

Judson Leadership Center receives grant for leadership programs

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The Judson Leadership Center at Alfred University has received funding from the C. Charles Jackson Foundation to enhance leadership development programs at the University. The \$4,000 grant "will be used to support leadership and training for Alfred University," said Julia Overton-Healy, director of the Judson Leadership Center. "The funds will support the use of StrengthsQuest, an online inventory that shows students their top talents toward leadership, teamwork and personal achievement. In addition the grant will support the continuation of the Gary Horowitz Leadership Development Certificate Program and the Saxon Sidekicks mentoring program for new students." The application from the Judson Leadership Center fit in well with the Foundation's mission, which is to advance and support the development of human growth and potential. Leadership, character development and life-skills education, from kindergarten through college, are essential components of the foundation's mission, said Overton-Healy. Overton-Healy explained the assessment tool will be used to "enhance students' learning and self-understanding" about their leadership skills, values and goals. "It will be a central component in the way we teach, develop and train emerging student leaders," she said. What the Judson Leadership Center offers Alfred University students is unique in that it administers three leadership development programs, including the Women's Leadership Center, which is one of only 25 in the country; a first-year student mentoring program called the Saxon Sidekicks; and the Horowitz Leadership Certificate Program. Additionally, beginning in fall 2012, the Judson Leadership Center will launch a partnership with the School of Engineering that will provide scholarships coupled with leadership training and career coaching to student recipients.