Services.

## Alternative Spring Break

Looking for a way to travel, experience a new culture, and participate in civic engagement all at once? If so, Alternative Spring Break is one option for you. Each year, many UW-L students travel to Jamaica and spend time getting to know the residents while working on projects dedicated to improving community life, including working with adult literacy, painting projects, concrete work, and building playground equipment. Alternative Spring Break is currently in its third year of existence at UW-L. An informational meeting will be held October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 6pm in the Ward Room, Cartwright Center.

## Blood Drives

During the 2008-2009 school year, the Leadership and Involvement Center will be hosting 2 blood drives. Student volunteers are always needed, so if you are interested in being a part of such an important event, keep watching your e-mail for volunteer opportunities. And of course, everyone who is eligible and able to donate blood is encouraged to do so, as well.

## Community Agency Guide

The community agency guide is available to be downloaded for free at <http://www.uwlax.edu/uc/involvement/index.htm> and by clicking Community Agency Guide on the left. This guide, updated each year, is a great resource for students looking to get involved with the La Crosse community. If you are interested in learning about the “real world” applications of your major or just want to get to know more about what the city of La Crosse has to offer its residents, check out the guide!

## Golden Key International Honor Society

Golden Key is an academic honor society that recognizes UW-L students for their academic achievements. Members focus on community and campus service projects. Golden Key is also a great way to meet other motivated and dedicated students through social events. If Golden Key interests you, check out their website for further information at <http://www.uwlax.edu/goldenkey/>.

## Greek Life

UW-L’s fraternities and sororities offer social, leadership, and educational opportunities. All of the social Greek organizations have national affiliation and are involved in local and national philanthropic projects. Check out the Greek Life homepage for more information: [http://www.uwlax.edu/uc/SO\\_Guide/so\\_frat\\_sor.htm](http://www.uwlax.edu/uc/SO_Guide/so_frat_sor.htm) or learn more about the various chapters through MyOrgs.

## Helping Our Own: Campus Food Pantry

Helping Our Own was founded in an effort to ensure that students would not have to make the decision between eating lunch and paying for school. Helping Our Own is a confidential student service, but students must bring their school I.D. in order to verify their student status. The food pantry is located in the basement of Whitney, Room 60, and operates on donated food. This is a great resource for students who are struggling to pay the bills, and also for those who are looking to lend a helping hand. Hours vary, so if you are interested in utilizing these services or wish to volunteer for a few hours a week, please contact Ellie Ahmann at [Ahmann.elli@students.uwlax.edu](mailto:Ahmann.elli@students.uwlax.edu), by calling the Leadership and Involvement Center at 608-785-6600, or visiting 221 Cartwright Center.