Leap Into Leadership
Student Leadership Conference

9AM-9:15AM
Welcome
Dr. Eric Arneson, Vice President of Student Affairs

9:15AM-9:45AM
Leap Into Leadership Panel
Lindsay King, former Kennesaw State Student
Daniel Omuto, former Kennesaw State Student
Kaitlyn Bright, Miracle at Kennesaw State, Gamma Phi Beta
Morgan Mitchell, KAB, Delta Sigma Theta, Student Leadership and Service
Bailey Veeder, Student Government Association, Student Leadership and Service

10AM-10:50AM
Breakout Session 1

True to You: Understanding Personality and Group Dynamics
Dr. Tonya Baker McPherson, Director of Student Activities, Dept. of Student Activities
Brian Garsh, Assistant Director of Student Activities, Dept. of Student Activities
Session attendees will complete the True Colors Personality Assessment and participate in an activity to recognize their strengths and develop a greater appreciation of others.

Accountability, or “How Do I Get People to Pick Up Their Messes”?
Andrew Harvill, Jr. Director of Student Activities, Marietta Student Affairs
Being the person in charge is fraught with challenges: managing projects, crafting a vision, and leading meetings, to name a few. One of the biggest hurdles every leader will face is how to hold others accountable for the ways in which their action (or failure to act) negatively impacts the group. This session will take an in-depth look at what the accountability process looks like, starting with how a leader creates an accountability framework and ending with having difficult conversations.

Pursuing Vision and Achieving Goals
Aaron High, Senior Fitness Coordinator, Sports and Recreation
This session will teach emerging leaders how to create and accomplish a worthwhile vision through the use of effective planning and goal setting. Whether pursuing a personal, team, or organizational vision, the principles shared in this session can be applied to any aspect of life where pursuing vision and achieving goals matters.

Adventures in Community Engagement
Ryan Keesee, Assistant Director, Student Leadership and Service
Looking to switch up your regular day to day? Seeking new opportunities to gain new experiences and meet new people? Join us for adventures in community engagement to learn how easy it is to volunteer, engage, and explore exciting opportunities for service in your very own community!
Leading Through Conflict

*Dr. Thomas Yannuzzi, Executive Director, Student Leadership and Service*

Today’s highly volatile, complex, and often ambiguous organizational environments increase the potential for conflicts, and challenges our sense of connection and stability. Leadership in today’s organizations, then, depends on one’s ability to sustain respectful, trusting, and productive relationships in fundamentally uncertain, competitive and sometimes contentious contexts. This interactive session helps participants reframe how they think about and approach conflict situations, and reestablishes the role of conflict in developing and sustaining effective organizations. Participants will gain some specific tips on how to better manage conflict situations in order to more effectively lead others through challenging moments.

Breakout Session 2

Strategic Planning: Creating a Vision (and a Plan) for Your Organization

*Andrew Harvill, Jr. Director of Student Activities, Marietta Student Affairs*

Ever felt like you were a part of an organization that was stuck in a rut, as if in spite of all of the efforts of group members, little to nothing is getting done? Or, perhaps you’ve started to notice a decline in success despite sticking to what has worked in the past. Or maybe you’ve felt the tension between competing ideas for which direction the organization should invest its time and energy in. All of these issues and more can be directly addressed through effective strategic planning. This session will cover the benefits and process of strategic planning as well as the role of a leader in the strategic planning process.

Loud Sneeze: What’s Your Leadership Style?

*Regina Moore, MSCM Graduate Student Conflict Management, Peacebuilding, & Development*

Authentic, Transformational, Servant, or Laissez-faire. Sneeze reflects some components of our personality, character structure, and, just maybe, our leadership style. This session will help you identify your leadership style, when to adjust and adapt your style to accommodate situational tasks and working environments. Match your sneeze to your leadership style!

Intercultural Collaborations: Overcoming the Obstacles

*Aleksandra Ninova-Parris, Assistant Director, Cultural and Community Centers  Brandon Jackson, Associate Director, Cultural and Community Centers*

We often struggle in collaborating with people and entities who do not think the way we do. This, together with other obstacles, creates barriers to successful intercultural collaborations. This session will explore these obstacles and help attendees come up with the tools needed to overcome them so they can effectively and appropriately collaborate across cultures.

The Dog Poop Initiative.

*Christina Ujj, Associate Director of Residence Education, Housing and Residence Life*

Are you a pointer or a scooper? It is time for all leaders to learn to scoop more and point less! Come learn the life lesson about taking the initiative in your organization and in life. You do not need a title to be a leader. It is time to bring out the leader in everyone!
11AM-11:50AM  Turning the Table on Effective Communication: Listening to Help Others Express Themselves.  

Dr. Thomas Yannuzzi, Executive Director, Student Leadership and Service  
Effective communication is one of the most important skills for today’s leaders and is highly desired by employers. Unfortunately, communication training often focuses on how to speak and not how to help others speak. This session turns the tables and helps participants understand the importance and power of being an effective listener. Students will learn some specific communicative techniques to improve their ability to interact from a listener’s perspective.

12PM-1:45PM  Lunch with a Leader/Leadership Opportunity Fair  
12PM-12:30PM  Group 1 Lunch  
Leadership Room Student Center 205  
Group 2 Fair  
University Rooms  
12:30PM-1PM  Group 2 Lunch  
Leadership Room Student Center 205  
Group 1 Fair  
University Rooms  
1PM-1:45PM  Fair Continued  
University Rooms

2PM-2:50PM  Breakout Session 3  

What Would You Do?  
Judy Craven, Director of Leadership Development, Marietta Student Affairs  
Nicole Philips, Associate Director of Student Advocacy, Marietta Student Affairs  
Participate in this friendly competition to test your problem solving skills! Participants will play in a card game that identifies leadership situations that need strong solutions. You will select a leadership competency that solves the problem, consider other competencies that might work, and vote for the most appropriate leadership competency to use for each situation. From this experience, you will gain increased knowledge of leadership competencies, critical thinking, and engage in effective communication strategies.

“Bridging the Gap”: Teamwork and Collaborative Efforts  
Justice Hill, Kennesaw State Student Leader  
Destiny Clay, Kennesaw State Student Leaders  
This session is designed to promote both positive and healthy collaboration in order to reach a common goal. We will review techniques for effectively working in a team and discuss how leaders can communicate constructive feedback rather than criticism.

Crossing the Lines of Leadership  
Maya Parr, Kennesaw State Student Leader  
Doonya Mereby, Kennesaw State Student Leader  
Ta’Nyia Heard, Kennesaw State Student Leader  
Want to learn how to become a standout leader? Join us as we explore what makes everyone unique and how these traits are powerful aspects of leadership! In this session, a group of experienced student leaders will help you take your individuality and turn it into positive leadership.
3PM-3:50PM

**Breakout Session 4**

**Take Flight: The KSU Experience**

*Sean Brinkley Jr., Coordinator of Leadership Development Programs, Student Leadership and Service*

College is about more than going to class and getting the degree. In order for students to truly be successful and to distinguish themselves after graduation, they need to leap strategically into the entire college experience! Participants will evaluate their college career through 4 areas of focus (Involvement, Academics, Professional Development, and Personal Well-Being) and then identify tools that can further define or enhance their overall KSU experience to prepare for opportunities outside the collegiate environment.

**Sit Down, Shut Up, Stand Up, and Take It Back: Exploring the State of Student Advocacy in Higher Education**

*Kasie Gilbert, Kennesaw State University Student Leader*

In the last decade the embodiment of student advocacy on college campuses has fluctuated in very dramatic ways. However, the struggle existing for students lies in the challenge of understanding and developing identity and their place in our society. The loudest voice in higher education is that of the students! This session on Student Advocacy aims to expand on the responsibility of universities to encourage students to move beyond the fears and stigmas persistently undermining their ability to stand up and take back the power necessary to ensure growth is as prosperous as it can be. This session welcomes student participants to engage in an interactive activity applying their new knowledge of Student Advocacy.

**Being Your Better Self**

*Bailey Veeder, Kennesaw State University Student Leader*

Living a purposeful and satisfying life is the ultimate goal of most people. To get there, you must start by understanding who you are and how to push yourself forward in ways that align with your core values and utilize a support system of others. Participants attending this session will take part in an exploration into what values make you, you!

4PM-4:45PM

**Special Performance: Kennesaw Improv Society Stupid**

4:45PM-5PM

**Closing**