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Student Involvement: Finding the Missing Piece [brochure and streaming video]

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STUDENT INVOLVEMENT:

FINDING THE *MISSING* PIECE

BEING INVOLVED ON CAMPUS IS SO IMPORTANT!

Often, when people think about getting involved on a college campus, they think of student organizations/clubs. Your mind probably drifts to Chess Club, fraternities/sororities, and Pre-Law Club. While those organizations are ***GREAT***, there are so many other ways to get involved too!

“SO, WHY DOES BEING INVOLVED MATTER?”

Co-curricular experiences (those outside the classroom) and interactions with others can positively influence your leadership development, academic development, self-growth in problem solving and critical thinking, and cultural awareness. (Astin, 1993). Being involved may also help clarify your career goals and assist you in finding fields you might enjoy (Kuh, 1995). On top of that, students who are involved are also more likely to graduate. (Lovell, et al, 1998). Plus, being involved is ***FUN!***

“OKAY, COOL. SO HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?”

We’re so glad you asked! Check out the next page to learn more about some specific areas of involvement on your campus., You should reach out to your Student Activities/Student Life office to learn more or to ask questions. Even if they are not the right office, they’ll know with who to connect you!

CAMPUS MINISTRIES:

Leaving home can sometimes be overwhelming for students. Many struggle to find a place to worship if they've moved far from home. Campus ministries give you the opportunity to meet other students and share in fellowship with them. Services are often on campus too!

COLLEGE AMBASSADOR PROGRAMS:

If you love your major and want to tell others about your experiences in college, you can apply to become a college ambassador and represent your college at events on campus or in the community. This opportunity can help you develop your leadership skills and network with other students and faculty. Serving as an ambassador is a great resume builder and a way you can showcase your skills and involvement to future employers!

INTRAMURALS/FITNESS CLASSES:

Staying physically active while in college can help with overall health benefits and help reduce stress. It can also be a lot of fun and a great way to meet new people if you join an intramural team or attend the group fitness classes offered at the student recreation center. Choose a team with others who love the same sport you do or check out a class that offers something new you would like to try!

LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITIES:

Meeting friends and having a support system in college is important. Being part of a living learning community is a great way to develop relationships with other students that live in the same residence hall and take the same courses that you do. You will always have someone you know to study with or to hang out with on campus!

ON-CAMPUS STUDENT WORK:

Working on campus is great for a few reasons: offices will work with your school schedules because they understand the importance of your academics, you'll be on campus already for classes, and you can get the chance to know some valuable faculty/staff members who could serve as references to your character and work ethic in the future. Plus, a paycheck doesn't hurt!

PHILANTHROPY/SERVICE:

Donating your time and skills not only benefits the organization you're supporting but it also teaches you countless skills! Volunteer and service work is at the top of the list of desirable traits employers look for in employees.

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