

## Leadership Seminar at Barrytown Lauded by Participants

M. Iparraguirre  
June 2, 2013



*LEAD Evolve participants from left to right: Toby Phillips, Alban Gaval, Taka Sugawara, Heidi Hokanson, Isabel Iparraguirre, Mike Perkins, Ivan Dickson, Leset Sales, Doug Owens, Jake Mas, M. Iparraguirre, Jon Oben and Sarah Oben*

From May 29 to June 2, 2013, college and early career Unificationist young adults participated in the first annual LEAD Evolve conference at Barrytown College in Barrytown, NY. (The college is a branch of the Unification Theological Seminary.) LEAD (i.e. Leadership Education and Development) Evolve is a personal leadership and professional development program designed on the basis of the LEAD Foundation created by Pablo and Dr. Iparraguirre in 2003 in order to establish a positive youth culture.

Participants were young adults in their 20's and came from Virginia, Maryland, New York, New Jersey and Massachusetts. The program included four days of interactive presentations, intensive sports activities and focused evening programs.



*Taka Sugawara (MA) sets a new log toss record for Barrytown College*

Mike Perkins, a participant from New York, said of the activities, "I've always loved sports, and I think any workshop should have them. But Evolve took them to the next, very memorable level, and I really appreciated that."

Another participant, Toby Phillips of Virginia, said "Participating in [the evening programs] has allowed me to accept aspects of my life that I struggle with and has forced me to consider how to address them."

Presenters included Rachel Curry, a personal life coach as well as the Assistant Director of Student Life at Barrytown College, and Leo Redmond, a high-growth business consultant and previous managing director of the \$100 million payroll division of the software giant, Intuit. Other presenters were Dr. Iparraguirre, District 3 Pastor for the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU), Tom McDevitt, Chairman of the Board of the Washington Times, Kaeleigh Moffitt, FFWPU Maryland Church Youth Pastor and John Redmond, the chief financial officer of Barrytown College of UTS. Presentations focused on providing relevant, practical tools for participants to actualize their professional dreams and

on how to direct one's professional life based on our core values.



*Leo Redmond offers insights and practical tips from his 30 years of business experience*

Overall, participants thought LEAD Evolve was, “a great combination of people, activities and presentations, I am reaching new levels of self-understanding that I believe will lead to more joy in my life,” according to Perkins.



*From left to right: Alex Beebe (NJ), Toby Phillips (VA), Kester Wilkening (MD) and Heidi Hokanson (DC) get pumped for an afternoon activity*

All participants said they would recommend this program to their friends and colleagues. Alban Gaval from New Jersey said, “When I signed up for this, I didn't really know what to expect, I was completely blown away by how engaging and applicable each lecture was. The afternoon and evening activities were meaningful, fun and amazing opportunities to deepen relationships. I am so glad I attended LEAD Evolve and recommend this to anyone looking for great people, good times and a chance to grow.”

The next program, LEAD Evolve: College Edition will take place in early January of 2014 in California.



*From left to right: Alban Gaval (NJ), Jon Oben (MD) and Toby Phillips (VA) interact with Rachel Curry during her presentation*

If you would like to learn more about the LEAD Foundation or hear about upcoming programs and exclusive discounts, check out our website, [leadwithheart.org](http://leadwithheart.org).

M. Iparraguirre is a university student, LEAD Evolve core team member and general affairs director of LEAD Foundation