

## Contact information:

E: [brockleaders@gmail.com](mailto:brockleaders@gmail.com)

page: [facebook.com/brockleaders](https://facebook.com/brockleaders)

W: [brocku.ca/blcs](http://brocku.ca/blcs)

## BLCS reflection

By Rohan Kothari

As my undergraduate degree comes to close, I have spent a lot of time reflecting on my years in the Brock Leaders Citizenship Society (BLCS).



To be one of the co-founders of this prestigious society is a great honour. I took pride in establishing the society with Aaron House and some of my peers. Though we faced challenges along the way, the opportunities that have resulted through this society have been limitless.

In my role as president of BLCS in the past year, I have learned many important lessons and skills. For instance, leading a group of talented and motivated student leaders has taught me the value of a collaborative leadership style. Through organizing various community events, I have realized that leading through collaboration can foster leadership and creativity among the team while creating a positive atmosphere. I have been able to apply this leadership style in other aspects of my life and hope to apply it in my professional life as a doctor.

By being part of the BLCS, I have also benefited greatly from interactions with Brock faculty and staff. Through these networking opportunities, I have not only been recognized as a student leader on campus, but also been motivated to challenge myself to achieve more.

As I graduate from Brock and set foot into a new world of opportunities, I feel confident in my ability to compassionately and collaboratively lead those around me. My experiences in the BLCS have developed my character and taught me certain skills that I would not have gained through academic courses.

Thank you to the BLCS and Brock faculty and staff for an unforgettable four years.

## Looking Forward

### Opportunity with Pearson

By Jenn Nurse

This year, undergraduates who are passionate about learning, yearn to implement change, and care about helping other students achieve their potential were sought to become part of the Pearson Student Advisory Board program from August 2011 through June 2012. Pearson is an international media company with business in education, business information and consumer publishing. I am working within a group of 10 undergraduate students, eight from the United States and two from Canada, myself included. As a board member, I will be communicating directly with senior Pearson executives about college students' concerns and needs, working with editors and marketing managers to influence the direction of existing and future product models, developing and executing committee projects based on the board member's interests and strengths and attending the Pearson Student Leadership Summit in Boston.

## Upcoming events

### Meet and Greet

Sept. 6, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### Shinerama

Sept. 10, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### Alumni Social

Sept. 24, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

# The Brock Leaders Citizenship Society

## The Leaders' Link: Summer Edition

### Who we are

The Brock Leaders Citizenship Society is a group of exceptional students recognized for a combination of high academic achievement and personal leadership abilities. These students, prior to attending Brock University, have demonstrated academic excellence and have provided significant citizenship contribution to their community. Brock Leaders Citizenship Society members continue to achieve academic success while utilizing their past leadership abilities to continue to grow, motivate, organize, inspire and create opportunities for themselves, the University and the surrounding community.

### Amazing achievements

This year the Brock Leaders Citizenship Society welcomed 10 new members, increasing our membership to 24 active members. Surprisingly, our community involvement almost doubled. The average individual investment in volunteer initiatives increased from 78.6 hours to 93 hours in one year. However, the focus of the Brock Leaders is not about quantity, it is about quality.

The group hosts several initiatives to provide opportunities for its membership to complete their 40 required hours of community service. This year, members participated in the annual Shinerama campaign for Cystic Fibrosis Research, the annual Flora Broley Memorial Ball Hockey Tournament to fight Alzheimers, and for the first time, a Valentine's Day Prom for the Westpark Health Centre. These events allow our members to reach out as a group and showcase their leadership abilities.

The Shinerama campaign includes students from across the Brock community. The BLCS also aims to create events to fulfil needs within the local community that have not been met

by other groups. Our recent focus has been the elderly, as elderly, as St Catharines has one of the largest elderly communities in Canada.

Individually, the society's involvement includes children's liturgy, tutoring, Big Brothers Big Sisters and Boys and Girls Club initiatives, volunteering in local hospitals, athletic therapy, Best Buddies and a local autism spectrum disorder rehabilitation centre. Our members have also been involved within Brock with the Brock University Students' Union and other school groups. The society is extremely proud of its achievements. The highest involvement by an individual in the group was 238.5 hours this year. Of course, this is in addition to other requirements the members must fulfil, and other activities they may choose to take on.



## Year Two Highlights



Tessa Lofthouse, Stephanie Farmer, Mike Dier, Marjorie Mossman (administrator of West Park Health Centre), Jenn Nurse, Amanda Slamka and Jera Bortolussi.

### Valentine's Day Senior Prom

The upper-year members of BLCS started off 2011 with a bang. On Feb 12, they hosted the Senior Prom at West Park Health Centre in St. Catharines, with more than 80 guests in attendance. This initiative was first proposed by BLCS Vice-President Tessa Lofthouse, who claims that the idea came to be because “so many organizations focus on the needs of children and we wanted to make an impact in a community that currently has the ‘oldest’ average age in Ontario. Giving back to seniors allows us to appreciate the generation that brought us to this moment and prepares us for the kind of charity work that will become more and more necessary as the ‘baby boomers’ retire.” Due to months of preparation and organization by BLCS members, the night was a huge success. It began in the finely decorated, Valentine’s Day-themed dining hall at cocktail hour with hors d’oeuvres and pictures being taken of the guests. A beautiful meal was served with live musical entertainment. After dinner, the night came alive as the dance floor opened up and the guests let loose. Second-year member Amanda Slamka, who volunteers at the residence, stated, “not only did the residents appreciate our company and care, but it was an enjoyable experience for the Brock Leaders as well. This event has definitely been a highlight of my University experience.” It was a magical and memorable night for all who were in attendance.



BLCS member Mike Dier dancing with one of the residents of the West Park Health Centre.

### Another tournament, another success

The Brock Leaders Citizenship Society held the Second Annual Flora Broley Memorial Ball Hockey Tournament on March 12 and 13. Last year, the tournament consisted of 12 teams who raised a remarkable \$2,876 for the Alzheimer Society of Niagara. The goal this year was to increase the tournament size to 20 teams and ultimately raise more money and awareness for the worthwhile organization. The Brock Leaders worked year-round collecting sponsors and promoting the event in the Niagara region.



The volunteers who made it all happen.  
 Back row: Darren DiMarco, Brody Albers, Paul Nohara, Tyler Plyley, Stephanie Gumieniak, Kristina Wamboldt  
 Middle row: Charissa DiMarco, Taylor Jones, Katherine Borecky, Laura Broley, Alicia DeVries, Elizabeth Angotti, Alicia Mancuso  
 Front row: Collin Glavac, Hope Magnus

**"I know that if my grandmother was alive today, she would be very proud of what the BLCS has accomplished in her name."**

**-Laura Broley**

While cheering on the sidelines, fans and players enjoyed refreshments, food and activities. A crowd favourite was the Hardest Shot Challenge where, for a toonie, players competed to see who had the most powerful shot. The overall energy and efficiency of the tournament left everyone excited for next year.

All teams competed hard for the top spot and accompanying bragging rights. In the end, all of the glory went to the Cougar Hunters 2, leaving the Blackhawks in second place.

The tournament was a success thanks to numerous sponsors, players, spectators, and volunteers. Together we were able to reach our goal and raise an astounding \$5,210!



The final game: Blackhawks versus Cougar Hunters 2.

## Words with our members



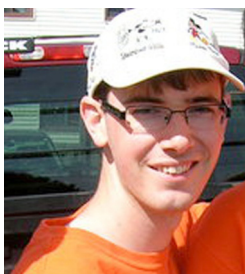
Hope Magnus  
 1st Year Linguistics

This year I've helped out with many initiatives, from Shinerama and a variety of random acts of kindness, to Shoebox inspection, operation Christmas child, and Big Brothers Big Sisters. Overall, the wide range of volunteering I've done has been really enriching.



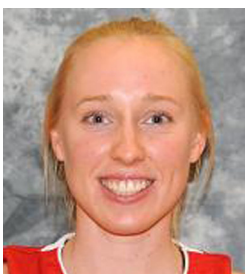
Jera Bortolussi  
 2nd Year Business

I am currently an in-school mentor through Big Brothers Big Sisters and I recently organized the sixth annual Brock Bowls for Kids. I am working with the Free the Children Action group for the second annual 5k Run and the 'Give Where you Live' event, which encourages Niagara's youth to engage in community involvement.



Adam Boettger  
 3rd Year Accounting

For the last academic year, I've been on a co-op work term at a local accounting firm: Crawford, Smith and Swallow Chartered Accountants. Just because I'm working full-time doesn't mean I've stopped being involved at Brock or in the BLCS. In March, I was a tour guide at our annual Open House and I am part of the planning committee for the 2011 Brock University Accounting Conference.



Brittany Vandyken  
 2nd Year Con-Ed, Phys-Ed

Being a varsity athlete on the women's basketball team and a member of the BLCS has given me many opportunities to give back to the community. In particular, I was involved with the IMPACT program at Brock this year, where varsity athletes mentor at-risk high school students through sports, games and activities.