



# Leadership Link

Center for Leadership Development  
The University of Tennessee

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## Special Points of Interest

- Book review of Leadership 101
- Information on the TeamVols office
- Igniting Your Leadership Potential
- Leadership Guide Applications



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## Emerging Leaders

Christina D. Neely, Emerging Leader Class, 2003

Emerging Leaders is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about leadership skills and how to apply them to different aspects of our lives. This class helps students gain a strong foundation for future success by participating in various activities while developing strong characteristics to make well-rounded students. This opportunity is not just for students who are involved; it is a great chance for students to get involved and to learn about their potential leadership abilities. It will also help students gain a true sense of pride at the University of Tennessee.

The Emerging Leader experience created a lasting impression of great leadership qualities, memorable experiences, and close friendships. As a freshman, I gained confidence in myself through meeting and working with other students who shared the same desire as me. Personally, this program has introduced me to so many new opportunities. During this class, we had the opportunity to participate in a Student Exchange program at the University of Kentucky and University of Louisville. This gave us the opportunity to interact with other student leaders and exchange ideas.



Our class had not done an activity outside of class until this trip. At some point throughout the trip, our class became inseparable. During this time, we discovered so much about each other through interaction outside of the classroom. Today, we still have the same relationship as we did then. It is experiences, such as this, that enhances a student's college experience. I would encourage everyone to give yourself an opportunity that can make a difference in your college experience. The deadline for Emerging Leaders' application is November 12, 2003. You may apply online at <http://web.utk.edu/~leader> or pick up an application in the Center for Leadership Development, University Center 315F.

## Orientation Leader

Patrick Ladd, OL, 2002

As you've certainly noticed all around campus, those posters are up again for Orientation Leader Applications! Simply put, if you do 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 almost 4,000 new freshmen to campus, they also enjoy time away from campus doing many other things! The Orientation opportunity has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. I strongly encourage you to submit an application to 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 21.

## Book Review: Leadership 101

Tiffany J. Davis

Meetings. Class. Work. Is your schedule hectic and your time valuable? Does your busy life not leave much time to focus on growing as a leader? Well, best selling author and leadership expert John C. Maxwell offers a solution: Leadership 101. The development, traits, and impact of a leader are the cornerstones of this easy-to-read book that can be completed in one sitting.

Each one of us influences at least ten people in our lifetime. How will we use this influence? This point made in the book serves as a foundation of the importance of learning about leadership and thus growing as a leader. As student leaders it is easily conceivable that we will influence more than the

average of ten individuals. Leadership 101 discusses leading with trust, integrity, respect, vision, and discipline. Maxwell talks about how character counts in leadership and how to make your influence and leadership lasts.

As a student leader and an avid reader on leadership books, I found this book to be very insightful and valuable. Leadership 101 is inexpensive and its concise writing style proves to be a guide for the college student on the go who wants to unite, motivate, and influence others. Whether you are the president of an organization or a member, this book will prove beneficial as you unlock more of your leadership potential. Rating: A+

## The People in Your Neighborhood

Alexis Lombard, Strong Hall Director

The Department of University Housing's Diversity Education Committee will be sponsoring "The People in Your Neighborhood" from Wednesday, November 5 to Friday, November 7 in the 13 on-campus residence halls and Laurel Apartments. The goal of the event is to raise residents' awareness of diversity by exploring topics and issues that affect individuals in our communities.

Each residence life staff will be creating a lobby display in their respective hall that educates residents on a particular diversity-related topic/issue, such as gender stereotypes, hidden disabilities, race relations, sexual orientation, and freedom of expression. Residents will be encouraged to travel to each of the halls and Laurel Apartments so that they may learn about each topic/issue. As an incentive to participate, passports will be

made available for the event, and the residents who travel to the most halls in the "Neighborhood" will be entered into a prize drawing.

The Diversity Education Committee hopes that "The People in Your Neighborhood" will be a comfortable way for residents to learn about topics and issues that they may not have had an opportunity or desire to learn about in the past. In addition to broadening residents' horizons, the event will also support the Department of University Housing's mission to create a diverse community environment within the residence halls. Admission is free, and all are welcome.

For more information regarding "The People in Your Neighborhood", please contact Alexis Lombard at 974-4460 or [alombard@utk.edu](mailto:alombard@utk.edu).



## Team Vols

Tiffany Davis, Alternative Fall Break Leader 2003

"Community service may seem like grueling unpaid work, with the only benefit being the warm fuzzy that comes from giving back to the community. But service projects offer your group or organization a myriad of benefits beyond the philanthropic aspect. Volunteers can build relationships, receive awards and scholarships, enhance their resumes, create social unity, and even make career and life-long decisions. ...Community service shows commitment, involvement, and a wider range of knowledge." – Student Leader (Fall 2002)

Winston Churchill once said, "We make a living by what

we get, we make a life by what we give." Leadership is serving—plain and simple. As a student leader, it is our responsibility to give back to the campus community but also to the Knoxville community as well. What better way to do this than incorporating community service into your organization or team?

The TeamVOLS office, located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the University Center, is an excellent place to begin. With 15 programs ranging from Animal Outreach and Literacy to Boys and Girls Club and Hunger and Homelessness, TeamVOLS strives to provide opportunities for students to be actively involved in community service and outreach. We can help your organization get started and serve as liaisons to community agencies. Just stop by or call (974-8481) any time!



Lori Jones, Leadership Guide 2003

Leadership Guides (LG) is a team of students who serve in the capacity of peer trainers, based out of the Center for Leadership Development located on the third floor of the University Center. The student group serves university student organizations as well as community groups. LGs are available to help any student organization learn more about teamwork, communication, time management, and motivation, just to name a few.

The Leadership Guides are also helpful with organizations that are in the process of changing leadership, providing transition between new and old officers. "We can help them prepare notebooks and make sure the valuable information and experiences learned are passed down from one group of leaders to another," says Amy Ibach, graduate student advisor to

This team of students will prepare programming especially tailored to your organizational needs. Campus organizations are great places to utilize the assistance of the Leadership Guides. Ibach adds, "there is a constant need to keep members motivated, and we can help with that."

For more information, visit the website (<http://web.utk.edu/~leader>), or contact the Leadership Guides about programming for your chapter at 974-2313 or [leader@utk.edu](mailto:leader@utk.edu).

Also, check out the *Orange Pages* online, a directory of information from media relations information to t-shirt and food vendors for your next event.



## Black Cultural Programming Committee

Ryan Robertson, BCPC Chair, 2003

The ability to understand and communicate effectively with people from diverse cultures and backgrounds stands as an extremely important aspect of leadership as our world is becoming more globally interdependent. Diversity is particularly significant for the University of Tennessee, an institution whose student body represents many different races, cultures, and life experiences. The Black Cultural Programming Committee (BCPC) is one of several campus organizations that strives to enhance diversity and foster an atmosphere of unity on UT's campus. Through quality programs designed to increase the awareness of African-American culture and its accomplishments, BCPC has planned various programs for the remainder of the semester that are open to any students, staff, faculty, or members of the Knoxville community.

As student leaders on campus, it is important that we each strive to promote, encourage, and embrace the diversity that is present on our campus. Please join the Black Cultural Programming Committee as it commits to presenting quality programs to increase African-American cultural awareness! We look forward to seeing you at these programs! To view the BCPC site go to <http://web.utk.edu/~bcpc/>

- The Annual Homecoming Activities, including the Comedy Show, Tailgate Celebration, and 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Southeastern Stompfest will take place on the weekend of October 31<sup>st</sup> through November 1<sup>st</sup>. The Stompfest will feature teams from around the Southeast showcasing their stepping abilities, an art form that has roots in African tribes and is prevalent in both African and African-American cultures.
- The African Philharmonic Orchestra will be performing on November 8, 2003. This group will combine a wide array of music genres that are popular among the Black community.
- The final program of the semester is a lecture to be given by E. Lynn Harris, a contemporary African-American best-selling author. This program will take place on November 17, 2003.



# Ignite

**Katrina Miller, Ignite Team Leader**

Think back to the summer before your freshman year and that first semester here at UT. Were you nervous, excited, anxious? A little of all three? Each year we have hundreds of freshman enter with those same emotions and apprehensions and one program on campus strives to help them through this momentous transition and get them attached to the University of Tennessee. This program is IGNITE, sponsored by the Center for Leadership Development.



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Ignite consists of two main events, the Ignite summit and Ignite teams. The Summit is held before classes even begin. Students, faculty, and administrators spend a weekend in early August at a camp. Students have the opportunity to interact with faculty, administration, and upperclassmen. Ignite participants had the opportunity to complete high and low ropes courses and learn valuable information about their life at UT. One student commented, "Where else will I have the opportunity to see our Associate Dean of Students J.J. Brown belly crawl in the dirt to get through the spider web?"

The second component of Ignite begins when school starts. The Ignite Teams meet for the first eight weeks of school and are led by upperclassmen who are chosen in the spring. The freshmen are placed on teams with 8-10 of their peers. Some activities that the teams have done this year are painting the rock, going out for dinner, and bowling. Ignite teams can have a huge impact on a freshman's life; they encourage involvement in the campus and community and may even have an influence on whether a freshman remains at the university for another semester or year.

As a team leader for the past two years, I cannot express how rewarding participation in this program has been. Being able to connect with freshman and having a positive influence on their college experience is one of the best things I have done as a student. If you are interested in becoming a team leader for next year, applications will be sent out in the spring. For more information about Ignite please visit the Center for Leadership Development's webpage at [web.utk.edu/~leader](http://web.utk.edu/~leader).

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## Dance Marathon 2K4

**Lori Jones, Executive Committee**

As students at The University of Tennessee, we are always looking for great ways to get involved with the campus and the community. Showing true Volunteer Spirit, students with Dance Marathon are going into the ninth year raising money for the Hematology and Oncology Endowment Fund at East Tennessee Children's Hospital. This fund aids children with cancer and other blood diseases.

The first Dance Marathon (DM) raised a respectable \$5,000 in 1996. With perseverance and persistence, DM has proven the power that a student run philanthropy can muster when those involved have a common purpose. The participants work not for themselves, but to enhance the lives of others. Proving dedication, last year DM raised over \$111,000!

Many activities occur throughout the 24-hour fundraiser. Local bands and DJs provide the soundtrack for the event while prizes are periodically passed out to the dancers through raffles and contests. Popular restaurants cater some of the meals, and our fabulous volunteers prepare the rest. There is a carnival, complete with blow up obstacle courses and other fun games where the kids from the hospital can

join the UT students in a good time.

All extravagancies aside, DM is more than one can see at a first glance. Yes, DM is about free food, games, prizes, and friends. Where we differ from a lot of campus organizations, though, is that our main emphasis is not on ourselves or our achievements, but on the kids.

These are no ordinary kids, either. These are brave children whose lives have been affected by devastating illnesses, and our mission is to support them monetarily as well as emotionally.

That's where we need your help. DM is continually in search of fresh ideas and new faces. GET INVOLVED. Besides participating as a dancer, many leadership opportunities are available. DM is run by an executive council averaging around 30 members. Many of the executive offices require committees to function, providing even more areas for involvement.

Contact the Dance Marathon Office at 974-3868, or visit our website at <http://web.utk.edu/~utdm> for more information and available applications.