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Director’s Note

What is a legacy? We at the Staley School of Leadership Studies have spent a lot of time thinking about this question and exploring the connection between legacy and leadership. As we reflect on the many ways we’re moving forward together—a few of which we invite you to read about in this edition of The Loop—we are inspired to think about what legacy means to us. Legacies can be large or small; they are imbedded within systems and cultures; they evolve based on contextual forces; and they have the power to inspire present action based on tomorrow’s promise.

Our annual Spirit of Leadership event will be themed around the idea of legacy, and in addition to celebrating the launch of the Snyder Leadership Legacy Fellows program and honoring this year’s Leader-in-Residence, Kevin Lockett, we will share more about our hopes for the legacy of the Staley School.

As many of you know, our mission—developing knowledgeable, ethical, caring, inclusive leaders for a diverse and changing world—is at the heart of everything we do as a School. And, at the core of our mission, you’ll find our legacy: you.

The leaders we develop through our minor and programs are the direct contribution we make to our world. This is why we’re asking you, the friends and graduates of the Staley School of Leadership Studies, to help us tell the story of our legacy by sharing your own. Please authentically convey the role of legacy in your life by taking a ‘selfie’ that represents where or how you hope to build your leadership legacy. Whether it’s a work in progress or something with a tangible object or outcome, snap a picture in a meaningful location or alongside a symbol of your legacy. We’d ask you to include a one-sentence caption that describes your photo, and email your Legacy Selfie to leadreps@k-state.edu. Feel free to get as creative as you’d like, but most importantly, we’d like to see your shining face as part of the legacy we’re building together.

K-State proud,

Mary Hale Tolar, Director

Save the date...

for the 5th annual

Spirit of Leadership

The Staley School of Leadership Studies invites you and your guest(s) to join us for this signature alumni and friends event.

Detailed invitation to follow by mail and email. Reserve group football tickets and hotel rooms (it’s Family Weekend!!) by September 1st at www.k-state.edu/leadership/events/spiritofleadership.
HONORING THE LEGACY

This January, the Staley School of Leadership Studies eagerly announced the Snyder Leadership Legacy Fellows program, a leadership development program in honor of K-State head football coach Bill Snyder. The program, guided by Coach Snyder’s 16 Goals for Success, strives to prepare students for the transition from college and for engagement as lifelong leaders.

Since the program was announced, much has happened. On May 27, the Snyder Leadership Legacy Fellows program kicked off with a two-day event, during which 37 students entering their final year at K-State were welcomed into the inaugural class of Snyder Fellows.

During the event, Fellows connected and worked with faculty members, business leaders, successful athletes, and scholars who helped them develop goals to advance their leadership abilities both personally and professionally. The Fellows also had the opportunity to engage in a leadership dialogue with Coach Snyder and Robert Shoop, Ph.D., Staley School co-founder and author of *Leadership Lessons from Bill Snyder*, the book that serves as the guiding curriculum for the program.

The students will reconvene in September, where they will continue their learning and be recognized for their work and leadership at our annual Spirit of Leadership event on Friday, September 18, and at the home football game against Louisiana Tech on Saturday, September 19. For more information about these events contact Marcia Hornung at hornung@k-state.edu.

“Learning more about Coach Snyder and the impact he has had on the K-State community through his 16 Goals for Success has been so inspiring. I can’t wait to see what’s in store for my peers and me throughout the rest of the year.”

- Ryan Haxton, Snyder Fellow
Our inaugural class of Snyder Fellows met for the first time in May at the K-State Honors House. Fellows spent their first afternoon together at Bramlage Coliseum, where they learned more about Coach Snyder’s leadership legacy and the goals of the program. Throughout the two days of the first gathering, the Snyder Fellows were asked to pick a goal from Coach Snyder’s 16 Goals for Success that they most wanted to improve upon and take a photo to represent it. The Fellows interacted with Coach Snyder during a “Fireside Chat” and Q&A session at the end of the first day. The Fellows kicked off the second day of the event with a 6 AM workout with members of the K-State football team. Former K-State football player Kevin Lockett spoke to the Fellows about commitment and responsibility. The Snyder Fellows ended the two days with a group huddle and plans for continuing their leadership development throughout the rest of the year-long program.
Staley School recognizes outstanding individuals at Celebrating Service and Leadership.

Each year at Celebrating Service and Leadership, the Staley School strives to recognize and honor individuals who have demonstrated exceptional service, leadership, and civic engagement at K-State, in the Manhattan community, and beyond. The biggest honor of the night, the Susan M. Scott Community Leadership Award, celebrates the legacy and work of the Staley School’s founding director, Susan M. Scott, Ph.D. Susan has demonstrated extraordinary leadership in the Manhattan community, a commitment to improving the lives of those around her, and has inspired countless others to do the same.

This year, we celebrated the work of an individual who exhibits each of these tenets with her passionate service and leadership in the Manhattan and Ogden communities: long-time friend of the Staley School, Diana Chapel.

“I am so honored to have the opportunity to celebrate Diana Chapel; she is someone who exercises leadership by mobilizing others to reach their full potential. Our leadership students have benefited from Diana’s commitment to service-learning and the Ogden community has welcomed our students into their annual Christmas and Easter celebrations,” said Mike Finnegan, Ph.D.

Diana has been a partner of the Staley School of Leadership Studies for years and is committed to being in the classroom with our students.

Diana has worked with several of our LEAD 405: Leadership in Practice classes to facilitate a partnership with Ogden community and help students think through meaningful service experiences to address community needs. Diana has also co-developed activities between the Staley School and the Ogden community with service-learning events such as the Christmas Story, the Easter “Eggravaganza,” and several additional community dinners.

Known for her tireless, community-focused work, Diana has made a lasting impact on her home community and beyond. For example, she was the first to offer space for AA meetings when a community member asked for help and also works to maximize food and clothing donations through the Friendship House of Hope. Diana also partners with K-State Wesley, the United Methodist campus ministry, to identify college students to assist with after school programs in Ogden.

Several students and campus partners were also recognized at the event for their leadership within the K-State and Manhattan communities through the presentation of the Pat J. Bosco Leadership Studies Outstanding Graduating Senior Award, the Nonprofit Leadership Outstanding Graduating Senior Award, and the Outstanding Civic Engagement Award. Among the community partners who were recognized for their outstanding service were: the Boys and Girls Club of Manhattan, Manhattan Habitat for Humanity, the Special Olympics, and Harvesters Community Food Network.

Diana Chapel (middle) receiving the Susan M. Scott Community Leadership Award, presented by Staley School faculty members Mike Finnegan, Ph.D. (left), and Mary Hale Tolar, Ed.D. (right).

Student award recipients (from left to right): Brady Armstrong, Pat J. Bosco Leadership Studies Outstanding Graduating Senior Award; Shandell Gallardo, Nonprofit Leadership Outstanding Graduating Senior Award; Daniel Ecklund, Outstanding Civic Engagement Award; Autumn Snerrud, Pat J. Bosco Leadership Studies Outstanding Graduating Senior Award; Kara Cavalli, Pat J. Bosco Leadership Studies Outstanding Graduating Senior Award; Tyler Bedell, Outstanding Civic Engagement Award.
Students enrolled in LEAD 350: Culture and Context in Leadership receive honorable mention for Kirmser Undergraduate Research Award.

Every semester, through LEAD 350: Culture and Context in Leadership, the Staley School challenges students to practice inclusive leadership through advocacy for social change. This spring, Leigh Fine, Ph.D., asked his students to think critically about issues impacting our community through a community-based action research project. The project required students to choose an issue related to culture, inclusion, or privilege, conduct research about the issue, and develop an action plan to address it. As a result of the outstanding scholarship they demonstrated in completion of this project, five students received an honorable mention for the Kirmser Undergraduate Research Award.

The group of students included Kayla Wilkinson, sophomore in biochemistry; Sara McAfee, sophomore in open option; Melanie Riordan, sophomore in apparel marketing; Kamaron Davis, sophomore in communication studies; Samuel Edwards, sophomore in public relations. Together, the team conducted research on the accessibility of K-State’s campus for physically disabled students, staff, and visitors.

“While working with our community partner, the Student Access Center (SAC), we discovered that there was no map of campus showing accessible routes and entrances. We decided to create such a map that the SAC and New Student Services would be able to utilize. In order to get reliable information, we analyzed several buildings looking for accessibility issues. We each completed ethnographies to get a first person point of view as well as interviews with K-State Students who deal with this every day,” explained the team.

The students received the honorable mention in the undergraduate group project category and were recognized during the Kirmser Research Award Reception on May 6, 2015.

“This group had a real passion for doing what they can to make our campus community as accessible and inclusive as possible. The Student Access Center hopes to use the group’s final project in their consultations with incoming students and on-campus construction stakeholders, which is incredible. This group exercised great inclusive leadership, showing passion, empathy, and a commitment to change – they used this project to do their part to make our campus a better place,” Fine said.

RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP

Students lead and succeed with K-State First and leadership studies.

The K-State First program and the Staley School of Leadership Studies have fostered a unique partnership through the formation of several Connecting Across Topics (CAT) Communities. The two programs share similar values and goals for students at K-State: focusing on high academic expectations, fostering collaboration and community, respecting a diverse range of people, and empowering students through a strong sense of personal responsibility and agency.

The Staley School and K-State First offer several CAT Communities in which LEAD 212: Introduction to Leadership Concepts plays a prominent role, including: First Scholars, Strengths, Leadership for Agricultural Advocacy, Not All Those Who Wander are Lost, and Spanish in Action. Two of these CAT Communities, Strengths and Not All Those Who Wander are Lost, include additional leadership classes that provide opportunities for students to learn more about their unique leadership styles and ways they can have a positive influence on their peers and the world around them.

In Not All Those Who Wander Are Lost: Leadership for a Globalizing Community, students explore what it means to be a “global citizen” by taking part in an international experience in Hong Kong as an opportunity for personal growth and development. The Strengths CAT Community focuses more on personal growth and development at a local level. The Strengths CAT Community is a residential learning community for first-generation, first-year students, that focuses on the importance of leadership and the links between students’ own strengths and the social world.

“The benefit of the Strengths CAT Community is the power for students to build themselves as a leader in their community using their strengths. This structured learning community is great because it works to do more than just identify the students’ strengths, it allows them to really dig deep and develop those strengths,” said assistant professor, Mike Finnegan, Ph.D.

The continued partnership between K-State First and the Staley School demonstrates a collaboration across the K-State community that is fostering student success and leadership development among first year students.
A word from our faculty: Improve… every day.

Just after the spring semester came to a close, the Staley School launched our newest leadership development program, Snyder Leadership Legacy Fellows. After spending much of our two days together working through Coach Snyder’s 16 Goals for Success, we asked each of the Fellows to take a picture with the goal that they most wanted to improve upon. The goal that resonated with me was just that – improve… every day.

As a faculty member at the Staley School, I am so fortunate to be surrounded by talented faculty, staff, and students who are committed to continuously improving ourselves and our work at the Staley School of Leadership Studies. Our students are engaged in our academic minor and other programs to develop their capacity as leaders. Meanwhile, our faculty members commit their time to a wide variety of research activities, professional development, and other opportunities to improve our teaching and scholarship, to ensure that we are equipped to provide meaningful development opportunities for our students.

As a result of our continuous improvement and work towards our collective goals, we are moving forward with many new academic and co-curricular programs to benefit current and future students. Some of those initiatives include our upcoming Leading Change Institute, new undergraduate and graduate programs, as well as many other new partnerships to better serve our students, our community, state, country, and ultimately, our world.

With various commitments for professional growth, I find that I sometimes neglect my goals for personal improvement on a daily basis. Our time with students and Coach Snyder in May was a great reminder for me to recommit to continuous self-improvement, in addition to my work professionally. For the Snyder Fellows themselves, their senior year in college is a crucial time to engage in this important work, but for the rest of us: there’s no time like the present when it comes to focusing on personal growth.

I would invite you to consider attending our annual Spirit of Leadership event, either in person or via Zoom, to learn more about all that is happening at the Staley School of Leadership Studies and our commitment to improving each day in fostering the development of knowledgeable, ethical, caring, inclusive leaders for a diverse and changing world.

So, how are things at the Staley School? We continue to improve every day.

- Marcia Hornung, Coordinator of Partnerships