

## Campaign Priorities

**EXPAND OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS** to invest in their own success

**DEVELOP LEADERS AND ENTREPRENEURS** with character and compassion

**CREATE PLACES AND SPACES** that spur student achievement

**MEET CURRENT NEEDS** and fund future opportunities

# Leadership in focus

FOR RACHEL LEROY (15C), now a graduate student pursuing a master's degree in human computer interaction at Georgia Tech, focusing intentionally on leadership while at Berry was like seeing clearly for the first time.

"Those who remember their first pair of glasses will understand the giddy feeling of recognizing each blade of grass," she said. "The same is true for my experience in the Carper Mentoring Program. I realized that leadership isn't always obvious, but that it's both vital and fulfilling to wield it with grace and empathy."

LeRoy (pictured below at Georgia Tech) is one of a growing number of Berry graduates who gained something special thanks to opportunities offered through the Berry Center for Integrity in Leadership. It's not just that these

alumni left college with a strong sense of personal responsibility and experience leading others regardless of their field of study – that's nothing new at Berry. Ethical leadership has been part of the campus culture since Martha Berry first opened the Gate of Opportunity, and Berry graduates tend to be known for their strong work ethic, character and readiness for the challenges of life.

But what if we could take it a step further? What if we could proactively give students guided opportunities to learn, understand and practice the skills

needed for assuming the mantle of leadership with the grace and empathy described by LeRoy – and to share those skills with others? As leadership guru John C. Maxwell said, "A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way and shows the way."

Several BCIL programs are underway already. The Cecil B. Wright III Integrity in Leadership Lecture Series welcomed its inaugural speaker in February, and Aflac CEO Dan Amos is scheduled to speak this fall. The Carper Mentoring Program is entering its fourth year of matching Berry students with mentors from the business, nonprofit and volunteer-service communities. In that time, the program has grown to include some 20 mentors and 85 to 100 students. This April, six Berry students received Berry's new leadership certificate for completing the Carper Mentoring Program, taking at least two courses with an emphasis in ethics, and completing two writing and research assignments associated with a significant leadership experience. And in May, two faculty course-development grants were offered for the first time, with funding from the Ted Owens Faculty Development Fund.

Other opportunities to emphasize ethical leadership (see box) await funding in order to be realized. For more information or to help lead the way, go to [www.berry.edu/integrity](http://www.berry.edu/integrity) or contact Scott Breithaupt (91C, 96G), assistant vice president for campaign and leadership giving, at [sbreithaupt@berry.edu](mailto:sbreithaupt@berry.edu) or 706-238-5897.

### Integrity in Leadership initiatives on the drawing board include:

- Director for the BCIL
- Executives/Ethicists-in-Residence
- Faculty and Staff Leadership Academy (supported by the Kathy Brittain Richardson Faculty and Staff Leadership Fund)
- Student funds for off-campus leadership opportunities
- Additional funds supporting faculty efforts to develop new courses on ethical leadership or to integrate ethics into existing courses



## BCIL students are talking about ...

### Learning what it means to lead with integrity



ALAN STOREY

**Rick (Gilbert) has encouraged us to develop our own personal decision-making framework.** This allows us to make decisions that align ethically with who we are regardless of the situation. Personally, I think that I have been able to take a deeper look into myself and the person that I am/desire to be.

— CHASE SWAYZE, senior

Career goal: Country music artist manager

Mentor: Rick Gilbert (77c), entrepreneurial investor



LAUREN NEUMANN (16C)

**When we have BCIL meetings, we do role-playing scenarios** where we have to make decisions based on the factors given. These situations have really challenged me to think deeply about my understanding of ethics and values and how I apply them. Several of the scenarios are situations I have had to deal with at Berry, and others are ones that will prepare me for common situations in the workplace.

— RHOXIE ELLARD (16C)

Graduate student, international business  
University of South Carolina

Mentor: Buster Wright (73C), retired senior managing director, Southern regional president, Wells Fargo Advisors



ALAN STOREY

**While I have been lucky to be part of several leadership programs,** I have never been a part of one that focuses so much on situations that I may really face once I leave college. Going through case studies on women in the workplace with Beverly (Smith) has been a great experience for me, which has led me to challenge my ethical leadership beliefs in order to ensure that I can effectively be ready for whatever situation I face early in my career – especially as a woman.

— JESSICA GROSS, senior

Career goal: Investment analyst or product management manager for an asset management firm  
Mentor: Beverly Smith, CPA, partner at Whittington, Jones & Rudert LLC

### Their mentors

**My mentors were Anne Kaiser and Buster Wright.** ... Anne opened me up to a world of creativity and design and pushed me to think about the larger picture of business ethics. Buster encouraged me to look inside and do a thorough soul search, helping me to understand who I am and why, as well as what that means for my life moving forward and how I can use this identity as a catalyst for change and leadership. One helped me understand the larger landscape, the other helped me figure out where I fit within that picture."

— RACHEL LEROY (15C)

Graduate student, Georgia Tech

Mentors: Buster Wright and Anne Kaiser, vice president of community and economic development, Georgia Power



**Both of my mentors (Dr. Brad Bushnell and Dr. Missy Dilmon) have been phenomenal.**

With Dr. Dilmon, I learned more of the emotional side of medicine and how to deal with ethical issues that way. We also learned why it is important to have a strong ethical and moral basis when practicing medicine so that when you are faced with hard implications at work, you have a strong foundation to work from. With Dr. Bushnell, I learned more of the business side and the issues that go along with that. ... Dr. Bushnell pushed me outside of my comfort zone, and that has really grown me as a leader.

— AMANDA PRETEROTI (16C)

Career goal: Physician assistant

Mentors: Dr. Brad Bushnell, orthopedic surgeon, and Dr. Melissa Dilmon, hematologist and oncologist, both of the Harbin Clinic, Rome



ALAN STOREY