P. A. ALUMNUS SPOTLIGHT: LINDSEY VALENTI

Lindsey Valenti graduated from Long Beach State in spring 2007 with a bachelor’s in Interpersonal and Organizational Communication and a minor in Psychology. While at CSULB, Lindsey worked as a Campus Tour Guide and a Resident Assistant in the Housing and Residential Life. She was a President’s Ambassador for two years, volunteering at events on campus and in the Long Beach community. After her graduation from CSULB, Lindsey continued her education at Sacramento State, where she graduated in spring 2010 with a master’s in Organizational and Mediated Communication.

While attending grad school, in the winter of 2007-2008 Lindsey interned for the Sacramento River Cats, the AAA minor league team for the Oakland Athletics. As an intern, Lindsey helped create the media guide for the 2008 season, wrote for the River Cats website, and created radio promotions. In spring of 2008-2009, she worked for the River Cats’ promotions team where she assisted the national anthem singers, found contestants for on-field promotions, interacted with fans by leading the “7th inning stretch dance,” and gave away free gifts to cheering fans. As a River Cats promoter, Lindsey attended many community events in the Sacramento area such as parades, races, and Cal Expo functions with the River Cats mascot, Dinger.

During the winter of 2008-2009, Lindsey then went on to work promotions for the Stockton Thunder hockey team, which at the time was the AA minor league team for the Edmonton Oilers. Lindsey had the opportunity to live in a studio in downtown Sacramento in a 100-year-old Victorian Style home converted into individual units just blocks from the Capitol and Sutter’s Fort. Lindsey loved being “able to walk to trendy shops, beautiful parks, great restaurants, and burn off all the calories by running around Capitol Park.” Her favorite job while attending grad school was working for Trader Joe’s in beautiful East Sac. There she developed lifelong friendships with co-workers and customers, as well as met the man who is now her fiancé.

Lindsey now works for the University of Phoenix, Sacramento Valley Campus. She is the Faculty Liaison in Academic Affairs, working with over 400 faculty for the campus. As part of her job, she helps organize and execute the quarterly Faculty Conference where they host anywhere from 200-350 faculty in one day.

Lindsey truly enjoyed her time at CSULB and the experiences she had in the President’s Ambassadors program. She will never forget the friends and memories she made while attending CSULB because they have helped shape her to who she is today.

BONDING IN THE OUTBAC

The President’s Ambassadors annual retreat was held again this year, providing an opportunity for both introduction to the program and meeting the other Ambassadors. The retreat was held for one day, starting with time on the OutBAC low ropes course. This time was full of fun team-building exercises and it worked very well in bringing the whole program together. After this, there was a time of introduction to the program, teaching the new Ambassadors the basics of what it means to be in the organization. Then we participated in an intense cross-campus scavenger hunt where each team got to bond and spend time completing challenges. After this, there was more time for “getting to know you” activities, then retreat was wrapped up. It was a great day for new and old Ambassadors alike, a time of learning and bonding for the members of the program.
HEARTS FOR SERVICE

This year’s theme for President’s Ambassadors Program is “Hearts for Service.” It is the driving force behind the programs events and activities. As the year progresses, we hope to reach out as active and caring members of the community with a mindset of service.

Move-In Day
To kick off the year and the P.A. theme of “Hearts for Service,” members set out to welcome incoming freshman, update others on campus progress, and help out in any way possible. This year, many of the Residential Coordinators commented on the surplus of volunteers and the overwhelming presence of service and enthusiasm.

Homeless Drop-in
Recently the Presidents Ambassador’s were privileged to go to a Homeless Drop-in center where they served food to those in need of a warm meal. It was an amazing opportunity for the Ambassadors to truly reach out to the community. Whether they were serving coffee, wiping down tables, washing dishes, or simply having a conversation with an individual, they gave 110% and came out more blessed than those they served.

Journey to Success
Another opportunity the President’s Ambassadors were able to be a part of was a program called “Journey To Success.” Reaching out to its large Cambodian community, CSULB hosted this free event for middle school, high school and community college students and their parents. It promoted higher education and provided information on how to prepare for college and what to expect while attending.

Off to a great start, Ambassadors have already provided 360 hours of service.

LIFE IN THE FAST LANE:
GOING FOR GOLD

Aside from their “Hearts for Service” projects, the President’s Ambassadors have also been busy in their athletic pursuits.

Starting off the pack, Matt Maldonado has had a successful season competing for his final year on the Long Beach State Men’s Cross Country Team. Just recently he finished top of the 49er team, placing 11th at the Roy Griak Invitational in Minnesota competing in the men’s 8K race with a time of 24:28.5. He looks forward to leading the men’s team at the Big West Cross Country Championships on October 29th.

Keeping the pace, both Cavin Miller and Stephanie Glick competed in races of their own. As no stranger to long distance events, Cavin ran the Long Beach Marathon in a time of 3:40:48 with the support of the President’s Ambassadors cheering him on at mile 17. Stephanie ran her first half marathon at the Nike Women’s Marathon in San Francisco.

Taking off the running shoes and putting on the skates, James Robelotto has been serving as captain of the LBSU 49er Ice Hockey Team. On October 22nd, the 49ers took on Loyola Marymount University during the Breast Cancer Awareness game and won 9 to 3. This game also raised money for the Susan G. Komen for the Cure of Los Angeles.

THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING!!

The President’s Ambassadors would also like to thank the opportunity to thank our coordinator, Jennifer Sherrin. She has been working tirelessly for the Ambassadors on events such as our annual retreat and continuously improving the program. Her help in interacting with the rest of the campus and the event planners is invaluable, as is her passion for the Ambassadors. She is quite simply a wonderful person to interact with and we are glad to have her as our coordinator. Thank you Jennifer!

ALUMNI EVENT

The 2011/2012 President’s Ambassadors would like to invite you to attend a Casual Alumni Social on Saturday, November 12, following Homecoming festivities and the LBSU Men’s Basketball game. This is a great opportunity for you to reconnect with fellow Alums, as well as meet students currently going through the program. We hope to see you there!

When: November 12, 2011
Time: 4:30 pm – 7:00 pm
Where: Avenue No 3 Pizza & Subs
2226 Palo Verde Avenue
Long Beach, CA 90815
To R.S.V.P. e-mail us at president.ambassadors@gmail.com

LEADER IN ACTION
CAVIN MILLER

Cavin Miller is a senior, a third year President’s Ambassador, and an overall wonderful personality. The President’s Ambassadors Program is so fortunate to have Cavin on the team.

Not only is his success seen in the program but also in his studies, work, and extracurricular activities. He works as a tutor for student athletes at the Bickerstaff Center and is a student leader for the Navigators, a Christian Organization. He looks forward to graduating as a President’s Scholar in Spring 2012 with a degree in Mathematics.

This semester has been one filled with excitement, joy, and constant action. Running in the Long Beach Marathon, Cavin demonstrated immense strength and perseverance. For Cavin, running is not merely a sport but a time he can enjoy to be alone, think, and pray.

As an involved leader in the Navigators organization, Cavin mentors freshman and leads Bible studies which he says is a rewarding experience. By committing himself to these activities, Cavin is also preparing for his career.

Upon graduation, Cavin will be going to Colorado for the summer to train for an internship that he received with the Navigators’ national organization. After training, Cavin will go to a university in the U.S. or abroad, and will work with the on-campus Navigators organization mentoring college students and doing ministry work. Cavin could not be more ecstatic for this opportunity and the President’s Ambassadors wish him all the best in his ventures.