PEERFEST 2005 – CRUISING THE WORLD OF LEADERSHIP
OVERALL PROGRAM EVALUATION

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24TH
OPENING PROGRAM

The PeerFest check-in and dinner were well organized.
Disagree Agree

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I enjoyed the opening speakers, Steve Jarvi and Lee Williams.
Disagree Agree

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I felt that the interactive and teambuilding activity “Who Am I” assisted me with forming positive relationships with other peer educators.
Disagree Agree

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The interactive and teambuilding activity “On Deck” allowed me to learn more about my peer group.
Disagree Agree

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The Life Vest Leadership activity provided me with examples of how others developed leadership skills.
Disagree Agree

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Overall Comments/Suggestions
- Good PowerPoint beginning…captured many worldly places
- Too big of a group – didn’t work as well as it should have (both On Deck & Who Am I) because there were too many people & too much noise.
- It is very difficult to hear in Towers. I didn’t get much out of the opening speakers because I could not hear anything and was distracted my food. Another location would be better.
The program was an hour behind schedule. This hurt the overall effectiveness of the icebreaker activities and life vest decorating.

The program needs to be better organized and ON TIME to take into consideration the students in other training programs.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25TH
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

The keynote speaker Dr. Lucas was interesting and informative.

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I came away from this session with a better understanding of leadership and how to integrate techniques in my peer educator role.

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The speaker did a good job presenting the topic.

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Overall Comments/Suggestions

- I enjoyed the way that she spoke TO the students and audience, not AT us. She introduced very important and key ideas about leadership that helped me.
- Dr. Lucas was amazing but 60 minutes+ of anyone talking is unbearable. (too long was a common complaint)

DIMENSIONS OF LEADERSHIP – ROUND 1 – DEVELOPING A PERSONAL LEADERSHIP PLAN

I thought this activity was helpful and insightful with regards to learning more about myself and my peer educator group.

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Overall Comments/Suggestions
• I liked the fill out sheet and it worked well for getting to know our co-facilitators.
• The questions prompted deeper though into my own leadership skills, the worksheet was very helpful.
• The input from the group helped me to more clearly understand other people’s thoughts/drive/motivation on leadership.

DIMENSIONS OF LEADERSHIP – ROUND 2 – DISC

I learned a lot about my leadership and work style from this session.
Disagree Agree
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I have a better understanding of other’s leadership and work styles from this session.
Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5
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Overall Comments/Suggestions
• The DISC program was very interesting and insightful I learned all about the different ways people react to their environment—especially myself.
• I enjoyed this activity but I did not like that DISC focused on how a person is at work. Because we are students, our work is typically summer jobs, not careers and not necessarily what we want to be doing for the rest of our lives.
• DISC offered a refreshingly accurate portrayal of who I am and how I work, as well as how I interact with others.
• This was the highlight of the workshop.
• Great activity- gets everyone talking.

EVENING PROGRAM
I thought the closing dinner was well organized.

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I enjoyed hearing Dr. Taylor and Dr. Evanovich speak.

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I thought the closing activity was a great way to end the Peerfest conference.

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The “Cruising the World of Leadership” theme allowed everyone to participate and learn techniques that would help them in their peer educator role.

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Suggestions for Future Themes
- Be the best you can be
- Under the sea (symbiotic relationships)
- Leading the way into the future
- A safari theme or jungle theme.

Overall Comments/Suggestions
- Hand out pens in the padfolio.
- It was very well planned/ organized. I liked the theme because it made us see many different perspectives of leadership in culture and around the world.
- Wish everything was kept to schedule.
- Get rid of meal time speakers
- I thought the workshops were100 times better than last year.
- Don’t have opening/closing session and dinner in Towers dining hall because you can’t really hear in the back.
- Punctuality. Some people were distressed with running so late Wednesday night.
- It’s a long day and keeping speakers talking is annoying let us enjoy dinner with our new peer group.
OVERALL CONFERENCE

What did you hope to accomplish by attending this PeerFest conference?
- I came here to learn things about myself as well as others. In addition learn how to be the best mentor I could be.
- Gain knowledge of the skills necessary to being a successful leader.
- Learn my own strengths & weaknesses as a leader and now to overcome them and be a better, well-rounded leader.
- Meeting other peer educators – for better networking.
- Unity with all peer ed programs
- Learn more about my specific program.
- Gain more confidence being a leader.

What is one thing you learned?
- The majority of leadership happens spontaneously in our everyday lives. A person does not have to have a specific title or position to be considered a leader.
- Leadership is not innate but learned
- As leaders we sometimes tend to lead with our weaknesses rather than our strengths and in order to help others you must know yourself and your strengths.
- Different people have different profiles (DISC). Each one play a different role that can work together as a team.

What follow-up information would you like to receive?
- Statistics of how others felt about PeerFest 2005
- Maybe more info about other peer educating opportunities.
- Info on the next PeerFest.
- More ways to get started in leadership roles in the real world.
- Info on Microsoft Moviemaker.

Do you feel PeerFest should continue as an annual conference? Would you be interested in attending PeerFest again?
- Yes (& yes) - 51
- Yes, but less lecture=more peer work.
- Yes, if there was more focus on the workshops.
- I would not like to attend again. It was a busy schedule for 2 days. Moving in sooner would help. (said often- more days with a slower pace would be preferred)

Overall Comments/Suggestions for Improvement:
- We also should get pens. The padfolio was exciting
- Let us move in a day and then start the meetings. I was rushed, didn’t get to unpack, for a few days, and I didn’t get to spend much time with my parents, and now I won’t see them for three months (Out of state).
- Maybe lessen the amount of time at each workshop to an hour or even split the Peerfest into 3 days. Day 2 was a lot to take in one day. It was a very long day.
- Stick to the times better
- Not towers for speakers.
- Peers should lead more conferences, not all adults and keynote speakers.
- Job well done.

PEERFEST Workshop Evaluations

My suggestions for future PEERFEST workshops are…
- Cut down on time.
- Much longer time
• Possible follow-up
• Ones led by our peers
• More variety, less icebreakers
• Have only one workshop
• More workshops to learn about the other groups and what they do. (Sharing between groups) and then having a facilitator to lead the discussion where it will go.
• More fun interaction with each other, less structure/class like, candy/free stuff.
• Add more that have to do with being a mentor
• More discussions/group work to meet more people
• Focus more on ethics and values instead of leadership. There is more to discuss.
• Limit the number of people in a workshop to less than 25
• Let us move in the day before PEERFEST starts!
• Just to get away from cliché topics like ethics, values, and maybe expand a little
• To not go outside in the heat
• Really not sure how this workshop related to peer education
• Much better than last year!
• Have more down time
• 2 facilitators per workshop \( \rightarrow \) more interaction
• Keep Steven Jarvi’s workshop
• More career ones
• Make them different from previous years
• This group needs more participants!! Jose did a great job!!
• Express confidentiality, open group to discussion more
• More people per workshop
• Split the workshops over 2 days- by the end it was hard to pay attention
• No Power Point!
• Make descriptions longer and allow students to get into workshops they signed up for
• Don’t make them so late in the afternoon. I’m not gonna lie, I fell asleep.
• I think the Myers-Briggs test was 20x better than the DISC
• Stereotypes \( \rightarrow \) exploring aspects of it
• Do the TAG game because people become more comfortable with each other because they are all uncomfortable
• Stay on topic. This should have been called stress management. I liked the envelopes a lot. They will be helpful in Oct.
• More “peer work”, less emphasis on lectures by advisors. This is PEERFEST.
• More icebreaker workshops! I wanted that one!
• Speakers need to speak slowly and clearly, more interactive
• The overall experience last year was more upbeat, fun, and exciting
• Notes on each shop
• This was great (icebreakers), DISC was also very cool
• Everyone should have a Leo Lachut workshop