



"Leadership is the skill of influencing people to enthusiastically work toward goals identified as being for the common good, with character that inspires confidence."

Calling Future Leaders!

Are you are interested in applying for a position on the Leadership Council for the Young Professional Network?

The YPN Leadership Council will be an appointed group of credit union staff representing all regions of the state. The goal of the Council is to provide direction and support to develop The Young Professional Network on the local level as well as statewide.

Regional Council members will represent a designated region, and each Council member will be responsible for the following activities to be completed by year-end 2014:

- *Plan and host one local educational seminar/idea sharing event targeted to YPN concerns
- *Plan and host two local social/networking events for YPN members and potential members
- *Attend at least one meeting of each Association chapter in the designated region and notify chapter officials of upcoming YPN events
- *Participate in monthly conference calls for the Council and one in-person meeting
- *Promote membership in the YPN

The Council will also include one Marketing/PR member who will work with each regional member and the Association to promote events and the network. The Council may also be asked to provide input on educational programs and outreach directed toward young adults.

Council members will work closely with, and be supported by Association staff.

Leadership Council applications are due by September 3rd:

[Click Here](#) to apply!

The Judge/Bradley Experience

By: Stacy Hovan, P&G Mehoopany Employees FCU

The Judge/Bradley Leadership School offers an excellent opportunity to develop the important management skills so critical to success. This was my first year at Judge/Bradley and I was enrolled in the Advanced Management track.

Sunday evening was our Welcome and Networking Reception at the Penn Stater. The evening started with ice breaker exercises led by Rod Lee from Shaver's Creek Environmental Center. We had found a high-five and a low-five partner, and ended with our own creative handshake partner. Rod had given us topics to discuss with each person, which was a great way to get conversations started with peers that I had never met before.

Monday was our first full day of sessions. The morning began with a general session with Maria LaVelle, Board Chair of the Pennsylvania Credit Union Association, followed by five of the "first year projects" being presented to everyone. The second year students had interesting projects that worked well for their organizations, covering topics ranging from communication all the way through community volunteering.

After a networking break, Adam Engelman, Grassroots Manager at CUNA, presented the Keynote Address. Adam discussed the importance of advocacy within the credit union movement. He explained that the most pressing advocacy topic today is the tax exemption status of credit unions, and that both members and employees can tweet messages by using [#DontTaxMyCU](#) to send messages to their state representatives. After his speech, the Judge Bradley students recorded a Vine video with the message, "Don't Tax my Credit Union!"

During the Monday afternoon sessions, our classes separated into basic and advanced. My class was titled, "Servant Leadership", taught by Dr. Maureen Dodson. We discussed that the definition of leadership is *"the skill of influencing people to enthusiastically work toward goals identified as being for the common good, with character that inspires confidence."* *(Continued on page 2)*



The Judge Bradley Experience

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Dr. Dodson showed clips of movies, and we then discussed the leadership qualities, strengths and weaknesses of the leader in the film. We worked together in groups, and it was interesting to have the opportunity to hear the perceptions and opinions of the other group members. We had to set a goal for ourselves on what changes we need to make in our leadership style, which is a good way to reflect on our own behavior with what we learned in the session.

Tuesday morning began with another class titled, "Managing Change" taught by Dr. John Park. We discussed the changes that have taken place in credit unions over the past five years, and what to expect in the next five years. The three lessons I learned from this class are:

- * Be proactive and support your staff when they are proactive
- * For change to work, all levels affected by the change need to be involved
- * There needs to be better communication before, during and after change.

Tuesday afternoon, we grabbed a bag lunch and headed out to Shaver's Creek Environmental Center for team building exercises. After lunch, we were broken up into four groups: Basic 1, Basic 2, Advanced 1, and Advanced 2. My group was led by Will Wise. Will began by giving each of us two pictures. We had to go to someone else in the group that we did not know and show them one of the pictures. They had to tell you something about themselves that related to the picture. Then, they had to show a picture and you had to do the same thing. When we were done, we had to move on to a new partner. After this, we did two more exercises during which we worked in teams to come up with a strategy to beat the other team.

Wednesday was "Credit Union Day." The morning started with a leadership forum that consisted of Russel Brooks (CEO, SPE Federal Credit Union), Darrell Combs (VP Branch Operations, Widget Federal Credit Union) Louise Lingenfelter (CEO, ClearChoice Federal Credit Union) and Diane Lopez (CEO/Treasurer, G.A.P. Federal Credit Union). The forum was moderated by Rhonda Rumbaugh from PCUA. Each shared their different experiences in handling situations in their credit unions, and also recommended books that were helpful to them in their careers.

The afternoon was spent in the elective classes we had chosen before we arrived in State College. My elective was "Aligning Your Budget with Your Strategic Planning," led by Linda Brown, Chief Administrative Officer at Service 1st Federal Credit Union. First, she discussed strategic planning. Then, we broke off into groups in order to create our own credit union. We had to name our credit union, create a vision statement and develop three strategic objectives. The elected spokesperson of each group then presented the plan to the class. This was a lot of fun and the class had a lot of interesting ideas. Next, she talked about budgeting. We rejoined our same groups and had to take one of our strategies and discuss its effects to income and expense. We had to discuss if our strategy failed or succeeded, and then present it to the class again. There was a good mix of successes and failures in the groups. This session was very fun, and was a great way to work in groups and apply what we had learned.

Thursday was the final day. Most of the students were pretty tired at this point, but we had only one more class to go! The class that I attended was titled "Developing Teams that Succeed" and was taught by Dr. Dodson. She taught us about the stages of a team by using clips from the movie "Miracle." We were able to discuss the hockey team in the film as they moved through the four stages of team development: testing, infighting, getting organized and mature closeness. I liked the idea of using a movie to help the discussion of the topic, and it made me want to go home and watch the whole movie!

After our class we all gathered in Presidents Hall for the Wrap-up and Graduation where the second year students were called up individually to receive their certificates and gifts. All of the first year students will return next year on August 10 - 14 with a new class of first year students... But first up, we have to complete our projects by January 31!

My experience at Judge Bradley was educational and entertaining. I learned a lot from the instructors: They kept us interested in the topics, and engaged in the discussions. I met new friends that I cannot wait to see again next year. I am very thankful that my credit union gave me the opportunity to attend Judge Bradley, and I would recommend it to anyone who is interested in becoming a future leader at their credit union. It is definitely worth the investment!

Have something you'd like to include in an edition of the Young Professionals Network newsletter?

Send an email to YPNetwork.PA@gmail.com to submit your news! We'd love to hear from you!



Meet the Young Professionals: Say Hello to Erin Kynett!



Current Position: Marketing Specialist

In one sentence, describe what you do: I create and place any marketing that goes out to the public (as well as employee information) including e-mail blasts, social media, website, printed materials, billboards, newspaper ads, radio & tv ads, newsletters, as well as business development and PR.

Hometown: Glenmoore, PA... Chester County

Career Goal: I want to be an integral part of developing and growing my credit union while developing my career and myself at the same time.

Favorite Food: Sushi

Favorite Quote: "Unless it's mad, passionate, extraordinary love, it's a waste of your time. There are too many mediocre things in life – love shouldn't be one of them." – *Dreams for an Insomniac*

What do you miss most about being a kid? NAPS! And going down the shore (Avalon, NJ) to my grandparents' house each summer.

YPN Tip of the Month

By: Erin Kynett

As summer winds down and students head back to school, now is a great time to offer a back-to-school loan to your members. According to the National Retail Federation, US Families are expected to spend an average of \$634.78 on clothing, shoes, supplies, and electronics on all of those 'Back to School' specials. Offering financial assistance to our members can help with all sorts of school related expenses besides tuition.

For the grade school students, it helps with supplies, back packs, school clothes, and more.

For the high school students, it can help with electronics like laptops, school clothes, and other supplies.

A back-to-school loan can even help college students with rent, books, laptops, and even other living expenses.

Offering a loan or a credit card is an inexpensive way to aid students who may need a little help starting off the year. With all of those 'Back to School' commercials tempting members, we can help them not only to save, but also to spend responsibly!

Stay Connected!

Follow the Young Professionals Network on Twitter @YPNetworkPA to keep up to date with YPN news and events, and don't forget to use the #YPNetwork to keep the conversation going with other YP's.

We Need You!

Are you attending the Fall Leadership Conference in Seven Springs this year?

If so, we would love to have you share details about your trip in the YPN Newsletter!

[eMail](#) us today!



Congratulations!!

The Young Professional Network would like to congratulate the
2013 graduates of the Judge/Bradley Leadership School!

We applaud you for your dedication, hard work, and commitment to the Credit Union Movement!



(Photo credit PCUA) Pictured above from left to right: Nicole Cole, Charlene McClellan, Andrew Doerr, Alicia Venable, Anna Hartman, Mary Jo Martin, Jessica Ross, Debra McIntosh, Jessica Pennings, Jessi Henkel, Megan Sweeney, Colleen Mateer, Jessica Bennett, Melissa Rusnak.



(Photo credit PCUA) Pictured above from left to right: Theresa Wech, Barb Bixler, Amy Schmoyer, Amanda Derby, Kirsten Keim-Shendge, Sarah Dennis, Christine Eshelman, Darrin Graham, Jeff Williams, Scott Hane, Dareck Caroway, Jessica Yeager.