



YOUR IMPACT

2024 RUCK LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

This summer, SigEp gathered undergraduate leaders at the University of Richmond for the Ruck Leadership Institute. This five-day advanced leadership program equipped brothers to positively impact and change culture in their chapters, campuses and communities. Executive-level alumni mentors guided undergraduate leaders in exploring their personal leadership styles as well as how to engage in difficult and meaningful conversations – skills often not taught on campuses today.



THE NUMBERS

156 scholars from **100** chapters

Ruck aims to **grow skills and confidence** in key areas that help scholars engage others in a process of change and continuous improvement. Here's a look at the development that occurred, because of Ruck, for this year's scholars completing the post-program survey:

- **100%** of scholars said that Ruck was a valuable experience.
- **99%** of scholars understand how to be a growth-focused leader and could explain how to be one to their chapter brothers.
- **99%** of scholars are at least somewhat confident that they can go back to their chapters and implement positive change as a result of attending Ruck.

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The Ruck Leadership Institute has helped me learn more about myself through introspection while learning and applying new foundational knowledge about leadership and my character. It has made such a significant impact on me, and I think that by the time we finished up the last night at Ruck, I made some friends for life and we will stay in touch with each other over the years.

–**Elis Kristo, Boston C '26**



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Scholars created personal leadership and chapter action plans to extend their growth and chapter improvement efforts beyond Ruck. The chapter action plans were also sent to chapter volunteers and executive boards to implement collaboratively. Follow-up messages were also sent in August and September to encourage continuous evaluation and adjustment.
- Scholars developed a support network of like-minded peer leaders who exhibit values-based behaviors that reflect personal and SigEp values.
- During the high-ropes course, brothers bonded and gained valuable lessons in team building.
- Scholars noted that one of their favorite sessions was a deep-dive into SigEp's history and values on the Journey of Innovation, a walking tour of the Richmond campus led by Past Grand President Steve Shanklin, Murray State '70.
- Evelyn Piazza and Rae Ann Gruver, anti-hazing advocates and mothers of sons who died because of hazing, joined the scholars and faculty to share their stories and give specific tips for being a leader who cultivates a safe and respectful chapter environment.

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–**Russell Bora, Sacramento State '25**



BECAUSE OF SIGEP DONORS

Ruck simply would not have happened without the generosity of SigEps and friends.

Gifts through the Annual Fund cover approximately two-thirds of the total cost to put on Ruck Leadership Institute each year, reducing the cost burden on undergraduate attendees. In addition to this significant support that makes Ruck accessible for every scholar, **40% of 2024 Ruck scholars** had their registration fee fully or partially sponsored by donors through chapter-specific funds and endowed funds.

Thank you for your critical support in providing out-of-classroom leadership opportunities.



The Ruck Leadership Institute has long been SigEp's landmark leadership program and a sought-after experience for undergraduates to explore and develop personal leadership skills. SigEps from around the country come together to learn from each other and from some incredibly successful alumni. This year, we celebrated the 25th anniversary of the program, which included a special recognition of the co-founders of Ruck, **Jay Hurt, Davidson '88 and John Hartman, Missouri '88.**

The 2025 Ruck Leadership Institute will be held from **June 18-22** at the **University of Richmond.**

SUPPORT RUCK LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE