

Anna Berger

- ▼ University of Central Florida ▼ 3.87 GPA
- ▼ Junior in Organizational Communications

“I want people to remember me for the positive differences I have made,” says Anna Berger, 20. “I begin every day by seeking opportunities in which I can reach out to people. I encourage others to think about this question: ‘Will you be remembered for making a difference?’ My answer is yes.”

During her freshman year, Berger helped organize the Leaders Involved For Tomorrow (LIFT) Summit—a three-day leadership conference for 100 Florida high school juniors and seniors. “It’s amazing to see a group of individuals come together to accomplish a common goal,” says Berger, who served as LIFT’s 1999 executive director. “When you see the end product and how much you actually can accomplish if you combine your talents and ideas, the rewards greatly outweigh the work and effort—and it’s the best feeling to know that in some way you helped that happen.”

In the Delta Delta Delta sorority, Berger serves as the Beta Lambda chapter’s academic development officer, counseling members who have academic problems. “In this position, I’m also part of a select few ladies



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who serve as a board that is responsible for the overall functioning of the chapter,” Berger says. She also served as a rush counselor in 1999 to improve pledge retention and to guide prospective members through Rush. As an assistant Panhellenic officer, Berger coordinated all chapters’ philanthropic participation.

For the Student Alumni Association and the Student Alumni Ambassador Council, Berger plans socials, service projects, and fund-raising events. She also belongs to the

President’s Leadership Council, a select group chosen to host special university events.

“Someone once said that it’s not necessarily how bright your candle can shine at one time, it’s more the longevity and how you choose to shine,” she says. “I have to remind myself that I can’t be everything to everyone.” Although she encourages others to know their limits, Berger does promote doing as much as they can handle. “The more you get involved, the more people you meet, and the more memorable your college experience will be.”

Berger has combined her leadership roles with her jobs, which together with scholarships, support her education. As an intern at Florida 2012—the group preparing Orlando’s bid to host the Olympics—she coordinates receptions and sporting events. As a student assistant for SGA, Berger assists the director of administrative services. “I’m there to answer any questions that people may have about Student Government,” she says. Berger also is a teacher’s assistant for the LEAD Scholars Leadership Class, a segment of the selective leadership, academic, and service program for freshmen and sophomores.

To recharge, Berger takes power naps and reaffirms her commitment to her cause. “Reminders of my goal, my purpose for whatever I’m doing at the moment, is what drives me,” Berger says. “I would hope people would remember me for getting involved in diverse activities and helping out wherever I was needed.”

Donna Creamer

- ▼ Lake City Community College ▼ 3.94 GPA
- ▼ Sophomore in Business Administration & Management

In the college version of “Duck, Duck, Goose,” Donna Creamer is definitely the goose. “I got the whole concept of being a goose when I watched the movie *The Mighty Ducks*,” says Creamer, 42. “It was so interesting how they couldn’t work unless they pulled together as a team.”

Creamer says teamwork is the basis of her everyday life, and that it helped her go back to school 25 years after she dropped out. “I married at 15 and left high school,” she says. “When I went back to school, I was excited to learn, but a little terrified of whether I would match the standards of other students and if I was doing the right thing.” But with Jesus, her family, and teacher Dr. Sheri Carder as her team, Creamer says she overcame her fears and delved into an education full of leadership activities. “My husband and children support me and understand when I can’t be home,” she says.

As president of Students In Free Enterprise, Creamer conducts all the meetings, prepares the agenda, recruits members, and coordinates projects. Plus, to encourage teamwork, she asked campus clubs for help



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with SIFE’s coat drive last November. As a result, the clubs collected 200 coats over the goal and distributed 1,200 to the needy. As director of the Pathfinder/Adventure Club for children, Creamer started the “Adopt-a-Grandparent Program” at The High Springs Care Center. “Sometimes, these elderly people rarely get a family member or visitor to see them,” she says. “We made 17 baskets of personal hygiene products to give them. It was heartwarming to see the children open up.”

Creamer also devotes time to Phi Theta

Kappa and Vacation Bible School at High Springs Seventh Day Adventist Church. With Phi Theta Kappa, she collects dues as treasurer and assists during the induction ceremony. In her role as director of Vacation Bible School, Creamer increased enrollment from 20 to 75 kids and taught a class of her own. “After doing the whole week program, I had a little girl come up and hug me,” she says. “All my work was worth it to have her come up and thank me like that.”

As for leading others, Creamer believes it takes more than just developing clever ideas, and that if she’s not committed to a job, she can’t ask someone else to do it. “It’s not just telling others what to do, but getting out there and participating too,” she says. “I don’t give orders unless I’m ready to go out and do the same.” And when club members have a negative attitude, she says: “I don’t just shut them out. I listen to them to see their angles on a project. I want them to feel like a part of the team. That usually works for me.”

As if she didn’t already have a full schedule, Creamer works as a waitress at the Waffle House on weekends, often working double shifts to help support her education. She also participates in a student work-study job and gets financial aid.

Creamer says she hopes to leave behind a legacy of motivation and teamwork for others. “I want people to know they can do it, that I was a high school dropout who came back to college and succeeded.”