

2022-2023 ACADEMIC SCHOOL YEAR

SLCE NEWSLETTER

The Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement



2022-23 Year Recap

This year, the Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement (SLCE) asked students:

“How will you make an impact?”

And students overwhelmingly responded with ideas for civic engagement events, suggestions for volunteer community partnerships, and requests for leadership development sessions. Together, we developed high impact programs that engaged students locally, nationally, and internationally. We're excited to showcase the important work that our students and staff have provided over the course of the 2022-2023 academic year.

In the following pages, you'll find summaries of service, civic engagement, and leadership events SLCE hosted. This newsletter is a compilation of our work, highlighting each program, and the NSU community that makes it all happen.

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2023
Congrats
Graduates!

Programs Offered by SLCE

The SLCE Office at Nova Southeastern University is committed to empowering students with leadership and service-based educational opportunities that promote critical and creative thinking to inspire action.

Civic Engagement & Service Initiatives



- Days and Weeknights of Service
- Sharks and Service
- Volunteer Fair
- ExEL Community Engagement
- All Fins In
- Individual Service Hours
- Support for RSO's and Greek Organizations
- Active Sharks Council
- Monthly Civic Engagement events and programs

Leadership Development & Programs



- Lead Week
- Emerging Leaders Experience (ELE)
- Disney Leadership Experience
- Tool Kit Series
- ExEL Leadership Development Pillar
- Leadership support for RSO's
- Razor's Edge Leadership
- President's 64

SLCE Theoretical Framework

Service + Civic Engagement

Due to the nature of the work, we believe citizenship is a spectrum. Therefore, we utilize the **Active Citizen Continuum** which describes four stages of personal development. As we learn more about social issues we move from simply being a member, unconcerned about societal issues toward becoming an active citizen who prioritizes the greater community in their values and life choices.

Leadership Models

SLCE utilizes the **Social Change Model (SCM)** of Leadership Development to approach leadership as a purposeful, collaborative, values-based process that results in positive social change. We also teach **Emotional Intelligence** as a way to be aware of oneself and those around us. Together, these models provide a framework that believes leadership is a process, not a position and is inclusively accessible to all people.

Leadership Programs



Razor's Edge Leadership Scholars Program

The Razor's Edge Leadership Scholars Program is a 4 year curricular and co-curricular program for First Time in College students entering Nova Southeastern University. Students are invited to put their skills into action and get involved on campus in progressive leadership roles as they matriculate through the university and the program

Over the course of the year, Razor's Edge Leadership students hosted 473 unique students and 874 total students to attend NSU community events and programs. These first-year and upper-class students have found ways to connect to campus through involvement fairs, cultural and diversity events, and even career development opportunities. By bringing students to these events, REL students are building meaningful relationships with students across campus that allow them to increase campus vibrancy and help students feel a sense of belonging at NSU.



President's 64

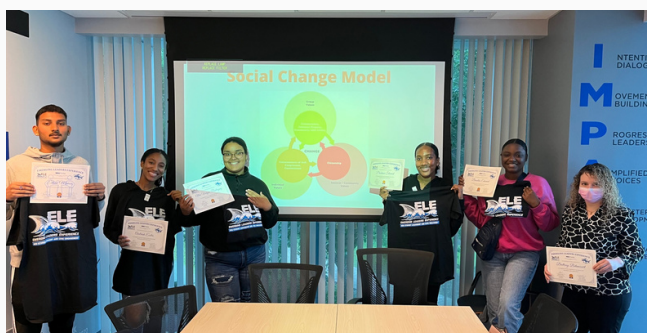
Established by NSU's 6th President, George L. Hanbury II, Ph.D., The President's 64 is an elite body of student leaders whose purpose is to strengthen the relationship between NSU and its community. This organization is comprised of 64 hand-selected undergraduate, graduate, and professional students who provide targeted feedback to the president, serve as student ambassadors, and representatives at University events.



Celebration of Excellence

On February 11, 2023, NSU hosted the Celebration of Excellence. This event served to honor community members for their contributions to the NSU and surrounding communities. In recognition of all that President's 64 does for the university, President Hanbury invited the entire P64 cohort to attend and participate in the event. P64 students enjoyed the full programming of the event, such as performances by the Shark Gold singing group and the presentation of Shark statues to the university's donors. The President's 64 members also met with a number of the event's guests that serve the community.

Leadership Development



Emerging Leaders Experience (ELE)

The Emerging Leaders Experience is a great opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students to grow and hone their skills as a leader. This semester we have incorporated the sessions where anyone is welcome to attend any session. In class we go over the Social Change Model, exploring different aspects that dive deeper towards a better understanding of yourself, other people in a teamwork and organization, and ultimately society in a cultural and impactful context. Sessions include interactive in class discussions and activities, integrating the learning material for further understanding. Commitment and completion of this course results in a graduation pin, certificate, and t-shirt! Sessions are held weekly, every Wednesday from 1:00-1:50 PM in Rosenthal 204 (Impact Zone). Please email Alex Peters at ap2733@nova.edu for more information or questions regarding ELE.

Tool Kit Series

SLCE hosts monthly leadership development sessions on “hard skills” or other important topics in leadership development and student organization management. Sessions have included developing trust in your organization, transitioning your RSO for the next year, successful event planning, and how to motivate those members of your organization that are not as engaged as you like. These sessions fulfill IOC requirements for funding and can provide innovative and novel approaches to your challenges as a leader of an RSO.

Titles of Tool Kit Series this Year:

- Communication: Hey, you! Are you listening?!
- Building Trust and Why it's Important
- Dead Weight
- Delegation: It Only Gets Done When I Do It
- Transition: Passing the Baton
- Emotional Intelligence: Bruh, Why Are You So Mad?
- Recognition: Real Recognizes Real



Annual Disney Imagination Campus Leadership Retreat



The Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement hosted the first Disney Imagination Campus Leadership Retreat from February 26 until March 1, 2023. NSU's 20 undergraduate student participants took part in two sessions "Leadership the Disney Way" and "Teamwork the Disney Way". Both morning trainings took place in Epcot and we were hosted by Disney Cast Members. Each session was interactive and challenged students to work in groups to solve problems and complete tasks. Sessions were hosted in Epcot and included team scavenger hunts, leadership and teamwork activities, and tours and discussions "backstage". One of the most memorable and informative sessions was led by a Disney Cast Member who shared her leadership journey at Disney reflecting a great deal on her relationships with her supervisors and co-workers. She explored how her success was supported by her managers' active engagement and advocacy for her to take on additional roles. This cast member was able to demonstrate how as a leader you should know your team and advocate for their success and place individuals in positions they either excelled in or provide development opportunities to assist in cast member growth.

Overall the retreat was a success and students were able to enjoy the Disney Theme Parks after each session included. Participants reported that the sessions were extremely informative and provided them with an approach to leadership that is employee and customer driven and based on group dynamics and individual member development. We look forward to hosting the 2nd Annual Disney Imagination Campus Leadership Retreat next spring break.

20 | LEAD 23 | WEEK

The Other Side of the Mirror: A Little Perspective Goes a Long Way

LEAD23 is a weeklong leadership event that offers various workshops and events that bring students together to learn about and engage in leadership and overall student development topics. New this year, Razor's Edge Leadership students planned and facilitated many of the leadership development sessions which focused on:

- Consciousness of Self and building self-awareness
- Consciousness of Others and crafting social awareness
- Consciousness of Context and understanding the world around us

NSU students, faculty, and offices across DOSA/COUS division were also encouraged to host a session for Lead Week. With over 150 people attending amazing programs hosted by our outstanding student leaders! All programs presented varied from informational to activity-based presentations, collaborating with different offices and clubs within NSU.

Collaborating with Student Services, the SLCE office was able to award the top three students that attended the most programs with declining balance ranging from \$100 to \$25! All presenters and nominated student leaders were able to be recognized and receive certificates and gifts from SLCE in appreciation of their hard work and dedication toward leadership in our annual Leadership Recognition Reception. The event was followed by our incredible Keynote Speaker, Ethan Butler, who presented us with great live music and a new way to reinvent the narratives that we have in our lives.

Be on the lookout for next year's Lead Week for more opportunities to lead, present, learn, and grow!

Ethan Butler

Keynote Speaker

ME. The Journey

A Journey of Self-Discovery



Selection of Session Titles

Manifesting Your Future

Perception vs. Truth

1 in 285: Living with Childhood Cancer

Self Care + Applying it to Others

Networking with NSU Alumni

Ice Cream Float
Don't Rock the Boat

Leading Others + Leadership Styles

Day of Service with SAVE LGBTQ

Bridging the Gap

Service: The Importance of Perspective

Music + Healing: Adaptive Approach to College



Civic Engagement Initiatives

Democracy only works when everyone participates. Student Leadership and Civic Engagement supports students in becoming Active Citizens by actively contributing to their communities. By becoming involved in student's local, national, and international communities, active citizens promote quality of life in both political and non-political initiatives. Active citizens develop themselves through a combination of awareness, skillsets, values, and motivation to work to make a difference in society.

Active Sharks Council



To assist the SLCE office in developing student centered programs, the SLCE office debuted the Active Shark Council (ASC), NSU's civic engagement programming board. The mission of the Council is to create and promote opportunities for students to become active citizens within the local and global communities. The Active Sharks Council's executive board is made up of 4 undergraduate and graduate students who want to bring change and education to the NSU community.

The council also hopes to be able to provide resources and opportunities for the NSU community to assist in real-time when local and global issues occur such as natural disasters. With this mission in mind, the Active Sharks Council plans and hosts monthly events that focus on social issues such as women's rights, healthcare, and poverty.

If you would like to join the Active Sharks Council, please email SLCE@nova.edu
Positions available next year include: Outreach Chair & Marketing Chair

Active Sharks Debut Event: Swap and Shop

The Council had its kick-off event, Swap 'N Shop on January 25th. This event focused on sustainability and the environmental issues that come from Fast Fashion. With every piece of clothing donated toward the event, students were given points that could be utilized to exchange their clothes with items displayed during the Swap 'N Shop. The leftover clothes are being donated to a local organization, the NSU Career Closet, and the next Swap 'N Shop! The Active Sharks Council would like to thank everyone who donated and participated in the Swap 'N Shop!



Civic Engagement Programs



Ice Cream Float and Don't Rock the Boat

Common's Residence Hall

Ice Cream Float and Don't Rock the Boat was an event that was hosted during Lead Week 2023. This event was a collaboration event between the office of Residence Life and the SLCE office. Within the event, we focused on and discussed how to have difficult conversations within different scenarios which involved roommate conflicts, peer-to-professor conflicts, and workplace conflicts.



AGLU: Ace the Midterm

University Center Spine

In an effort to assure NSU students were educated voters during the 2022 Midterm Election, SLCE offered "Ace the Midterm". This week-long opportunity provided students with voter resources such as handouts with ballot facts. We also collaborated with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) to educate community members on how to be a responsible and informed voter.



Can NSU get a bingo: Social Justice Edition

University Center Spine

In honor of Social Justice Day, the SLCE office hosted "Can NSU get a bingo: Social Justice Edition". This event focused on giving students the opportunity to be able to test their knowledge of Social Justice Terms such as Discrimination, Intersectionality, and more. This event was successful as the NSU Community was able to receive bingo during the duration of the event.



Book Banning in America

DeSantis Atrium

Campaigns to remove books from public schools and libraries are spreading quickly across the United States-- and are often targeting works written by and in support of LGBTQ+ communities, women, and people of color. Ignited by Divya Mullapudi, an undergraduate student, SLCE partnered with the Active Sharks Council and the Alvin Sherman Library to talk to NSU students about censorship.

Volunteer Programs:

One-time Volunteer Groups

Day of Service: 2-5-hour service project with a community partner, normally takes place once a month on a Saturday.

Night of Service: 2-3-hour service project with a community partner, normally takes place twice a month during a weekday or night.

All Fins In: Campus wide service event where at least 10 groups of 10-30 students engage in service projects in and around Broward County.

Weekend or Weeklong Projects with a Volunteer Group

Sharks and Service: A group of students, normally 10-15, go on local, national, and international service trips during scheduled breaks in the school year, such as Spring break.

This wholistic experience includes education, service, reflection, and group bonding while partnering with a community affiliate.

Continuous volunteering by Individual Students

Experiential Learning: Individual students receive credit for volunteering with a single organization for 40 or 80 hours

Volunteer Fair: Come to NSU to recruit students to volunteer with your organization! This year, we're planning on hosting a volunteer fair during Weeks of Welcome at the end of August 2022

Service Initiatives

Throughout the year SLCE works along with different community partners to provide NSU students the opportunity to engage in a day or night of service. Days and Nights of service vary; SLCE tries to provide students with a variety of service opportunities focused on different issues, so all students can engage in service experiences they identify with. The goal is to provide students with hands-on opportunities to become more involved and engaged in the NSU and Florida community.

Days of Service

Engaged in a beach cleanup

Marine Environmental Education Center (MEEC)



Assisted with games, arts, crafts and other festivities

Tradewinds Farm Annual Fall Festival



In honor of Veteran's Day, we assisted with entertainment, games, raffles, and resources at the event.

Veterans Family Day



Participated in a neighborhood cleanup

L.A. Lee YMCA MLK Day of Service



Canvased a neighborhood to discuss affordable housing

SAVE LGBTQ



Helped the organization with cleaning, organizing, and decorating.

Women in Distress

Engaged in pulling invasive plant species

Pineland Park



Nights of Service

Prepped and served their evening meal

Broward Partnership

Helped participants engage in bowling

Broward Parks and Recreation, Special Populations

Engaged middle school students in an immersive experience to practice math and problem solving skills

Junior Achievement

Collected toys for children experiencing homelessness

Miami Rescue Mission

Engaged Participated in enrichment activities with cats and dogs

Broward Animal Care

Assisted with prepping and serving their communal meal

Hope South Florida

Held leadership positions to execute the Broward Summer Olympics

Special Olympics



STUDENT & GREEK ORGS

Shout Out!

Shout out to the following Organizations Engaged in Service

Nature Club - This year, Nature Club decided to hold one massive service event with as many student organizations as they could. They had a trash cleanup at **Wolf Lake Park**, which due to its popularity means that a lot of trash tends to accumulate there. The turnout was fantastic. In total, over 14 NSU organizations were represented at the Wolf Lake Cleanup!

Pre-SLP Society - The Pre-SLP (Pre - speech-language pathologists) Society partnered with **Broward County Parks** to spend a Saturday morning partaking in direct service and philanthropy. The service event comprised of picking up any trash throughout the park or on trails and removing any other foreign materials that directly impacted the park or its environment.

Pakistani Student Association - The Pakistani Student Association partnered with **Project Downtown** in October to focus on 6 of the 17 UN sustainable development goals including Zero Hunger, No Poverty, and Reduced Inequalities.

Lambda Theta - Lamda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority Inc. partnered with the **American Foundation for Suicide Prevention** to help with their annual Broward County Out of the Darkness Walk. The walk raises community awareness about suicide prevention and volunteers helped set up and assisted in the check-in of participants as well as educating them about the beads that were being given out.

Phi Delta Theta - Phi Delta Theta co-hosted a service event with Sigma Delta Tau that focused on the Clean Water and Sanitation sustainable development goal as put forward by the United Nations. They partnered with **Dania Beach** to have a beach clean-up. This included picking up trash on the beach and the surrounding area.

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. - The fraternity partnered with **His Home Children's Home** which gave other Greek organizations the opportunity to come by Razor's Reef to gift-wrap donations that were collected during their 2-week toy drive. The toys were donated to the orphanage.



All Fins In!



All Fins In is the Ultimate Service experience for the NSU community and this year, we almost doubled our community partners, volunteers, and NSU leaders. We also invited alumni relations, regional campuses, and the University School to participate as well! During this second annual All Fins In event, we yielded just under 300 NSU students and staff, 50 alumni, 10 Uschool volunteers, and 2 regional campuses. This truly was "The Ultimate Service Project"!

Community Partners and Service Opportunities at All Fins In



4Kids
Assisted with gardening for foster families



Anne Kolb Nature Center
Participated in pulling invasive plants



Broward Animal Care
Engaged in enrichment activities



Broward Parks + Rec
Special Populations
Hosted a kickball game at NSU



Happi Farm
Helped with general tasks around the farm



In Jacobs Shoes
Cleaned shoes, the first step in making old pairs look like new



L.A. Lee YMCA
Canvassed the neighborhood with YMCA resources



Library + HandsOn Broward
Created capes for children to assist with early literacy



LifeNet4Families
Assisted in cleaning, painting, and organizing the facility



Marine Environmental Education Center (MEEC)
Engaged in a beach cleanup



NSU Community Garden
Learned about urban gardening and pulled invasive plants



Quiet Waters Park
Helped maintain bike trails and garden beds



Relay For Life
Wrote letters and decorated Illuminare bags



SAVE LGBTQ
Walked in the AIDS Walk 5-K and build awareness about the org



Sawgrass Nature Center
Pulled invasive plants and learned about native wildlife



Secret Woods Nature Center
Picked up trash along the river and pulled invasive plants



Shark Pantry
Sorted and organized the pantry inventory



Sharks and Service



Sharks and Service is NSU's Alternative Break Program that works to address social issues through collaborative community partnerships, meaningful service, transformative education, and reflective dialogue. SAS offers weekend and week-long trips locally, nationally, and internationally throughout the school year. Each SAS trip proves students with the opportunity to learn and serve with a different social issue and community.



Roles within SAS:

Participant: A participant is a NSU student who is interested in utilizing their academic breaks to make a difference in the world. They participate in the education, service, and reflection provided by the Site Leaders while being immersed into a new community and culture.



Site Leader: A Site Leader is a NSU student with previous service experience who plans a SAS trip with co-site leader. Together, they plan, facilitate, and guide a group of students through education sessions, service projects, reflection discussions, and bonding activities that address a particular social issue.



Advisor: The SAS Advisor is either a NSU graduate student or staff member who assists in all education, service, and reflection activities while overseeing the participants on the trip.



Together, these individuals support the SAS mission. For more information on how to become involved in SAS, please email the SLCE Assistant Director at an936@nova.edu



2022-2023 SAS Trips and Trainings

2022 Winter Break SAS Trip to New Orleans, LA

Social Issue: Disaster Relief and Flood Prevention

During winter break, a group of students touched down in New Orleans to participate in a service project. They worked with Youth Rebuilding New Orleans organization which started as a response to Hurricane Katrina. YRNO was founded with the focus of bringing together the youth of New Orleans to help rebuild houses and neighborhoods that were heavily impacted by the Category 5 hurricane of 2005. Years later, there are still houses that were never rebuilt so YRNO buys up the land and either renovates or builds the houses back. Students worked on two projects, the first was installing a French Drain and the second was assisting with finishing touches on a newly built house in the 5th ward.

The group also had the chance to experience the city and visited the state museum and the French Quarter. They had a lot of fun exploring, shopping, and of course, eating beignets.



2023 MLK Site Leader Training in Fort Lauderdale, FL

Social Issue: Equality for All

Site Leaders participated in a service and training program over Martine Luther King Weekend. Students learned tangible facilitation skills, engaged in reflection, and participated in service together throughout our local community.

Service Projects + Community Partners

- Assisted HandsOn Broward + Edison Park K-8 School in constructing an outdoor classroom, vegetable garden beds, and murals in the hallways.
- Received an introduction to the Poverello Center, Inc. which provides nutritious food, HIV services, and basic living essentials.
- Participated in a neighborhood cleanup with the L.A. Lee YMCA

Training Topics

- How to engage students in Reflection
- How to Facilitate the conversation and Navigate the group dynamic
- How to Plan the Social(s) for your trip

Cultural Immersion Activities / Socials

- Unmasking America + Hello I Am Kitty at the Pompano Beach Cultural Center
- The Big Mask Fest Festival apart of the Arts & Culture in the Gardens Series
- Sunny Side Up Market offering locally sourced fresh produce and artisanal goods
- King Holiday Multi-Cultural Festival



2022-2023 SAS Trips Continued

2023 Spring Break Trip to St. Louis, MO

Social Issue: Women's Rights and Women's Health

For spring break 2023, Sharks and Service (SAS) traveled to St. Louis, Missouri to explore the social issues of women's health and mental wellbeing. Our community partner, LifeWise, is a St. Louis based organization that supports all populations, ranging from babies to older adults. We learned about the medical and environmental disparities that exist and the medical history of the city, including how it currently has no public hospitals and all the black-run hospitals have shut down. The week also included a poverty simulation and intergroup monopoly where income disparities became abundantly clear.

Our service included restocking the market with low-cost food items and replenishing the bodega that provides toiletries and clothes at a reduced cost. We also got to participate in gardening to prepare for LifeWise's upcoming garden programs with students where they grow food. The week also included a health panel with local professionals in the fields of social work, asylum-seeker services, Planned Parenthood, and a local hospital NICU. It was enlightening to hear about their experiences and how health disparities appear in different populations. On the last day, everyone got to enjoy exploring the Arch, City Museum, and Science Center to get a taste of St. Louis culture!

2023 Summer Break Trip to Costa Rica

Social Issue: Community Development and Healthy Living

For our summer service trip, we are working with Cultural Connections & Volunteers (CCV) in the small rural community of Alajuela, Costa Rica. The community partner has partnered with the Slum community of Los Lagos to make a difference in this community through small construction projects.

The homes are typical slum homes built with whatever they can find: tin, cardboard, wood, etc. Therefore, this home encounters dirt floors and hijacked electricity, some have running water, and they must cook on open fires.

The participants will work to make improvements to local homes by building Indigenous-type stoves and flooring in homes. Currently, most of the homes have dirt floors covered with coffee bags, straw mats, or anything they can find to cover the dirt; kids who live in homes with dirt floors are exposed to fecal matter, worms, protozoa, and other parasites. This leads to diarrhea, anemia, malnutrition, dehydration, cognitive disorders, and developmental disabilities. Most families cook on open fires resulting in health issues such as early childhood pneumonia, emphysema, lung cancer, bronchitis, cardiovascular disease, and low birth weight. Reduced fuel consumption allows a family to spend their hard-earned money in a more sustainable way.



Stay Engaged with SLCE

The Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement strives to be recognized as the premier department that provides student centered leadership development and transformational service / civic engagement opportunities for all undergraduate and regional campus students. We do so by offering the programs presented in this newsletter along with tailored leadership and community engagement sessions.

Leadership Training on Demand

Any registered student organization, Greek Organization, office, or individual can request a leadership training, presentation, or meeting. These sessions can be tailorable to the needs of the requestor and focus on several topics such as:

- Effective communication
- Managing conflict
- Group motivation
- Organization transition
- Knowing your audience
- Accessing the strengths of your members

Contact Daren Capirchio for more information about leadership trainings at dc1014@nova.edu

Community Engagement Support

SLCE seeks to connect the NSU community with local, national, and international organizations who are making a positive difference. Whether you are looking for individual or group service opportunities, we would like to collaborate with you to assist in the following:

- Sharing our community partner list
- Together addressing social issues through service and civic engagement
- Engaging students in on going community service opportunities
- Understanding the importance of positive community impact

Contact Alisha Nelson for more information about community engagement support at an936@nova.edu

Experiential Education (ExEL Units)

SLCE offers several ways for students to earn ExEL Units to graduate:

1. Leadership Development through approved positions.
2. Leadership Development through individually approved leadership experiences.
3. Ongoing Community Engagement
4. Civic Engagement Scorecard
5. Sharks and Service

If you are interested in learning more, please visit our website at: www.nova.edu/studentleadership

Ways to Stay Engaged with SLCE

Nova Southeastern University
Rosenthal Student Center, 2nd Floor
3300S. University Drive
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33328

Main Office:

(954) 262-7195
slce@nova.edu

Hours of Operation:

Monday - Friday
8:30 am - 6:00 pm

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