

12/17/2008

People are the foundation of great organizations. Without the human element, ventures fail. If you asked me last year what is the Lebanese Collegiate Network (LCN), I would have told you that it is a motivated and hardworking team focused on serving its Lebanese community and membership. Today, I know it is much more. I could have never imagined the extent of the LCN's impact. 2008 saw the launch of our inaugural LCN Convention (www.mylcn.org/LCN08), the Academic Excellence & Heritage Award, and the Most Outstanding ULC Award. I am extremely happy and proud of the LCN's accomplishments, but I know that our real challenge is ahead. How do we continue this momentum? How do we challenge the next generation of Lebanese students and alumni to carry on the LCN mission?

The LCN is privileged to serve a devoted and enthusiastic membership. The membership is the reason this organization started. Your potential has been our motivation. Every interaction we had with our membership (fundraisers, programs, convention, etc.) has strengthened the boards resolve to make LCN even stronger. We continue to believe in your ability to contribute positively to our Lebanese American community and we hope to assist you down that path. We promise to set a precedent for transparency, accountability and quality.

We invite you, our membership, to be more active in the LCN. Whether you are a student or an alumnus, there is a place for you today in the LCN. There are many opportunities where you can contribute. Volunteer as a committee chair or join an existing committee. Committees include reCap (the official LCN newsletter), Fundraising, Audit, Awards, Convention, Resume Workshop, Info-sessions, and so much more! We always welcome new ideas. The LCN can not grow without you and it can not survive without you. I hope you step forward and ask: How can I further the LCN? Please do not hesitate to contact me at psislian@mylcn.org so we can find out together.

I want to especially thank our donors. Every tax-deductible dollar you donate is an investment into better service to the membership. We can not serve the students without your generosity. We are looking forward to growing in 2009 and this is only possible with your contributions.

I'll see you at the 2009 LCN Convention at Cal Poly Pomona in Los Angeles, CA on March 27.

Happy Holidays on behalf of the LCN Board.

Patrick Sislian
President
Lebanese Collegiate Network