



# Cross Cultural Leadership Retreat

## Quotes from Past Participants

*Past participants have also had very positive experiences and have expressed how much they gained, including new friendships, through their participation. Following are just a few of their comments:*

"CCLR is one of the top three things I have participated in since coming to Ithaca College. You meet an incredible group of people and learn so much about yourself and others from people's stories, experiences, and life lessons. You can discuss difficult topics in an encouraging environment while truly learning from your peers. This retreat is a refreshing break that lets you look at the world through a whole new perspective while working on your leadership skills in a culturally diverse setting. This fall will be my 3rd CCLR (2nd as a leader) and I always look forward to the new people I will meet and experiences I'll have."

- Stephanie Elowson, CCLR Participant, November 2004 and Peer Leader in 2006 & 2007

"I once heard it said once you stretch a rubberband, it can never return to it's original shape. The same holds true with your mind. Once you open your mind to new perspectives, experiences, circumstances, and possibilities it can never go back to how it was before. CCLR is a catalyst that creates a safe environment in which this change can take place. This truly is an experience that everyone needs to have."

- Justin Highhouse CCLR Participant, November 2006 and Peer Leader in 2007

"CCLR was one of the best things that I did my freshman year. It is a great experience where you can learn about others and learn about yourself at the same time. No matter where you're from, the community atmosphere of CCLR feels like home. The feeling of closeness in CCLR helps to unlock some tough issues that the group can discuss and learn from. Some conversations are funny, others sad, and some angering, but the ability to have conversations such as this is rare. CCLR helps to create a place where dialogue can be the roots of learning. I recommend going to the CCLR to anyone."

- James Aucoin, CCLR Participant, November 2004

"This retreat opened my eyes to different points of view, gave me the courage to ask questions, and exposed me to the stories of some very brave individuals. CCLR increased my awareness, tolerance, and appreciation of those who are different from me. It gave me the opportunity to discuss topics with my peers that are usually considered taboo. What's more, I met a wonderful group of new students and have established some truly special relationships. CCLR was an experience that I value highly and it was a definite highlight of my freshman year!"

- Amanda Schlenker, CCLR Participant 2004