



Lee University

ANNUAL REPORT 2019–2020

TRIO STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES (SSS)

LEE



L

LEARN

E

ENGAGE

A P

ACHIEVE PROGRAM

...for students who aspire to succeed!

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

This is an exciting time for the Department of LEAP (Learn, Engage, Achieve Program) at Lee University. Over the past year our colleagues, including faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends, have gathered to work toward advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion at Lee. Today, more than 80 percent of our 153 LEAP participants are first-generation learners, and 66 percent are identified as both first-generation and low-income.

As a holistic student support services, our team (Dr. Angela Waltrip, Kristin Pope, Andrew DiPastena, Hannah Barnett) have established several new workshops, activities, and initiatives for LEAP participants to succeed this academic year, most recently our inaugural "Lee First-Generation Celebration Day" on November 8th supported by the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) and NASPA. We have also developed and enhanced our marketing and communication presence across the University, with our newly formatted LEAP weekly newsletters and new digital content via social media. In addition, LEAP has partnered with The Hub: Center for Student Success and the Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program to offer online tutoring services and remote graduate school preparation activities for our LEAP participants.

Prior to the worldwide coronavirus (COVID-19) lockdown, 99 percent of our LEAP participants indicated that our program was very helpful, and 88 percent reported that our on-campus workshops and service projects helped them persist and move towards graduation. From our recent Year 4 Annual Performance Report (APR) in November 2019, over 95 percent of our LEAP participants persisted from Fall 2018 to Fall 2019, and 98 percent remained in good academic standing. At the end of June 2020, 76 percent of our LEAP participants hold at least a minimum of 3.00+ cumulative GPA, with more than 25 participants holding a 3.90+ GPA at Lee (a program record). Our students not only recognize the importance of academic excellence but also how important it is to embrace digital technology and creativity in the era of COVID-19.

Looking forward, LEAP will continue to lean into our challenges and opportunities with renewed energy that enhances our mission and embraces our purposes as a Christ-centered liberal arts campus. LEAP and its Lee community continue to play a critical role not only in college retention and completion agendas in the state of Tennessee but also in improving the quality of life for underserved students while equipping and empowering them for lifelong success. As such, we cannot and will not rest on our accomplishments, but instead, as illustrated in this report, continue to strive to ever greater heights *Where Christ Is King*.

Thank you for being a part of this journey. If you have any questions about our program or are interested in joining LEAP, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Blessings,



Roy Y. Chan, Ph.D.
Director
TRIO Student Support Services (SSS)
Lee University
rchan@leeuniversity.edu
(423)-614-3785



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Front Page 1

Message from the Director 2

Table of Contents 3

About Us 4

 Profile of LEAP Participants 4

 Academic Performance of LEAP Participants 5

LEAP Coaching, Mentoring, and Programming Initiatives 6

Student Awards and Honors 7

Marketing and Communication 7

Year 4 Annual Performance Report (APR) 7

2020-2025 TRIO SSS Grant Renewal 7

New LEAP Director 7

Contact 8

OUR TEAM



Kristin Pope, M.S.
Academic Coordinator & Coach



Angela Waltrip, D.Min.
Community Coordinator & Coach



Andrew DiPastena
Coach



Hannah Barnett, M.S.
Interim Coach (Fall 2019)



WHO WE ARE

About Us

Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Lee University LEAP is a TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) program for selected undergraduate students designed to increase students' persistence and completion at Lee (Grant # P042A151028). Our goal is to help students overcome academic, social, and cultural barriers to higher education. LEAP offers individualized success coaching, peer mentoring, skill-building workshops, service opportunities, academic and cultural enrichment activities, graduate school preparation, and an annual scholarship of \$1,000. LEAP is the only TRIO SSS program in the state of Tennessee (and the southeastern region) who is a member of the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities (CCCU).

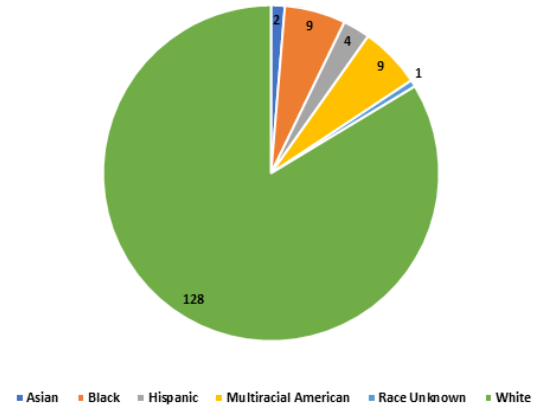
Profile of LEAP Participants

LEAP participants come from all backgrounds and walks of life. Our TRIO SSS program includes first-generation students, low-income students, students of color, students with disabilities, independent students, and post-traditional students.

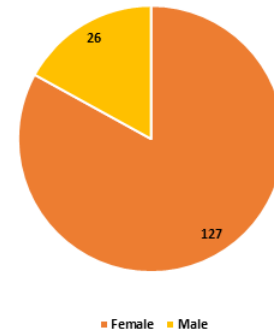
- PERCENT FIRST-GENERATION: 80%
- PERCENT FIRST-GENERATION AND LOW-INCOME: 66%
- PERCENT WOMEN: 83%
- PERCENT STUDENTS OF COLOR: 17%
- NUMBER OF STATES REPRESENTED: 23
- AVERAGE CUMULATIVE GPA: 3.38
- NUMBER OF MAJORS REPRESENTED: 55
- TOTAL SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED: \$139,000
- TOTAL NUMBER OF TRIO SSS ALUMNI: 154

Below are data reported from the 2019-2020 academic year of LEAP participants at Lee University.

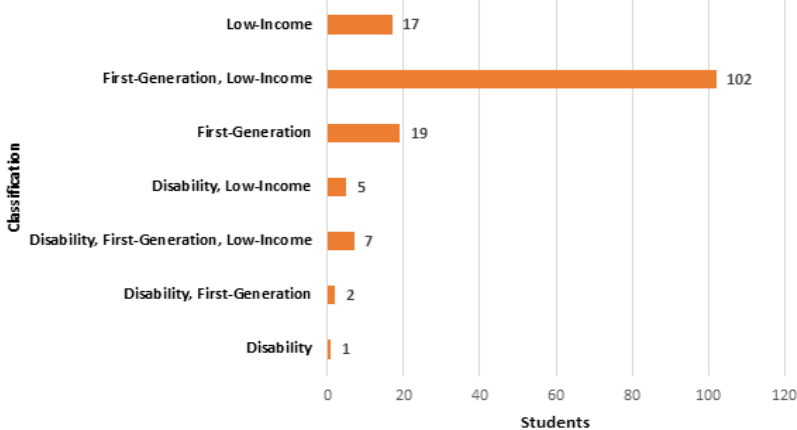
**2019-2020 Race/Ethnicity of LEAP Participants
(N = 153 students)**



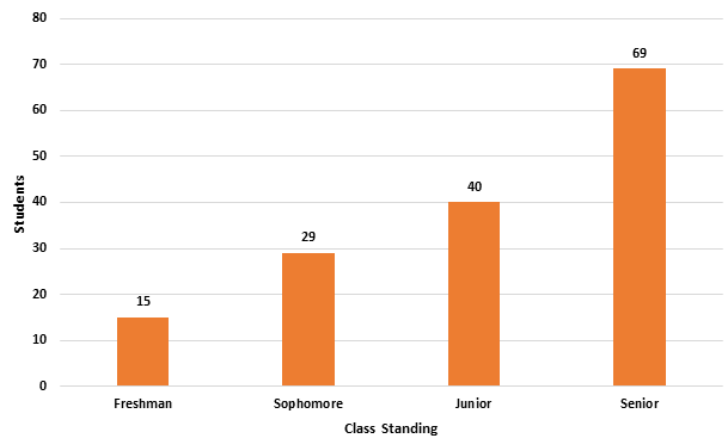
**2019-2020 Gender of LEAP Participants
(N = 153 students)**



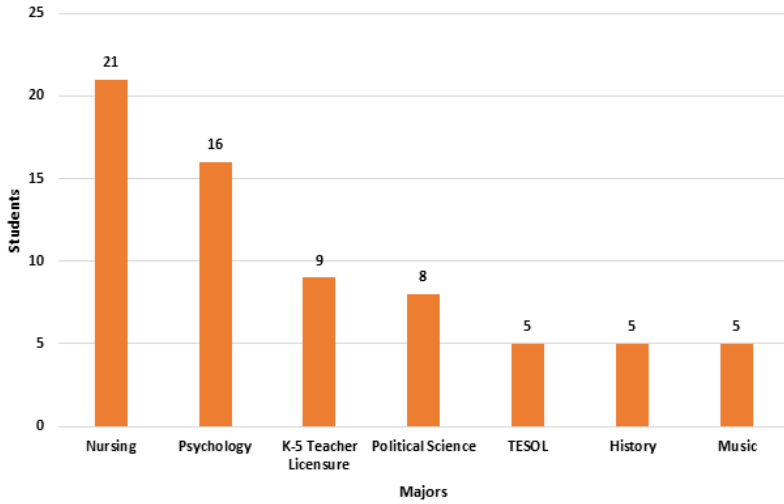
**2019-2020 Classification of LEAP Participants
(N = 153 students)**



**2019-2020 Class Standing by Cumulative Credit Hours Completed (end Spring 2020) by LEAP Participants
(N = 153 students)**



2019-2020 Top 5 Majors of LEAP Participants (N = 153 students)



The number of LEAP participants with a 3.00 GPA and above ($N = 116$) was slightly higher this academic year compared to the previous academic year ($N = 106$ students). Only 3 students out of 153 are on academic probation, and a total of 10 out of 153 participants have a cumulative 2.50 GPA or below. Below are the academic performance data of LEAP participants at Lee.

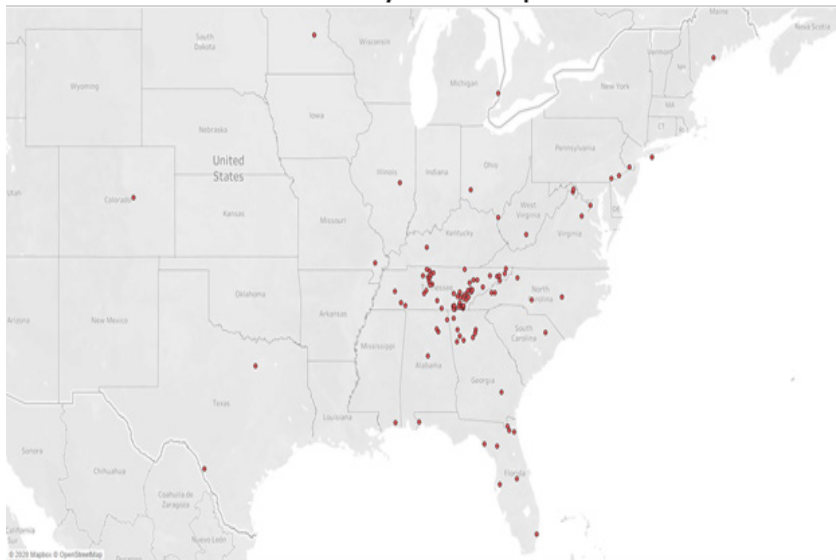
2019-2020 Cumulative GPA of all LEAP Participants (N = 153 students)

Mean	3.378268
Standard Error	0.041973
Median	3.45566
Mode	4
Standard Deviation	0.519173
Minimum	1.738
Maximum	4
Sum	516.875
Count	153
Confidence Level(95.0%)	0.082925

2019-2020 Top 25 LEAP Participants with 3.90+ Cumulative GPA (end Spring 2020)

Rank	First Name	Last Name
1	Kathryn	Cox
1	Jenna	Franklin
1	Viktoriya	Marushka
1	Kelsey	Osborne
1	Jalyn	Poynter
2	Marquis	Bush
3	Macy	Spicer
4	Heather	Mellis
5	Kara	Yoder
6	Lucas	Wagoner
7	Michaela	Morris
8	Stephanie	Bowman
9	Brittany	Samples
10	Emily	Harris
11	Samuel	Gruber
12	Zackery	Cochran
13	Haleigh	Blalock
14	Hannah	Sexton
15	Hope	Cummings
16	Christian	Schweer
17	Alissa	Jackson
18	Samantha	Aho
19	Sara	Ford
20	Julianna	Spears
21	Dylan	Royston

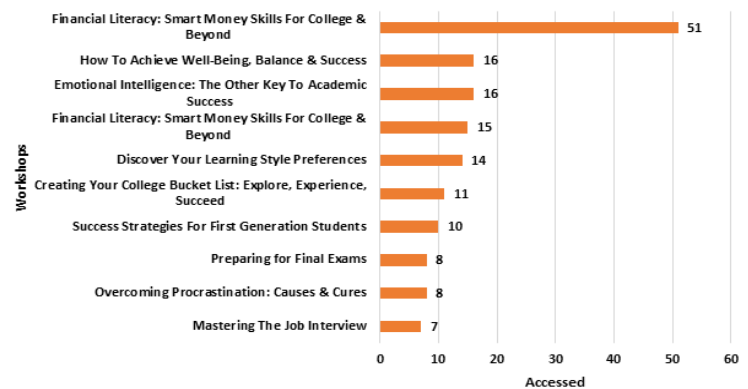
2019-2020 Lee University LEAP Participants - Hometown



Academic Performance of LEAP Participants

LEAP participants are some of the most talented students at Lee who demonstrate outstanding academic achievements, creativity, and servant leadership. During the 2019-2020 academic year, LEAP participants held an average cumulative GPA of 3.38 at Lee. Specifically, 54 out of 153 participants earned a 3.70 GPA and above, 85 out of 153 participants earned a 3.40 GPA and above, and 116 out of 153 participants earned a 3.00 GPA and above during the 2019-2020 academic year at Lee.

2017-2020 Student Lingo Top 10 Most Accessed Online Workshops (N = 156 workshops accessed)



LEAP Coaching, Mentoring, and Programming Initiatives

During the 2019-2020 academic year, LEAP students engaged in 1,408 Coaching Meetings (in-person, online, phone), 1,494 Peer Mentoring Sessions, and 115 Hours of Tutoring (LEAP, Academic Support, The Hub) at Lee University. Specifically, the total number of LEAP coaching sessions increased by 300 this academic year compared to the previous academic year ($N=1,108$) due to the launch of the High Touch Team (HTT) initiative this summer under the direction of incoming President Mark L. Walker. The total number of coaching sessions completed by our LEAP coaches are the following: Andrew DiPastena ($N=540$), Dr. Angela Waltrip ($N=414$), Dr. Roy Y. Chan ($N=208$), Kristin Pope ($N=146$), and Hannah Barnett ($N=100$).

LEAP also hosted a total of 24 Campus Workshops, 2 Service Projects, 1 First-Generation Day, 1 Sophomore Dinner, and 1 Cultural Excursion. Our 2 service projects were “LEAP Night to Shine with Tim Tebow Foundation” and “LEAP Cleveland City School Fall Festival.” Our one cultural excursion trip was a tour of the City of Chattanooga with the incoming LEAP Class of 2023 participants in August 2019. The LEAP Office employed 18 part-time student peer mentors, 3 part-time office student assistants, and one external career advisor (Kay McDaniel).

Due to the on-going coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, several of our LEAP cultural excursions, programs, and workshops were canceled between March 2020 and June 2020. These events and activities include the “LEAP Cultural Excursion Trip to Rock City, GA,” “LEAP Conversations with Vice President & Provost Dr. Debbie Murray,” “LEAP Graduate School Awareness Dinner,” “LEAP Etiquette Dinner,” and “LEAP Awards and Graduation Reception with President Paul Conn.” With several events now canceled or postponed, LEAP will have an excess federal budget of approximately \$52,000 by August 31, 2020 for grant aid or administrative salary use in Fall 2020 (pending grant status).

In summary, LEAP has organized and hosted fewer campus events, tutoring sessions, and on-campus workshops this academic year compared to the previous academic year. LEAP anticipates that many of our workshops and events will be held virtually or significantly modified next academic year at Lee.



Student Awards and Honors

Our LEAP participants have won several prestigious awards, scholarships, and honors throughout the 2019-2020 academic year at Lee University. Specifically, our federal TRIO SSS program had 13 Ronald E. McNair Scholars, 5 Roberson Memorial Leadership Scholars, 4 iMASS Scholars, 4 Kairos Scholars, 2 Rymer Scholars, 2 B.L. Hicks Scholars, and 1 Ledford Scholar at Lee. Below is a list of our award recipients:

2019-2020 LEAP Achieve Award

A LEAP participant who is drawn to the process of learning
Hannah Trew

2019-2020 LEAP Engage Award

A LEAP participant who is engaged in extracurricular activities
Emma Ward

2019-2020 LEAP Learn Award

A LEAP participant who is driven to succeed on- and off-campus
Kelsey Osborne

2019-2020 Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program

Hope Cummings, Laurel Desmarais, Jackie (Alex) Gann, Ashley Garner, Emily Harris, Alissa Jackson, Josiah Mercer, Madison Myers, Kelsey Osborne, Brittany Perez, Maria Pedro Tomas, Hannah Trew, Lucas (Jacob) Wagoner

2019-2020 iMASS Scholars Program

Samuel Gruber, Alissa Jackson, Joyce Mathai, Hannah Trew

2019-2020 Kairos Scholars Honors Program

Melissa Haley, Alissa Jackson, Kelsey Osborne, Carrie Snyder

2019-2020 B.L. Hicks Scholars Program

Haleigh Blalock, Raven Reeves

2019-2020 Roberson Memorial Leadership Scholars

Samantha Aho, Marquis Bush, Corey Dixon, Emily Harris, Amy Harrison

2019-2020 Rymer Scholars

Stephanie Bowman, Emily Harris

2019-2020 Appalachian College Association Ledford Scholars

Samuel Gruber

Marketing and Communication

Under the direction of Dr. Roy Y. Chan, LEAP has strengthened its marketing and communication presence for all students, faculty, staff, alumni, and parents at Lee. During the 2019-2020 academic year, LEAP sent 32 weekly newsletters via email to all LEAP participants every Monday at 5:00PM EST. LEAP has also engaged in several social media platforms via Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter since August 2019, receiving well over 100+ new Likes on our Facebook page and 50+ new followers on our Instagram account. With the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, LEAP will rely heavily upon new technology software (Ellucian CRM Advise, StudentLingo) and marketing automation (Mailchimp, StudentAccess) to communicate with our LEAP participants during the 2020-2021 academic year.

Year 4 Annual Performance Report

In November 2019, Dr. Roy Y. Chan completed and submitted our Year 4 Annual Performance Report (APR) to the U.S. Department of Education. LEAP reported a 96% persistence rate and 99% remained in good academic standing. Similar to Year 3 APR results, LEAP met or exceeded grant objectives. Specifically, LEAP reported 134 out of 140 participants persisted from Fall 2018 to Fall 2019, and 138 out of 140 participants received a 2.00 GPA or higher during the 2018-2019 academic year at Lee.

2020-2025 TRIO SSS Grant Renewal

In January 2020, the Office of Grants and Foundation Relations revised, completed, and signed a new 5-year TRIO SSS grant application to the U.S. Department of Education. LEAP thanks Vanessa C. Hammond, President Paul Conn, Dr. Debbie Murray, and Dr. Roy Y. Chan for preparing our new grant proposal. LEAP will be notified of our application of \$1.1 million late-July 2020.

New TRIO SSS Director

In July 2019, the Office of Academic Affairs named Dr. Roy Y. Chan as its new Director of TRIO SSS at Lee University. Dr. Chan replaced Dr. Suzanne Holt, founding director of LEAP & Global Perspectives Program, who has retired from the University after more than 30 years of service. Dr. Chan holds a Ph.D. degree in education policy studies from Indiana University, a M.A. degree in higher education from Boston College, and a B.A. degree in criminology, law & society from University of California, Irvine.





LEE
UNIVERSITY

TRIO STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES (SSS)

Office of Academic Affairs
1200 N. Ocoee Street, Cleveland, TN 37311
Phone: (423) 473-1185
leap@leeuniversity.edu
<http://www.leeuniversity.edu/leap>
@leeuleap

