



FORT VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY  
**LEAP**  
INSTITUTE

LuWanna Williams  
Director, Center for Student Engagement



FORT VALLEY  
STATE UNIVERSITY  
EMPOWER THE POSSIBLE.

*“FVSU is committed to helping every student use the unique strengths already within to develop the knowledge, professionalism, and leadership to change the world through their **confidence, competence, and character.**”*

*Dr. Paul Jones, President*



FORT VALLEY  
STATE UNIVERSITY  
EMPOWER THE POSSIBLE.

## Impact Beyond Graduation

### Expectation of Higher Education

- To foster the learning outcomes that employers value
- To equip students with the essential skills needed to perform in the work environment
- To provide students with experiential learning activities to minimize employer training

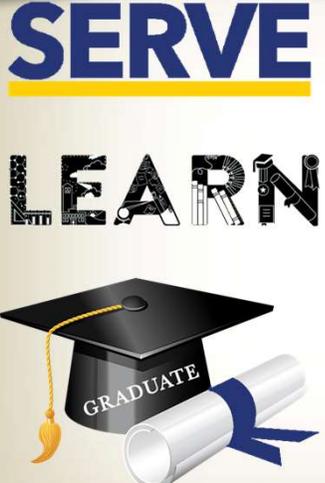
Jones, M., Baldi, C., Phillips, C., & Waikar, A. (2016). The hard truth about soft skills: What recruiters look for in business graduates. *College Student Journal*, 50(3), 422.



## 21st Century Essential Skills

- cooperation/teamwork skills
- diversity and inclusion awareness
- consensus building
- communication skills
- initiative
- leadership ability
- planning and organizing skills
- personal mastery
- coaching and
- presentation skills





**SERVE**

**LEARN**

GRADUATE

The L.E.A.P. initiative seeks to increase student engagement through a myriad academic and co-curricular venues:

- Service learning
- Active participation in campus activities
- Internships
- Co-ops
- Study abroad experiences
- Research opportunities
- Academic mentorship
- Professional development



### LEAP Phase One – Blue Series

Phase One takes place during the Freshman and Sophomore years as a component of University College

	Freshman Year	Sophomore Year
<b>Leadership</b>	Personality Inventory	Emotional Intelligence Assessment
	<b>Student Leadership Symposium</b> Topics: What is Leadership, Exploring Leadership Styles, Conflict Resolution & Problem-solving and Developing Effective Communication Skills	
<b>Engagement (Civic Engagement)</b>	Volunteer Training (also include attire expectations) 20 hours community engagement: Community Service Info- Session: Intro to Service Learning	30 hours community engagement: Service learning based on academic focus area (Momentum Year) Community Service
<b>Academic</b>	Student Success Forums and Workshops: Critical Thinking *** Time Management*** Study Skills*** Academic Self Confidence*** Stress Management*** Goal Setting	
<b>Professionalism</b>	ePortfolio Development Career interest profiler Career cluster inventory	Career Exploration/ ePortfolio Development:



**LEAP Phase Two – Gold Series**  
**Phase Two takes place during the Junior and Senior years**

ACTIVITY	Junior Year	Senior Year
<b>Leadership</b>	<b>Student Leadership Symposium</b>	
	<b>Professional Development and Leadership Conference</b> Pre-Internship Topics: Communication for the workplace Working on Committees/ Teams Diversity and Sensitivity Professional attire	
<b>Engagement (Civic Engagement)</b>	<b>Internship/ Capstone</b>	
	During the Junior and Senior Year – students must participate in Internship and/ or Capstone experiences  <b>Service Learning</b> Students will participate in a minimum of one service learning project in a major course. (60 hour minimum requirement)	
<b>Academic</b>	<b>Collaborative Assignments and Projects</b>	
	Collaborative learning combines two key goals: learning to work and solve problems in the company of others, and sharpening one's own understanding by listening seriously to the insights of others. Approaches range from study groups within a course, to team-based assignments and writing, to cooperative projects and research.	
<b>Professionalism</b>	<b>ePortfolio Development:</b>	
	Internship documentation Capstone product Other items at Faculty direction	



**FORT VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY**  
1895  
 EMPOWER IM POSSIBLE.

L.  
E.  
A.  
P.

## Leadership Update – Year One

Student Leadership Symposium

- 125 participants
- Top rated sessions: 12 Rounds of Effective Leadership, Code Switching, Dress the Part, The Art of Consensus Building, Cultural Conscientiousness and Marketing Your Brand

Wildcat Leaders

- 27 students led service initiatives with partners

Center for Financial Advancement Scholars

- Students attended N.A.M.M.B.A. conference
- Banking Bound Course/ Certification



**FORT VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY**  
1895  
 EMPOWER IM POSSIBLE.

L.  
E.  
A.  
P.

## Engagement Update Year One



FORT VALLEY  
STATE UNIVERSITY  
1895  
EMPOWER. IM. POSSIBLE.

## Engagement Results

	2017-18	2018-19
Day of Service	192	397
Average Monthly Service Activity	145	199
Annual Economic Impact	\$ 178,551.15	\$ 369,931.62

Students that participate in service volunteer on average 6.03 hours per month.



L.  
E.  
A.  
P.

**Academic Update  
Year One**



FORT VALLEY  
STATE UNIVERSITY  
EMPOWER IM POSSIBLE.

## First-Year Experience

- FVSU 0100 (Freshman Seminar)
- Students are required to complete service hours with the iHelp Center.
- Service hours are embedded in the course syllabus.
- By the conclusion of the first semester, each freshmen should have a minimum of 20 service hours.
- Student create an e-portfolio to use to capture their co-curricular experience over the course of their matriculation.



FORT VALLEY  
STATE UNIVERSITY  
EMPOWER IM POSSIBLE.

### Career and Professional Development

**L.**

- JCPenney Suit Up Event
- Dress for Success marketing collateral
- Internship Changes – marketing, placement and preparation

**E.**

- Incubator program – Center for Financial Advancement Scholars expansion

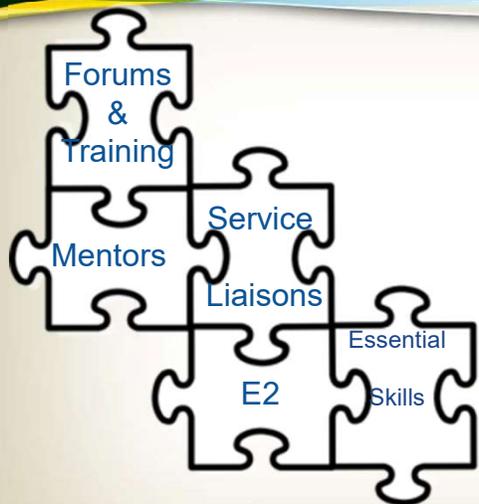
**A.**

- Align signature alumni programs with LEAP
  - Career mentors, Panel discussion and Mock Interviews

**P. Professionalism Update  
Year One**



### Student Development



**E2 – Encourage Engagement**

- Volunteer/ Internship/ Wildcat leaders/ Clubs and Organizations
- Service Learning

**Dress for Success (Wednesday)**

- Build the Vault/ JCP Suit Up

**Career Exploration:**

- Alumni Career Day
- What can I do with a degree in...(panel discussions)

**Mentors:**

- Career mentors
- M&M (motivation mentor)



