

“I participated in the Inaugural 2010 OSLHA Student Leadership Development Program. I am writing to express to you my gratitude for being an integral member in allowing this program to occur. As I had expressed to Linda Petrosino, Program Coordinator, as well as the program committee members, I found this experience to be an invaluable opportunity that reinforced several aspects of my doctoral studies, which have a heavy emphasis on leadership within the profession. The insights that Ms. Colcord shared during the Leadership strengths' activity, conducted by guest presenter Dr. Andrea Thomas, guided me in the task of composing my Candidacy Committee. Reflecting upon my strengths, as well as the strengths I perceive in my professors, I created a Candidacy Committee that is not only the best fit for my academic goals, but also my relationship needs, which is a critical but often unspoken aspect to consider with doctoral study. Mr. Reichhardt's enthusiasm and optimism for the profession inspired me to research and define positive aspects of the profession that can be promoted within the school setting. The presentation given by Dr. Redle and Ms. Zeit paralleled many themes I learned in an Educational Policy and Leadership course on Leadership, Inquiry and Ethics, such as setting achievable goals, possessing the correct mindset to achieve those goals and also enlisting the support of others to achieve your goals. Additionally, Dr. Petrosino's dedication to the program was duly noted in her impeccable organizational skills and respect for the program committee and student participants.”

*Sincerely,
Jennifer Dunkle*