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Words from our members



Alyssa Berardocco (1st year, Concurrent French/Education)

Transitioning from high school to university has been an adventure with some challenges, but fortunately the members of the BLCS have helped to make this transition fun and exciting. I have made many friends that have helped me to adjust to this new chapter of my life. Aside from the academics of university life, I enjoy being a member of clubs, most prominently, the BLCS. I look forward to volunteering at Brock and in the greater Niagara community. This semester, I am looking forward to participating in Trick or Eat, a food drive on Halloween night, as well as organizing the annual Ball Hockey Tournament with other first year members on BLCS. I am proud and grateful to be a student at Brock University as well as a member of BLCS and look forward to learning and growing as the year progresses.



Amanda Slamka (4th year, Health Sciences)

As I enter my 4th year at Brock and the BLCS, I have reflected on my path of when I first became a member of the Brock community and how I as an individual have evolved over the years. There is a sense of family and trust the BLCS provides students who would not normally receive this feeling unless they were a part of this group. We are all truly strong leaders who are passionate about making changes for the better. As the years go on, I've met more and more members of the BLCS and it's made me realize how many people wanted to make the same changes I did, but all in different ways. When we combine all these ideas together we have proven to be unstoppable, as seen in our numerous initiatives. The bonds I have made are not only temporary, but friendships and lessons I plan on continuing throughout my life.

The Brock Leaders Citizenship Society

The Leader's Link: Fall Kick-off

Who we are

BLCS 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 excellence in the Arts and/or Sciences and have contributed significant citizenship to their community.

While at Brock University, the BLCS members continue to achieve academic success, while utilizing their past leadership abilities to continue to grow, motivate, organize, inspire and create citizenship involvement opportunities for themselves, their members and the University and surrounding community as a whole.



Amanda Hendriks, 2nd year Kinesiology

Message from the President



Laura Broley, 4th year Computer Science

It is a great honour to take on the role of the President of the Brock Leaders Citizenship Society (BLCS) this year. The BLCS has certainly been one of the highlights of my undergraduate career thus far; it has always been the place where I can best share my ideas, spread my passions, grow as a person and make memories that will last a lifetime. I hope that during my time as President I will be able to give back to the BLCS as much as it has given me throughout the past three years.

A new school year means new members, fresh ideas and more exciting adventures for the BLCS. This year is already off to an amazing start with the addition of the diverse and talented group of 13 new members to the BLCS family, and our incredible contribution at the Shinerama event on September 8th. The excitement, dedication and cooperation that was demonstrated by the Brock Leaders at this special event hints at what an amazing year is yet to come for the group. Our first meeting was equally as inspiring, as several Brock Leaders proposed new events and causes to add to the group's initiative plan for 2012/13. I am looking forward to seeing what we will accomplish together over the coming months. With the strength of the executive and enthusiasm of the Society, anything is possible!

Brock Leaders Citizenship Society: Lead the Change!



First semester highlights

Shinerama

On September 8th, 2012 the BLCS raised \$2,800 this year at Shinerama, an annual fundraiser to help fund Cystic Fibrosis Research. Way to go, leaders!

Alumni Social

It was wonderful to see two of our founding members, Kaitlin Bynkoski and Assuntina Del Gobbo, meet the current members of the BLCS. It was a wonderful afternoon held on September 22nd at the Ball Hockey Athletic Centre in St. Catharines. A very big special thank-you goes out to Tyler Pyley who put together an amazing afternoon.

Student Leadership Summit

On Saturday, November 10th members of the BLCS took part in the Student Leadership Summit through the Student Life and Innovation Commons (SLIC). It was a great opportunity for the BLCS to continue to expand their Leadership skills even more.

Trick or Eat

The BLCS donned costumes and went door-to-door on October 31st asking for canned goods and other non-perishable food items for Community Care. The BLCS alone filled more than two barrels for this great cause.





Brittany Van Dyken, 3rd year, Concurrent Physical Education/Education

BLCS travelling and volunteering abroad

Mauryah Burattini is not the only member of the Brock Leaders Citizenship society to travel to Africa - Brittany Van Dyken also had the opportunity to experience volunteering in this country!

Brittany travelled to Cape Town, South Africa this past summer for two weeks in August. She worked with an organization called "African Impact" that provides multi-faceted relief to the surrounding area. "I was very interested in travelling abroad and giving back to the global community," She says. Cape Town and its surrounding area are rich in culture and beauty, but also with poverty and hunger. Brittany was involved in a number of programs, with a focus on children and creating healthy, happy, and safe learning and home environments for them. According to Brittany, her two favourite programs were the HOKISA HIV House, where she played with and taught children affected in some aspect by HIV/AIDS, and The Capricorn Feeding Project which fed breakfast to over one hundred children every day who otherwise would not eat. She would recommend this experience to anyone.



Adam Zoccoli, 1st year, Health Sciences

BLCS on a global scale

Adam and Olivia are going to volunteer in the Savusavu Medical Clinic in Fiji over the winter holiday break. It will be their second time going to volunteer. Savusavu is a region on one of the Fijian islands, including a town and many small surrounding villages.

Olivia and Adam are collecting medical supplies and eyeglasses to bring with them. The doctors in Savusavu have a difficult time getting the equipment and supplies they need - often they do not have the money, and many companies will not ship products to the island. Last year, Olivia collected over \$5,000 worth of equipment to bring to the clinic and hospital in the area. She also brought 1,000 pairs of eyeglasses. There are no eye clinics or places to buy glasses anywhere on this island, so many people live with limited eyesight. Cataracts are also a huge problem, preventing fishermen from working to provide for their families, so this year they will be trying to collect sunglasses as well as prescription glasses. Way to go, Olivia and Adam!



Olivia Hubert, 1st year Nursing