

Dr. Peterson

Governor's Honors Program

11 a.m.-noon Friday, July 11, 2014

Leadership Talk Outline

I understand that many of you are interested in math, science, social studies, and policy. You're on the right track for leadership with the potential to make a global impact.

Opportunities in STEM fields

These are the careers that will have a major impact on some of the world's greatest challenges, including water, transportation, health, energy, and sustainability. By pursuing STEM fields, you have great potential to be a leader in developing solutions that will impact thousands of lives.

At Georgia Tech, our goal is to prepare students to be leaders and innovators who can change the world. They're not waiting until they graduate to begin. Programs like the InVenture Prize. This year's first place winning team: First Prize and People's Choice Winner Safi Choo Toilet is an inexpensive mobile toilet designed to address health and contamination issues in refugee camps. (could help millions of people) The Young ladies who invented it are spending the summer talking to people in leadership positions in other countries on how it could help them.

How do you get there?

Start early and be purposeful. Get engaged in problem solving, in leadership activities. Admission at Georgia Tech not just based on grades. Examples of some of the things our President's Scholars have done before they set foot on campus. Seek out leadership opportunities, things you're excited about. White House Makers Faire. Better Walk Crutch was invented because he had to walk on crutches, and found them uncomfortable. (possibly Corbin Klett video)

Be persistent

Beatles were not an overnight success. 10,000 hours of practice. Bill Gates built computers in his garage.

Collaborate

Examples of solutions developed at Tech because people in several disciplines got together.

Personal example: Invention to help prevent seizures in babies.

Leaders are inclusive: Dr. William Wulf quote.

Take risks

Example of applying for job with NASA when you were reading the book about heat transfer while on the phone with them.

Examples from NSF trip to Antarctica (On the ice, your red “survival” bag, McMurdo Station, what you would have missed if you had not gone.)

Have Vision

25-year strategic plan example. Possibly video from Nick Selby. While the “iron man suit” received global attention, there’s more to the story. How he handled the media. His answer to Fox News “I want to be an engineer.” Never lose sight of your goal.