

2020-2021 STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARDS

The 2020-21 First-Year Leader is Adelaide Armen!

Adelaide feels leadership, “is working in a way that maximizes potential and utilizes differences to be successful in a collective goal.” She knows that understanding the people you work with is important to properly motivate and inspire them. Adelaide has exemplified this idea through serving as a Political Science Rep on SGA, a Pioneer in Mosaics for First-Years, and a Student Representative on the Paideia Committee.

The 2020-21 Sophomore Leader is Coleen Roche!

Coleen sees leadership as community-building, facilitating solidarity within a community, and empowering all to advocate for themselves and their community. As a Mosaic Ambassador, Coleen focuses on community-building in the weekly program they lead, Mosaic Meetups. This focus on community creates a brave space where all can engage in crucial conversations. Not only does Coleen serve as a Mosaic Ambassador and Facilitator, they also serve as the New Member Educator for Kappa Delta Chi, and they co-founded and lead Educators for Equity, an organization for aspiring educators dedicated to social justice.

The 2020-21 Junior Leader is Anna Franklin!

Anna states that leadership cannot be boxed into a single definition, instead it has many components that come together such as engaging, learning, growing, bridge building, and listening. During her time at Southwestern, Anna has had the opportunity to expand and develop her leadership skills through positions as President of the Student Government Association, a Mosaic Ambassador, and the Alpha Delta Pi Director of Philanthropy. Anna was named the Emerging Leader of the year for 2019-20 and has most recently collaborated with the Health and Counseling Center on creating a new safe sex and healthy relationships seminar for students.

The 2020-21 Senior Leader is alex bell!

alex has learned that, “leadership is about listening to people’s needs and figuring out creative ways to respond to those needs.” alex has showcased their skills as a leader the last two years by coordinating and facilitating “The More You Know About Racism Panel.” alex continues to grow their leadership skills and has held, or is currently holding, the role of President in several student organizations, including EBONY, CDSJ, and Kappa Delta Chi. alex plans to use the leadership skills they’ve learned during their years at SU in their future role as an elementary school teacher.

The 2020-21 Organization Advisor of the Year is Laura Sewell!

In addition to serving as the advisor to the College Democrats, Laura Sewell has also emerged as an advisor to Pirates for Pride. In a challenging year unlike any other, Laura has been actively engaged in her growth as an advisor and has served as a strong advocate for her students. Her student-centered focus has made her not just an exceptional advisor to her organizations but also an asset to the greater Southwestern community.

2020-21 Award for Outstanding Student Contribution to Civic Engagement goes to Coleen Roche!

The Outstanding Student Contribution to Civic Engagement recognizes students who have demonstrated extraordinary civic engagement or community-engaged learning efforts while attending Southwestern University.

Coleen strongly exemplifies what it means to be a changemaker through their positive impact on their communities. In addition to working with several social justice organizations across campus, Coleen developed a solution to promote connections and community-building during COVID-19. They worked with Lisa Dela Cruz to develop a Mosaic meetup program for first-year students that connects them with important campus resources, creates community with one another, introduces them to the Georgetown community, and establishes a Southwestern identity.

The 2020-21 Organization of the Year is SU Exercise Is Medicine!

This year's Organization of the Year recipient goes to an organization committed to promoting physical, mental and emotional wellbeing among the Southwestern population. This student group has been awarded the Bronze-Level Recognition by the national Exercise Is Medicine organization for the past 3 years and has recently reapplied for this status. SU Exercise Is Medicine was awarded a University GREEN Grant to repurpose sit to stand desks to increase physical activity, relieve stress, and reduce low back pain across the campus. During the month of October they organized and implemented the STEP Into HEALTH Walking Challenge, and throughout the Fall semester group leaders engaged in Instagram takeovers which promoted healthy active behaviors such as workouts, meal ideas, and motivational posts. Currently, this student organization is collaborating with other SU community members to host a virtual 5k to help raise money for the Global Health Brigade.

The 2020-21 Emerging Leader is Eugenia Agobe!

An Emerging Leader is distinguished within their peer group as someone whose current leadership experience, philosophy, and outlook are likely to be integral as this individual continues to be a contributing and committed member of our Southwestern community.

First-Years and Sophomores were eligible to receive the distinction of being an outstanding Emerging Leader.

As a political science and history double major, Eugenia spends much of her time studying examples of leadership; however, her time at SU has allowed her to develop her own 21st-century style of leadership, perhaps best exemplified by a quote from political theorist Adrienne Maree Brown: “No one is special and everyone is needed.” Eugenia has been building those 21st-century skills by working in the Office of Diversity Education as the Peacebuilder Intern, holding the Campus Vote Project Democracy Fellowship in the Office of Community-Engaged Learning, and acting as the Membership Chair for Student Foundation. She is also a member of Alpha Chi Honor Society which is reserved for students in the top 10% of their class.

The 2020-21 Overall Leader is Mason Biggers!

An Overall Leader is distinguished within their peer group as someone whose time at Southwestern has been highlighted by their outstanding contributions to the university community. Their impact as a leader at Southwestern will not soon be forgotten.

Juniors and Seniors were eligible to receive the distinction of being an outstanding Overall Leader.

Mason believes that leadership is being able to inspire those around you to solve a problem and being willing to lead by example. He is currently the President of E.M.P.I.R.E. and is in the process of establishing a scholarship for African American students. Mason can also be found on the football field leading his teammates as Team Captain, and off the field, he serves as an I-CORPS Fellow. Most recently, Mason developed a new branding plan as part of his graduate school application, and it is now in the process of becoming the new logo for SU athletics.