

Alfred University sophomore serves as President for a Day

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Alfred University student Anastasia Campbell spends some time with Mark Zupan, University president.

ALFRED, NY Alfred University student Anastasia Campbell had the unique opportunity to walk in the shoes of Mark Zupan, University president. On Wednesday and Thursday (April 25 and 26), the sophomore criminal justice major from Rochester served as Alfred University's first-ever "President for a Day."

Campbell spent much of her time with Zupan, experiencing first-hand a day in the life of a university president. The Division of Student Affairs Center for Student Involvement and the President's Office started the President for a Day program as a way for student body to interact with the president.

"I think the student body sees the president participating and being an engaging presence on campus. They see him wearing so many hats, so to speak, that I think they wonder how he does it," said John Lewis, director of student activities. "The President for a Day experience gives our students the opportunity to sit at the head of the table, see what goes into the role, and get an inside look at the presidency at Alfred University."

"At Alfred University, we are always looking to help our students as well as administrators grow as leaders," Zupan remarked. "This is but another example of that."

Campbell, a winner of the 2018 Alpha Kappa Omicron Achievement Award, is part of the current Women's Leadership Academy cohort and served as coordinator of this year's Women's Leadership Academy graduation. She is also the vice president of the Caribbean Student Organization. She was among 24 student applicants to serve as President for a Day, and was chosen by a panel of staff members from the Center for Student Involvement and a student from the Institute for Cultural Unity.

In her application she wrote: "I would like to be president for a day because I am constantly looking for opportunities

to test my leadership abilities. I do not believe there is a better way to do this than to experience the stresses and joys of being University president for the day. I would like to see Alfred University and all that it has to offer from the lenses of presidency. I also have a goal of being in every position possible here at Alfred University before I graduate and I am on track to doing just that. Being president for a day would be the gold star to top it all off.”

Campbell joined Zupan for the Student Leadership dinner Wednesday evening, addressing those in attendance. On Thursday, she met with the president in the morning and later accompanied him to Thursday&s Riley Lecture, given by Gallaudet University President Roberta Cordano. After the lecture, Campbell had dinner with Zupan, Cordano, and members of the University faculty and staff at the president&s house.

Lewis said the goal is for the Student for a Day program to be an annual event. “We hope to do it each spring. We purposely did it this year to coincide with the Student Leadership dinner,” he said.