LeaderShape Aha! Moments

- Spending time with my family cluster and absolutely caring about them more than myself
- When others’ actions go against my morals/values, my passion to be heard intensifies and I become less active. And then reflect on what my trigger was and come to “terms” with it to grow and move forward.
- Not a specific moment but a gradual addition of true friends to my circle. Being fairly new to KU, these few days of adding a family to my circle have been worth it.
- An “ah ha!” moment for me was to learn that it’s ok to let my guard down and be me instead of a poster child of my organization. Being real is COURAGEOUS! And real recognizes real.
- Realizing how powerful my words, actions, and beliefs are. I’m more influential than I thought.
- The ridiculous amount of confidence my family group gave me. Because of the closeness I had with them, I’ve become a whole new person in almost every way possible.
- It was incredible to see how easy it truly is to develop such a close relationship much deeper than just small talk.
- That with a gentle nudge, walls came down easily and new friendships are made. No cool caps!
- I realized that my self-worth and each person’s worth here in this room is much higher than we all realize!
- I’d like to hang onto my open-mindedness.
- Meeting all these people that I see on a regular basis and actually building a relationship with them. Meeting genuinely caring people who want to help me be a better person/leader and who will be honest with me. Gaining the confidence to live out the different visions that I have and making them a reality.
- “Sit in the front row of your life!” It’s so important to show up to life and fulfill your potential.
• Being able to work on myself, while making twelve new friends in a comfortable environment!
• When I realized that just as the natural high from food is there to make people eat, the natural high from love and friendships must be there for a reason too.
• The moment when we were in the last family cluster meeting of day five and each person went around the room and spoke about what they appreciated about the others. The words that were used to express each thought were kind and sincere. Pretty unforgettable.
• Ambition can be used to lift yourself up, or to lift everyone up.
• Having help to better understand my own vision.
• Leaders come in all shapes and sizes. As long as your core values are present, you can be trusted to lead.
• I had the opportunity to meet great people and build relationships. It helped me bounce ideas and receive feedback on my strengths, weaknesses, and on my overall personality.
• The rhythm circle was amazing. I wish somebody could have made an mp3 about it!
• A moment I remember is when our cluster family ate dinner for the first time. I believe it was one of the major steps in which we started to not only connect but understand one another.
• Late night talks with the Breakfast Club.
• The realization that my decisions are founded in a set of basic core values. Watching a member at our family be able to rediscover just how strong she really is.
• Vulnerability connects individuals and builds strong groups. That connection enhances individuals’ experiences and the groups effectiveness.
• Be prepared to amaze yourself.
• Strippers, cocaine and integrity!
• I actually like people. Maggie tearing it up on the dance floor.
• I realized that the best way to try and lead with integrity is by knowing your core values. Writing your core values down is the best way to hold yourself accountable.
• Expand your comfort zone rather than step out of it completely.
• I will definitely remember the last family cluster meeting and will cherish each and every feedback I was given. It was a huge challenging experience for me. One thing that I learned is to speak up and not to keep fear from being miserable. Just take courage or risks!
• The first moment our family was open and honest with each other.
• The amazing results of the family clusters giving each other feedback, and how closely that brought everyone together.
• The moments of laughter that brings groups together. Dropping the mic at LC and in family clusters. Mad props to the sincerity and authenticity that exists in the leadershape environment.
• I learned that I want to be wise enough to mentor others.
• The chip game and how fast people are to create exclusive groups and try to further themselves not the group. To be aware of my actions and help everyone. Also, “We’re all pretty bizarre. Some of us are just better at hiding it, that’s all” –Breakfast Club
• The power of feedback and the value of criticism.
• The ability I have to make such powerful friendships in such a short amount of time. Pesos 4 lyfe.
• Meeting one-on-one with everyone in the group in the group and being able to connect on a personal level even if we hadn’t before.
• The overwhelming amount of love I felt from my family cluster. Shalom 4 lyfe.
• Seeing myself not only through my personal lens, but through the lenses of everyone in our family cluster. We are all more wonderful than we give ourselves credit for.
• Just because fringe student groups (non-trad exchange students) may come into KU with a different background, we are all here for a common purpose.
Make sure to fight for actual inclusion. It is for you. It is for them. And it is for the whole community. Also: don’t push “pull” doors. They do not open.

- I want to remember the inspirational people who will be committing themselves to ethically lead in their future roles. This has reaffirmed my passion for the career I’m set to be in.
- You should live your life as if you were running for a campaign.
- The most touching moment for me was the last family cluster on day five. Hearing everyone’s story on their journey at leardershape and the many things they learned inspired me. I know our future is in good hands and the world is better for showing them. I’m refreshed, inspired, and proud!
- I realized I look withdrawn when I’m still engaged. So I need to continuously look engaged and present. I also learned being shy isn’t a bad thing.
- When Liz thought about equity and acted with integrity and character during starpower. Leadership is a choice.
- KU students are continuing the legacy.
- Agree disrespectfully but don’t be afraid to voice your opinion.
- I like looking other’s vision and core value. I was happy to hear others’ perspectives.
- Our family reflections, doe. #WWIDAL
- There is power in authenticity and honesty.
- Sit in the front row of your life! Actively engage and work with passion.
- A powerful moment for me this week was creating the action plan for my vision and how creating a plan with stretch and manageable goals will help to create a vision that turns into reality.
- Three sides! Green triangles for life!
- I listen to my inner voice too often instead of acknowledging it then telling it to be quiet.
- The one on one conversation in my family cluster were inspirational! Genuine people handing out advice and praising each other. It was awesome to be a part of such an open experience. Til next time in Vegas! Chrissy Chris and the Funky Bunch.
• During the one-on-one family conversations I learned that others view me as trustworthy and genuine, but that I could always voice my opinions more.
• Leadership is seeing the fear, the lack of engagement, and the apprehension, but still finding the strength to confront it.
• Being challenged by my family cluster to not let my people-pleaser personality keep me from expanding my horizons and causing healthy conflict.
• When I open up and become vulnerable, the relationships I made became so much more meaningful.
• The power of vulnerability and openness in sharing oneself and his/her life experiences with another can truly take a relationship to an entirely different level and can show real authentic beauty.
• “Use the understanding of your differences to create bridges, not barriers.”
• When my family members asked me to share more of my own thoughts and feelings during the discussion.
• No matter what you say or how well you say it, it doesn’t matter if you aren’t a good listener.
• Stay true to your core values no matter what the scenario is!
• My family cluster truly believes I can make a global impact. Twelve people in this world really believe that and they are all in this room. Incredibly moving.
• Group feedback on personal traits. The recurring themes were eye-opening.
• Just hays!!! 😊 #shalom
• The emotional connection, inspiration, and acceptance within my family group and other individuals here. Also, the encouragement to truly be myself.
• “Don’t wait your turn.” –Airick
• Birat mentioned to me that I can’t change who I am, but that I should adapt to every situation and be able to just pull out the good qualities that I already have. That really stood out to me.
• In order to dive deeper into a relationship, it is important to discover the how and why about the person rather than the what.
• Tata told me I have a unique spirit and it made me feel really special. I want everyone here to know that she is fantastic! I appreciate her.
• How powerful the family cluster discussions were this week.
• During the day six face-to-face discussions in our family cluster, my teammates were so incredibly open with me in giving feedback. A couple told me I inspired them- inspiring others to grow is a deeply rooted core value and goal of mine. This exercise was the first time as a student and in a very long time that I felt as though I was part of a community that cared and supported me, and that I could be authentic in.
• Build bridges with those who are different to allow a means for authentic interaction.
• Leadership takes constant refinement and effort.