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Tea and Conversation with Women Student Leaders

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Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center

Division of Student Life

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Women in Leadership Panel Discussion

A Women in Leadership Week event. Highlights from the panel discussion, 'Perspectives from UMaine Student Leaders,' moderated by Emily Haddad, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The event was sponsored by the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and the Division of Student Life.

March 30, 2015

Run Time : 00:04:45

<https://youtu.be/QEJZ6YdGeE0>

Transcript is machine generated, unedited, in English.

TRANSCRIPT:

00:06

let's turn now to the questions that you

00:09

are asked to think about in advance and

00:10

the first one some of you have already

00:12

started to answer but if you could

00:14

elaborate that would be helpful

00:16

especially with some students in the

00:19

audience as well as as others how did

00:22

your experience at umaine help you

00:24

advance your role as a leader maybe we

00:28

could start start with our current

00:31

undergraduate Sabrina at the end of the

00:33

table so thinking about this question

00:38

really it came down to the fact that the
00:41
University of Maine provides all the
00:43
avenues you might want to explore if
00:45
you're interested in taking a leadership
00:47
role or just developing as a person or a
00:50
professional nothing I feel like was
00:53
handed to me at the University of Maine
00:54
I had to take the initiative to get
00:56
things i wanted but whether it be
00:59
explored different majors student
01:02
organizations or take advantage excuse
01:05
me a work study the University of Maine
01:08
had all of those options to help me make
01:10
the next step towards being a leader and
01:12
a better person as well as provide the
01:14
resources to see that I succeed after I
01:17
took those initial steps such as the
01:19
Writing Center or the Career Center so
01:21
there are kind of three different tiers
01:25
that I got leadership experience and
01:27
through so first was through coursework
01:29
I had a major in women's studies in a
01:31

minor in ethics and social and political
01:34
philosophy and both of these required to
01:36
think critically to discuss your ideas
01:39
with other people listen to I
01:41
alternative ideas and you know kind of
01:43
recent through and come to a sound
01:45
conclusion that's sort of really
01:46
important for leadership positions I
01:49
also went through the main you
01:50
Leadership Program which if any of you
01:52
are going to be undergraduates next year
01:55
they flows the application process for
01:56
this year but I strongly encourage you
02:00
to apply it's a six day on campus event
02:05
that happens and you got practice like
02:07
with public speaking networking
02:11
diversity training there's all sort of
02:13
different events to help you with the
02:15
various processes of leadership and you
02:18
meet women in all sorts of fields so
02:21
women in politics women activists women
02:23
in business no matter what your field is
02:25

you'll get to meet all kinds of really
02:27
awesome people and then through student
02:31
groups so I'm the co-chair this new
02:34
student Women's Association Association
02:36
on campus this year this is sort of been
02:39
where I get to put all this stuff that
02:40
I've learned to practice so leaving a
02:43
student organization you have to talk in
02:45
front of people you have to work with
02:46
other groups and so it's given me and
02:49
you have to think on your feet a lot
02:50
with my experience as a humane the
02:52
biggest thing is the women that I've met
02:54
on campus have led me with my leadership
02:56
to make me stronger and to help me find
02:59
my voice before I even started at you
03:02
mean ray provided i was i also did the
03:04
main new leadership where I get to meet
03:05
Mary Cathcart and Emily Cain and lots of
03:08
Representative and business women in the
03:10
area and because i did that program it
03:13
led me to speaking engagements where i
03:15

got to speak to the local branch of a UW
03:18
and i get to meet some more phenomenal
03:20
strong women who have taught me how to
03:24
speak from what my point of view and
03:27
that my point of view matters and to
03:29
help them see the world through my eyes
03:32
my experiences here allowed me to find
03:34
what my limits were when how much i
03:37
could handle when i had to say no and
03:39
delegate and be able to like pass stuff
03:41
on which is still quite hard for me but
03:45
i definitely it allowed me to find my
03:48
confidence in my own working abilities
03:50
and interacting with people and on that
03:53
scale so that was the biggest experience
03:55
that i that i got from there's a saying
03:59
that various people turned into songs
04:01
that when the going gets tough the tough
04:03
get going so i'd like you to talk a
04:06
little bit about what your top strategy
04:08
is in tough situations i think i'd say
04:11
to stay in the conversation i think
04:14

commute the hardest lesson to learn when
04:17
starting at least my career is how
04:22
difficult communicating can be
04:24
and everybody has very different and
04:28
strange communication styles and I think
04:31
the most important thing is that you you
04:33
stick with it and you don't give up on
04:36
on making sure the problems resolved by
04:38
being direct and and working through it

The University of Maine in Orono is the flagship campus of the University of Maine System, where efforts toward racial equity are ongoing, as is the commitment to facing a complicated and not always just institutional history. The University recognizes that it is located on Marsh Island in the homeland of the Penobscot nation, where issues of water and its territorial rights, and encroachment upon sacred sites, are ongoing. Penobscot homeland is connected to the other Wabanaki Tribal Nations — the Passamaquoddy, Maliseet, and Micmac — through kinship, alliances, and diplomacy. The university also recognizes that the Penobscot Nation and the other Wabanaki Tribal Nations are distinct, sovereign, legal and political entities with their own powers of self-governance and self-determination.