



"I do not agree with what you have to say, but I'll defend to the death your right to say it." - Voltaire

St. Andrews has Equipped Me for Significant Service and Leadership Lyndsey McCall

St. Andrews Presbyterian College is an important chapter in my faith journey, through service and leadership, I have felt God's presence within this community. A favorite quote of mine; "Service is nothing more than love in work clothes." Through my four years, I have experienced service from our students with disabilities, a Spring Break mission trip and my course in Christianity and Social Action.

As a St. Andrews student, service is a given. The disability services offered is something that I truly cherish on our campus. St. Andrews Presbyterian College is the first handicap accessible campus in the country, due to the accessibility, students with all types of mental and physical disabilities can attend our college with hopes of a successful future. They are educated and active members on our campus. My suitemate can quote the Bible better than I can, a student in a wheelchair is a leader of our Lions club and another student just got finished directing our school play. These students, my friends at St. Andrews, don't rely or expect these services, but as fellow St. Andrews students we give the helping hand because we learn here to treat each other with love and respect. As an able bodied student you learn to do the simple things for others like helping my suitemate open the door when she has forgotten her keys, taking the time to help create a Facebook account, write course notes, watching other students help feed their friends, arranging rides so they can go to church or getting something out of their book bag before class. The St. Andrews students and the care we give to our fellow classmates is a unique quality that makes our campus an even more special one.

My last Spring Break, I didn't spend in Florida, Mexico or any other typical Spring Break destinations. However, over the vacation, seventeen students and three staff advisors traveled to the Presbyterian church of the Pilgrims in Washington, DC to do mission work. During the week, we went to several different soup kitchens, working to prepare and serve meals for those that are homeless and hungry. One night some of my friends and I were going out for a walk in Dupont Circle and saw a bundled-up man sleeping on the sidewalk, as we passed, my friends and I placed a sandwich by his blanket. He will never know who left the sandwich and maybe for the first time I realized that it didn't really matter, but I knew that we helped that person. While we were there we had anything but hot weather. On Wednesday it actually snowed; while it made for great photo opportunities, we could not help but think about the people we served earlier in the day and where they might sleep that night. By the end of the week, I could tell that our time spent in D.C. had changed each person's outlook on homelessness and took it to heart.

In my last semester at St. Andrews I took a new course by Dr. Dan Ott called "Christianity and Social Action." In this course, Myself and nine other students

were assigned to volunteer at local organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, The Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Center, Church Community Services and my assignment, the Hospice of Scotland County. Working at Hospice is truly a labor of love. Since I have started volunteering there, I have attended funerals, helped lead child support groups, made monthly phone calls to "check-in" with spouses that have lost a loved one, made home visits and even visited patients in our two week facility. Working at Hospice isn't an easy task, dealing with issues of death and dying aren't pleasant and mindless activity but these tasks have got to be done for those that are in need of support. As I listen to classmates responsibilities, I find a sense of gratitude for my fellow classmates and I'm impressed with the services that we provide in our community.

While participating in service opportunities is an important part of the St. Andrews Presbyterian College experience, equipping students is also significant. I have held many leadership positions at this school like: President of Campaign for a Cause, Yearbook Editor-in-Chief, Lions club officer, campus tour guide and most importantly my positions as Christian Student Union President and Student Government representative. Our college has about 800 students, which leaves lots of opportunity to take leadership roles within our school.

The Christian Student Union President is an elected position by all the people active in the Christian clubs. As Christian Student Union President not only do I organize my club meetings and events but I also serve as a Christian leader within our community. In the beginning of the year I play a role in the orientation worship service, Baccalaureate and St. Andrews' Sunday worships. At a Presbyterian affiliated school, it has been tradition the Christian Student Union President holds a position on the Student Government. As a representative member, I also sit on two other committees; the Student Senate and the Student Life Committee. Being involved with the Student Government has allowed me to conduct myself in important meetings and presentations with higher officials. I take this position very seriously, trying to set a good example for the students and act as a responsible member.

Overall, St. Andrews Presbyterian College is a dynamic community that prepares its students with life skills and academics. The skills of service and leadership are important to St. Andrews and it captures who we are as students in and out of the classroom. From these experiences I plan to attend Union PSCE and seek an education in which I plan to use these skills of service and leadership for the church. As a Presbyterian, I am thankful for our churches' affiliation with our school. God works through the students, faculty and staff of St. Andrews Presbyterian College, which I will proudly be a graduate of this institution that changes lives.

When College Ends Daniel Pinsker

As the campus recovers from the last events of Ganza, the only thing left is the strenuous week or so of studying and preparing for the end of the year term paper and exams. The good news is that the semester is almost over, the bad is that until exams are over life on campus is going to be hectic and stressful. That's how it has been every year as the spring semester comes to a close with each year slightly different than the last. It's amazing how the year seems to pass by so quickly, but as a senior graduating soon, everything must come to an end. This campus has been a home for four years, and in that four years lots of things change, from the people to the school itself. A good friend of mine, came here not really knowing what the future had in store for him as a die hard German heavy metal fan. Now as a senior, he's graduating with a new look on life as a born again Christian. As for the school, it's great to see the school trying to improve its image by fixing up the dorms and improving some of the buildings on the academic side of the lake. As college students, it's scary when thinking about the past years spent here, shuttling to class and living here for a good part of the year. We live, learn, and grow as people. We make mistakes, learn from them, and understand how to make better decisions. As the days wind down till graduation for the graduating class of '07, it's just weird looking back at all the things that have happened here in four years.

Who can say that they got to read Harry Potter books and watch episodes of Buffy the Vampire Slayer in an American Pop Culture class at another school? Who can say they wrote an "absurd" play for a class where students got to read such absurd plays as *Waiting for Godot* by Samuel Beckett and *Rhinoceros* by Eugene Ionesco? The classes that are taught here can be vary from the usual to the highly interesting, and it's great as college students that we can learn such things even at a small college. It's bad to assume that just because a class is named History of the Blues doesn't mean that by the end of the semester, a student would have the chance to write and sing a blues song to the entire class. There are many other interesting classes taught here that can be mentioned in this article, but the main reason why the classes are interesting is due to the enthusiasm and interest of the professor teaching it. Each professor brings their personality and interests to class with them as well, like learning Japanese culture while studying how to write poetry. There are the professors who discuss politics while holding class on current events. This is what I remember about this place in the four years I've attended here, even in the middle of nowhere, the education and the people here is great. Since Laurinburg is somewhat of a small town, don't be surprised spotting professors at the local restaurants or at Harris Teeter on the weekends next year. For me, I'm going to miss playing spot-the-professor at the local Chinese buffet.

It's surprising that after

graduation, a good number of us will ditch the backpacks for the workforce or graduate school. What makes this surprising is that there won't be any more spring breaks, no more school holidays, and no more open summers to travel around or become a couch potato. There will be the commute to work, the small weekend getaways, and maybe a paid vacation here and there. For those going to graduate school, enjoy it as much as you can while working on your studies. As alumni hopefully we'll make the time to come back and visit this campus, either for Alumni weekend or for Ganza. Already there's a welcoming party set on welcoming a student that graduated last semester ready for his return at graduation. Like I mentioned in my last article, as long as you remember this school for what it truly is, it'll stick with you longer than remembering it as simply the place you attended college.

We say goodbye to roommates, somewhat bad cafeteria food, and the early morning rush to class. Say goodbye to the small spaces of a dorm room and the life within the many suites on campus. We move on to wherever we go, leaving some friends behind as they continue their college life. We go home, moving into the homes of our families or moving into apartments focused on that next step wish should take in life. Some who've grown to love this place do stay here, getting a job at school not wanting to be away from here. Most of the staff working here are alumni, so it's no surprise that this school does have an effect on people. I know I'll come back one day to see this place, driving down Route 220 from Greensboro like I've down for four years attending here. For those of us who pass down through the towns of Norman and Ellerbe, the sight of the small town and its appearance seems inspiring enough that, as college students, we should try to gain as much knowledge as we can so that our future won't end up in such a town that people try to zoom by on their way to college. In fact, it should be a requirement for freshman to venture into different lands to see how hard life is for some people, so that as college students they know that the things they achieve in college can lead to a bright and happy future.

For anyone here, the stress of a heavy workload and non-academic stress does take a toll on you, to the point of wanting to leave here at any cost. It's the drive to overcome the stress, to redeem yourself to your professors to show them that you want to be here is worth it, walking away and trying to leave this place isn't. The stress and drama is all part of college, but avoiding it for four years and doing your best until you graduate, proves to your professors, your family, and yourself that you achieved something great and you showed that you have a bright future when you graduate college, leaving the place you lived for four or more years behind taking the memories with you. This is where it all ends, but life and what awaits you is about to begin.