Hello LC family,
I hope you are all warm and safe this chilly February!

I have been focusing on “SUPPORT” this month, and how we can support our students and each other. I took part in the WSU calling campaign last week, to reach out individually to students during Mental Health Week (MHW), and I discovered that NONE of the students I spoke with knew about MHW, and the programming being offered. Some of them seemed reluctant to take part in MHW events. If this a wide-held belief, we need to have conversations about the intention and purpose of our events, as well as, our messaging and how we are branding our events, activities, and methods of support.

LC Coordinators, let’s plan to talk about this at our February meeting, set for Thursday, February 25. Peer Mentors and students, I would love to hear from about your perceptions of our programming and support, and any ideas you have for additional opportunities.

I have seen so many occasions to give and receive support, from New Admitted Students Day, to Mental Health Week events at WSU, to new programs and initiatives, including the following from University Libraries.

"Researcher Personality" library quiz. Students complete about 10 questions, then get an email back with a list of library resources and services that matches their "researcher personality".

- Tell us your major, study habits and preferences, and we’ll send you a personalized profile to help guide you to the best resources and services to support your success at Wayne State! [https://rebrand.ly/researchpersonality](https://rebrand.ly/researchpersonality)

Let’s continue the conversations with students about their needs and challenges, and how they would like to receive support.
THANK YOU for all you are doing already!

-Amy Cooper
Manager of the Learning Community Program

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**Peer Mentor of the Month**

**Jessie Tomazic**

**LC: Warrior VIP**

**Class Rank:** Junior

**Major:** Public Health Honors and Honors Co-Major (plus a double minor in German and Biological Sciences)

**Extracurricular Activities:**
I play on the WSU Men’s Club Soccer team, I am a board member of the German Club, I am a member of the American Physician Scientist Association in Wayne's Chapter, and I am a part of research in the neurology department!

**How long have you been a peer mentor?**
Since September 2020

**Why do you like being a peer mentor?**
I enjoy being a peer mentor, because I get to help students navigate issues that I know they are facing. There is a certain empathy that brings about a greater understanding and drive to tackle issues and obstacles together.

**Is there any advice you would give to other peer mentors?**
Students need us now more than ever. I don't think there is anyone who needs explanation as to why, but I know for a fact that we as peer mentors can make all the difference in academic success and student retention.
February 2021

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**Save the Date!**

**Important Dates:**

2/25 – LC Coordinator Meeting, 3 pm
**Zoom Link** (Meeting ID: 974 7809 1399 Passcode: LC2021)

2/26 – Learning While Leading Conference, 10 am – 3 pm
**RSVP Link**

3/1-5 – **WSU Sleep Week**

3/15-19 – Spring Break

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**Learning While Leading**

For February, in lieu of our normal peer mentor professional development event, we encourage all Peer Mentors to participate in the Learning While Leading Conference on Friday, February 26th.

This is a great way to connect with other student leaders at Wayne State. The conference is free, and this year will be held virtually via Zoom. If you participate in this conference, you will earn hours toward your IPTPC certification, and this is a great way to earn several hours at once!

The conference runs from 10 am to 3 pm, with many different sessions and breaks, which you are welcome to pop in and out throughout the day as you are available.

Register for the conference here:
https://getinvolved.wayne.edu/event/6657562

More information on the conference (including a PDF of the schedule) can be found here: https://success.wayne.edu/lwl

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**Student Leader Blog**

The Peer Assisted Learning Program has started a blog called Student Leader Connections. It is a blog for and by student leaders at Wayne State. They are looking for more students interested in writing a post.

The blog includes topics related to the specific WSU experience (academics, research, volunteer work, professor features, campus involvement), but they are also open to more broad topics that may interest students - book recommendations/reviews, health and wellness topics, discussion of current events, etc.

Check out the **Student Leader Connections** blog here.