Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other.

~ President John F. Kennedy

Student Leadership Programs

Governors State University
1 University Parkway
Room A2134
University Park, IL 60484

www.govst.edu/Leadership

Schedule at a Glance

Fall
- CEO Leadership Certificate Program
- Men’s Global Leadership Initiative
- SHERO Leadership Symposium

Spring
- Inclusive Leadership Conference
- Emerging Leaders Program
- Student Leadership Institute

Ongoing
- Principles of Peer Leadership (COUN1609)

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Leadership development is an essential student learning outcome of a comprehensive student experience at Governors State University.

Student Affairs educators at Governors State aspire to contribute to the mission of the University by challenging and inspiring students to be responsible citizens and leaders on-campus and in their communities. Among the formal programs supporting our focus on leadership development include:

Emerging Leaders Program for first-year students,
Student Leadership Institute for upper-class students,
Graduate Leadership Scholars and both the Men’s and Women’s Leadership Retreat.
CEO Leadership Certificate Program – Fall

The Certified Executive Officer (CEO) Leadership Certificate Program is designed to provide student leaders of clubs and organizations effective and essential leadership skills. Students will have the opportunity to develop and enhance a personal philosophy of leadership that includes comprehension of leadership theory and application. The CEO program develops leadership potential and self-efficacy in preparing today's students to lead. Student leaders will also explore leadership trends to foster learning and personal development through exploration of theories and practices.

Men's Global Leadership Initiative – Fall

The purpose of this summit will be to explore the variety, as well as the essential elements of what it means to be a man in a leadership role in the context of the Governors State University community. The intersection of male gender and leadership will allow us to explore such topics/skills as advocacy, coalition building, contemplative practice, communication, decision making, consensus building, diversity/inclusion and conflict management. The goal of the summit will be to develop a cohort and community of male leaders who will begin the work of developing knowledge of and trust among each other so that they can have a positive and enduring influence on the GSU campus community.

SHERO Leadership Symposium – Fall

The goal of Governors State University's Women's Leadership Symposium will be to inspire women to seek their highest level of personal and professional development. Participants will gain a greater understanding of their own approach to leadership and acquire new ideas to optimize and sustain one's potential. The program will provide perspectives and strategies in the areas of: personal development (such as health, financial maintenance, stress management, etc.), career development and advancement, and community engagement. The conference format will be a tribute to the arts that include a keynote speaker and breakout discussions to celebrate SHEROs and diversity. The conference is inclusive to all genders looking to support leadership. [S – Sharing, H – Herstory (of), E – Empowerment, R – Resilience (&), O – Opportunity]

Inclusive Leadership Conference – Spring

The Inclusive Leadership Conference is designed to create a culture of acceptance and celebrates differences among people, encouraging them to be free of misconceptions and prejudices. Participants will gain knowledge, skills and thought processes needed to create and nurturing environments that are rich with diverse views and people. The conference format includes an opening speaker, interactive workshops/breakout sessions and a keynote speaker. In addition there will be a designated time for the GSU student leaders to interact with the keynote in a training session designed specifically for student leaders; to enhance their leadership strategies and assist them in meeting their leadership goals.

Emerging Leaders Program – Spring

The Emerging Leaders Program immerses freshman and sophomores in a process of personal development that lays the foundation for the exploration of leadership at GSU. Students participate in workshops, activities, and discussions where they encounter various social issues, including but not limited to multiculturalism, diversity and gender roles, racism, sexism, and religious and socioeconomic issues.

Student Leadership Institute – Spring

Based on national best practices for leadership education, the Student Leadership Institute (SLI) is a distinctive co-curricular certificate program designed for students seeking leadership development opportunities that will contribute to their personal development and help achieve their leadership potential. Using Kouzes and Posner's nationally recognized Five Practices of Exemplary Student Leadership as a foundation, this innovative program consists of workshops that participants elect to attend based on their individual interests and leadership goals.

Principles of Peer Leadership (COUN1609) – Ongoing

This course provides an opportunity for the building of leadership skills through interactive and experiential activities so that students can become better equipped to pursue student leadership positions. Leadership skills developed in this course include professional communication tactics, conflict and crisis management, group facilitation, and micro-counseling skills. Students will also develop a working knowledge of campus resources.

For information on these leadership development opportunities, contact the Office of the Dean of Students, deanofstudents@govst.edu or visit www.govst.edu/studentaffairs.