Dear Friend,

You and I and our fellow Americans certainly face a lot with the Coronavirus and all the concerns that come with it.

Right now, America must have prudent leaders with cool heads who will stick to conservative principles and weather us through the storm.

That’s why your support of the Leadership Institute is more crucial than ever. The conservatives you equip with Institute training become the leaders who step up in times such as these — like U.S. Navy veteran, Congressman Dan Crenshaw. I encourage you to read pages 4-5 of your newsletter to see how you helped turn him into the leader he is today.

The Institute is open and operational

You and I must make sure our constitutional freedoms — limited government, free enterprise, national sovereignty, and traditional American values — don’t get incinerated by the left.

Your Leadership Institute remains open and operational. LI has invested in technologies that keep our staff and students connected and effective.

I’ve rescheduled our in-person events to keep people safe. My team has quickly switched many of our on-site trainings to an online format. LI has greatly expanded the number and variety of our online workshops in the next several weeks — and beyond, as proves necessary.

These workshops will continue to teach the practical skills you’d expect from LI training: the specific tactics and techniques to win, even in difficult circumstances.

Conservative students, activists, candidates, and leaders will be able to participate from anywhere they have an internet connection and hear and see the speakers as if they were in the same room.

Ready for when the campaign season comes roaring back

You and I can do much for our country at this time.

Though our national situation is fraught with difficulties, it opens up new opportunities to reach many conservatives right in their own homes, who otherwise might not be able to attend Leadership Institute training.

This will certainly be a “compressed” campaign season. But whenever the danger lifts, conservatives will hit the ground running in the fall, equipped with the training to win — thanks to your support.

Thank you. I look forward to reporting to you the results of the tremendous work you make possible — especially in these new but temporary circumstances.

Let’s pray for continued good health for all of us — and work to keep America free.

Cordially,

Morton C. Blackwell
President, Leadership Institute

Anchors aweigh... on to victory! In this issue, read how Congressman Dan Crenshaw took his fortitude as a U.S. Navy veteran, combined it with Leadership Institute training, and triumphed to become a statesman who serves America and our founding principles.
“It will not be enough just to win the next election. We’ve got to win the next generation.” What Vice President Mike Pence said is right. The next generation is crucial to the conservative future of America.

And thanks to you, the Leadership Institute is fighting hard to level the playing field at colleges and win the next generation.

Your Leadership Institute’s Campus Reform has achieved at least 192 policy changes on America’s college campuses since 2014. That means discriminatory policies dropped, socialist-slanted courses axed, and abusive professors fired.

Your Leadership Institute forced 40 of these policy changes last year. Because of your support, conservatives have pushed back against the campus left’s abuse at these colleges and won.

Thousands of conservative students — encouraged by our success at fighting liberal bullies — now champ at the bit to stand up to the left at their own universities. They bring evidence of leftist bias and indoctrination on campus to your Leadership Institute. Then my staff — or even the students themselves — investigate and expose these abuses through our campus watchdog news website, CampusReform.org.

I’ve included here a selection of the victories you accomplished in 2019. You and I are winning back the next generation, one victory — one campus — at a time.

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**UNIVERSITY OF IOWA**

**Exposed:** University of Iowa disbanded a Christian conservative student group, Business Leaders in Christ, because the group required members to be practicing Christians. The university claimed that this group’s rule “violated human rights” and wasn’t “inclusive.” Hypocritically, the university supports student groups such as UI Feminist Union, which requires members to support abortion practices, and the Islamic organization Imam Mahdi, which requires that members are practicing Muslims.

**Result:** Leadership Institute Campus Correspondent Jordyn Landau appeared on Fox News to report on this suppression of free speech and right to assemble. A legal defense coalition partner of LI sued the university over its violation of the First Amendment. The judge ruled in favor of the students and forced the university to reinstate the conservative student group permanently.

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**COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Exposed:** Colorado State University warned its students not to use the words ‘America’ and ‘American’ when talking about the United States — because these words were not “inclusive” for other cultures in North and South America.

**Result:** Campus Reform’s Emma Meshell reported the story on news stations nationwide, prompting Colorado State to back down and remove their language guide.

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**UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA**

**Exposed:** Several students harassed border patrol police officers who were recruiting job candidates on campus. They called the officers “murderers” and “an extension of the KKK.” The agitators’ shouts even disrupted several classes within earshot.

**Result:** Campus Reform published a video of the students’ harassment of the border agents, causing public outcry. Local authorities subsequently arrested and charged the student agitators for their harassment.

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**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA — BERKELEY**

**Exposed:** A vicious liberal threatened and assaulted Leadership Institute’s campus organizer Hayden Williams (see photo, right) on Berkeley’s campus — just for being a conservative.

**Result:** Campus Reform reported on the attack with the video of the leftist punching Hayden. After the story became national news, police arrested and charged the leftist thug for his violent assault. President Trump praised Hayden’s courage and later signed an executive order to withhold federal research dollars from colleges that violate students’ free speech rights.
UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Exposed: The University of Iowa organized a racist event to malign white students. This “Understanding Your Whiteness” event would indoctrinate students about “the inherent privileges that come with being White.”

Result: After Campus Reform reported the event, several news networks picked up the story. The university received significant backlash from the public and other news networks and canceled the event.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Exposed: University of Minnesota officials established a policy where LGBTQ students could choose to use pronouns other than the traditional male and female ones. Anyone who did not use students’ “preferred” pronouns could be expelled or have their employment at the university terminated.

Result: After Campus Reform reported this gross violation of First Amendment rights — including the right to refuse to use the wrong pronouns for people — school administrators abandoned the policy.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Exposed: University of Michigan targeted conservative free speech on campus through a ‘Bias Response Team.’ This cadre scrutinized and punished students who were accused by leftist students of having ‘biased’ opinions — that is, conservative opinions.

Result: A coalition partner of the Leadership Institute filed a lawsuit against the university’s violation of the First Amendment. The U.S. Department of Justice endorsed this lawsuit to protect free speech, and the university was forced to disband permanently its Bias Response Team.

WILLIAMS COLLEGE, MA

Exposed: Williams College discriminated against a Pro-Israel student group — refusing to grant the club official status at the college even though the club fulfilled all the school’s requirements. This decision was based on the group’s mission to support Israel and the pro-Israel campus community. Instead, Williams College supported an anti-Israel Palestine club, discriminating against pro-Israel students.

Result: An Israel advocacy organization reached out to Campus Reform about the college’s anti-Semitism and violation of free speech. After Campus Reform investigated the incident and published the story, the U.S. Department of Education launched a federal investigation into Williams College.

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

Exposed: NYU offered a journalism course called “Reporting on the Far Right.” The course would guide students on how to track and expose the identities of conservatives who expressed their political views online. Victims of this type of exposure often face harassment and repercussions for their conservative principles. The professor slated to teach this course was an anti-conservative, former New Yorker magazine “fact checker” who falsely claimed that a disabled U.S. veteran and ICE agent had a Nazi tattoo.

Result: After Campus Reform’s exposure, NYU canceled the course when only two students planned to enroll in it.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS — AUSTIN

Exposed: University of Texas’ student government threatened to publish the names, photos, phone numbers, and other personal information of incoming freshmen around the school if they joined any conservative club. These students then would be singled out as targets for further liberal abuse on campus.

Result: Campus Reform’s editor-in-chief Cabot Phillips appeared on Fox & Friends to expose this chilling plot. After this exposure, UT-Austin officials reached out to the Texas Attorney General’s Office for legal advice on how to prevent this threatening behavior and protect conservative students.

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Exposed: A teaching assistant at the University of Georgia made racially-charged and threatening comments on social media against white conservatives. He said, “Some white people may have to die,” and “killing some white people isn’t genocide, it’s killing some white people.” He also declared that Democrats should “wage war on the white electorate.”

Result: After Campus Reform reported on the offending teacher, the University of Georgia investigated the employee and suspended him from teaching.
Leadership Institute graduates come from all walks of life: college students who work to make a difference on their campuses, truth-telling journalists who fight liberal media bias — even U.S. veterans who strive to protect the freedoms at home that they fought for abroad. One such Leadership Institute graduate is U.S. Representative Dan Crenshaw.

A sacrifice for his country

Dan Crenshaw, a Navy SEAL veteran, lost his right eye fighting terrorism in Afghanistan. He heroically sacrificed part of himself for America, but wasn’t finished protecting the country he loved after his military service. Dan saw the left maneuvering to destroy the principles the Founding Fathers laid down in the Constitution — the principles he had put his life on the line for. So he decided to run for elected office in his home state of Texas.

“Public office had never been something I aspired to — but as I watched the freedoms I had sacrificed so much for slipping away, I knew I had to do something about it,” Dan said. “Running for Congress was another way to continue fighting for this amazing country I love so much.”

But Dan faced an uphill battle. He had to win a tough primary election to even get to the general election. And he was facing a rabid left — determined to turn Texas liberal.

“I sought out the best training there was for conservatives”

“Like any good Navy SEAL, I knew I needed specialized training and preparation,” Dan said. “I had to actually win an election if I was going to make a difference. I sought out the best training there was for conservative leaders. Everyone I asked told me about an organization called the Leadership Institute.”

Dan enrolled in several Leadership Institute trainings to prepare for his campaign, including LI’s Campaign Management School, Debate Workshop, and Public Speaking Workshop. These “nuts-and-bolts” trainings gave him the tools to run a successful campaign and stand up to anything the left would throw at him.

Dan Crenshaw took seven Leadership Institute trainings, including LI’s Public Speaking Workshop and Debate Workshop. “The Leadership Institute and its donors made it possible for me to learn how to run a campaign, how to craft my message, how to speak effectively in public, and how to handle the media.”
“I faced an uphill battle. I was unknown, outspent, and totally new to politics,” Dan said. But he was armed with the Leadership Institute’s premier training. Dan prevailed in a tough 2018 primary battle in the 2nd congressional district of Texas and went on to win the general election.

“I didn’t take just one or two courses — I took seven!” Dan said. “I learned how to win through the Leadership Institute.” Today, he is one of the few freshmen conservative members of the House of Representatives.

**Future conservative victories through the Leadership Institute**

Dan credits the Leadership Institute — and LI donors — with his election victory. “The Leadership Institute and its donors made it possible for me to learn how to run a campaign, how to craft my message, how to speak effectively in public, and how to handle the media.”

Dan Crenshaw is one of 223,712 students, activists, and leaders the Leadership Institute has trained since 1979. Today, thousands of Institute graduates like Congressman Crenshaw serve as elected officials, campaign leaders, and volunteers for good conservative causes and candidates of their choice.

This year, leftists will spend many millions in an attempt to dominate the 2020 election battlefields. But through generous Leadership Institute donors, conservatives become equipped with expert training, fight back — and win — for America’s founding principles.

Congressman Crenshaw said, “I stand in a long line of conservative leaders who owe a debt of gratitude to Morton Blackwell, to the Leadership Institute, and to donors who provide the best training there is for conservative leaders.”

Dan Crenshaw served as a Navy SEAL for ten years, including five tours of duty in Iraq, Afghanistan, and South Korea. “The doctors told me I’d never be able to see again,” Dan said about his injuries from an IED blast. “But thanks to God, I regained vision my left eye.” After his retirement from the U.S. Navy as a Lieutenant Commander, Dan began his mission to serve in elected office and enrolled in Leadership Institute training.
Training in Texas and beyond

Liberals tried to overrun Texas in the last election, pouring money into campaigns to fund hard-left candidates. They came close to taking a U.S. Senate seat. That’s why LI’s grassroots conducted 54 separate campaign training schools in 39 different Texas cities. Never before had the Leadership Institute conducted so many trainings across one state in such a short time.

In 2017 through 2019, Leadership Institute staff conducted 363 special grassroots and campaign training programs in 179 cities across 42 states. That’s 14,539 conservative candidates, campaigners, volunteers, and activists who learned the keys to conservative success at Leadership Institute programs.

This year, the Leadership Institute team is turning to 20 key states, including North Carolina, Florida, Arizona, Michigan, and New Mexico. Places where Leadership Institute graduates have great opportunities to use their training in crucial election contests. In these key states, LI is teaching America’s new leaders how to fight the left, devote their efforts to causes of their choice — and win.

PHASE ONE

Candidate training

During phase one this year, the Leadership Institute focused on candidate training. LI conducted Campaign Bootcamps, Candidate Academies, a Future Candidate School, a Campaign Management School, and more.

LI teaches principled conservative candidates how to campaign most effectively and how to withstand all the left throws at them — including smear campaigns of outright lies. Any one of the 300+ Institute graduates currently serving as elected officials at the federal and state levels can say how their Leadership Institute training prepared them and their staffs to outwork and outmaneuver their leftist opponents and win against the toughest odds.

PHASE TWO

Communications training

Now in the second quarter of the year, the next phase is LI’s communications training.

Liberals dominate the media and are masters at spinning “facts” to fit their agenda — even outright lying to the American public. All conservative candidates face the challenge of getting positive media attention during their campaigns. LI trainers teach conservative candidates and their teams how to cut through the mainstream media’s distortions and craft a winning message. And when the opportunity presents itself, the LI-trained candidate is ready to seize the moment and get his or her message to the public.

PHASE THREE

Get-out-the-vote training

Finally, the summer and fall bring the all-important third phase. In the all-out push to election day, LI’s team will teach conservative campaigners how to identify and turn out all their voters — and secure victory for conservative principles.

LI’s Get-Out-The-Vote Workshops drive home everything the campaigners and candidates learned in Leadership Institute programs. Candidates can have an enthusiastic following and powerful message — but winning comes down to actual votes. And LI’s get-out-the-vote training teaches candidates how to ensure their voter base comes to the polls on election day and carries them to victory.

This will be a crucial year like no other for America’s future. The survival of America’s founding principles depends on the support of conservatives ready to defend their country. And through Leadership Institute training — often the difference between historic victory and agonizing defeat — conservatives have the keys to victory for 2020 and beyond.
“Every time we see a Campus Reform TV segment exposing a liberal professor’s abuse, it reminds us that our investment in the Leadership Institute is making a difference,” Robert Meng said. Protecting the next generation of conservatives from liberal tyranny is an important cause for Bob and his wife Beverly. They donate to the Leadership Institute to stop the leftist abuse rampant at America’s colleges and universities.

Growing up in Ohio, Bob and Beverly were both reared on their families’ traditional American values, good work ethic, and belief in a better America. From an early age, Beverly wanted to teach those in her community the prosperous principles she learned from her parents and grandparents. She became involved in conservative activism from her late teens through the present day — and taught conservative principles in schools.

Watching ‘the land of the free’ lurch left

During Bob and Beverly’s college years at Ohio Northern University and Cleveland State University respectively, they both saw first-hand the destructive nature of the left’s “progressive” policies on their campuses. The indoctrination of American youth the Mengs witnessed made them worried about the country they both loved.

After graduation, Bob worked for Caterpillar as an engineer. His position took Beverly and their two daughters across the world — living in Europe and Asia. While Bob and Beverly enjoyed their travels and studying the history they encountered, they saw people in the countries they visited suffer from the erosion of liberties under socialist, communist, and authoritarian governments.

“The years we lived abroad strengthened our appreciation for conservative roots and the precious freedoms of America,” Beverly said. “But the survival of these freedoms depends on the next generation.”

When Bob and Beverly returned from abroad, they were even more determined that the left did not take over America. Settling in Georgia, Bob and Beverly focused more extensively on standing up for their principles. They volunteered on local and federal campaigns to help elect solid conservative leaders.

In addition to their volunteer work, Bob and Beverly have supported organizations dedicated to preserving conservative principles in America’s youth — including the Leadership Institute.

“Saving America’s youth through a planned estate gift to the Leadership Institute

While attending a Republican meeting in Savannah, Beverly learned about the Leadership Institute. Both she and Bob knew this was an organization they could wholeheartedly support because of LI’s mission to turn conservative students into America’s leaders. Since 2009, the Mengs have faithfully supported the Leadership Institute.

For Bob and Beverly, conservatives must do everything they can to bring about a better future for America. So the Mengs made a commitment to include the Leadership Institute in their estate plans.

“Our legacy is LI’s mission,” said Bob.

“We have done the research to know LI honors our intentions as donors and invests in creating conservative leaders for America’s future.”

— ROBERT & BEVERLY MENG

“We strongly believe in the Leadership Institute’s work to train conservative students, activists, and leaders,” said Beverly.

The Leadership Institute’s field staff finds, recruits, organizes, and trains conservative students on college campuses. When students who face indoctrination and intimidation learn how to band together with other young conservatives and stand up for their beliefs, they make an impact on campus. Students grow their groups, bring conservative speakers to their colleges, and report liberal abuses through articles on LI’s CampusReform.org news website. When students see the difference they can make as young men and women, many become lifelong leaders for conservative principles.

The investment conservatives make in the next generation will determine the future of conservative principles in America. And through the Leadership Institute, conservatives can make a real, lasting impact on the direction of our country.

“We have done the research to know that LI honors our intentions as donors and invests in creating conservative leaders for America’s future.”

— by John McGovern
Your support has trained so many students, activists, and leaders to defend and advance our shared conservative principles. Thank you.