



BECOME A REAL- WORLD LEADER

With the **Leadership-in-Action** Component of the Laidlaw Scholars Leadership & Research Programme.



What is the Leadership-in-Action Component?

The Leadership-in-Action (LiA) component is a ca. **6-week immersive project** that usually takes place in the second summer of your programme.

Learning through service, you will be testing your leadership skills, expanding your understanding of what it means to be a global citizen, and challenging yourself to grow.



What Does Leadership-in-Action Entail?

- An experience in a new and personally challenging environment
- Working with communities in need
- Doing something which makes the world a (sustainably) better place
- Developing and demonstrating your leadership skills, attributes and Laidlaw values
- Learning through service overseas (exemptions may apply in special circumstances)



Why Do a Leadership-in-Action Project?

Learning about leadership in the peace and quiet of a classroom with like-minded peers is very different from encountering challenges in real-world situations.

The LiA gives you the opportunity to **put into practice** what you have learnt in theory about purpose, strategy, planning, execution, communication and influencing skills, team work, resilience and being a global citizen.



Why Do a Leadership-in-Action Project?

The LiA will give you the chance to **take ownership** of a project, working with your supervisor or mentor to set clear objectives and goals which you will then realise over the summer; in the process demonstrating the Laidlaw Values, practicing the leadership attributes that you have learnt so far, and doing something which demonstrably makes the world a better place.



What the Scholars Say

*“LiA is exhilarating, exhausting and deeply rewarding. The experiences you’ll have and the skills you learn will not only prepare you academically, but will be brought with you **for the rest of your life.**”*

*“This experience allowed me to further develop my project management skills through working directly with a vulnerable population to make a positive change. **I have developed knowledge of myself personally and professionally,** whilst expanding my leadership skills in the field of research.”*

*“I had an amazing experience. I loved being able to **watch myself grow** in such a short period of time and to produce work that **I am proud of** after having felt overwhelmed and incapable. This opportunity gave me a better understanding of myself and my interests and the team's encouragement and passion made the experience ten times more meaningful.”*

*“It's a valuable opportunity to **make a real difference** to a community while exploring your potential.”*

*“I loved being able to see **the direct impact of** my project.”*

What Can I Do as My LiA Project?

For your LiA project, you can:

1. implement your research findings,
2. work with a university-approved NGO, not-for-profit partner or programme, or
3. choose from one of the centrally-offered Laidlaw partner projects.



1. Implementing Your Research Findings in a Community of Need

What is Involved?

Continue working and building on your research project from the first summer by applying, testing and refining your findings in the field.

Note: Your research-led LiA experience will need to meet the core programme criteria including learning through service, developing your leadership skills and expanding your understanding of what it means to be a good global citizen.



Project Example

Trinity College Dublin Laidlaw Scholar Xiaolou Feng researched Game Theatre and its application in theatre education for young people during the first summer. During the second summer, Xiaolou practically applied the findings by working with children at Ba'chuan Quantum International School to set up a Game Theatre-Making Lab.



2. Working with a University-Approved Programme

What is Involved?

You can propose a project that involves working with a non-profit or NGO, or choose from a list provided by your University.

If you'd like to propose your own project, you will need to approach the organisation, make sure your agreed project matches the requirements criteria, and then get your project approved by your University.



What to Consider When Proposing Your Own Project

- What is the goal of this project? Can I define at least three SMART objectives which, in the pursuit and delivery of them, will demonstrate my leadership learning?
- Who is the community that I will be supporting and learning from? Am I clear about their needs? In what way are they a community in need?
- In what ways is the setting new to me? How will it challenge me? How will I have a better understanding of different cultures because of it?



Project Example

Tufts Laidlaw Scholar Eleanor Cheung worked with the *Center to Support Immigrant Organizing* to host vaccine clinics and provide educational outreach in immigrant communities across Massachusetts in an effort to reduce disparities in vaccination rates.



3. Centrally-Offered Partner Projects

What is Involved?

You can choose from a list of projects offered by organisation partners of the Laidlaw Foundation.

You will develop your leadership skills by working with a partner non-profit/NGO to help them fulfil their vision and mission.

You can find a list of projects offered in Summer 2024 [here](#). Projects for Summer 2025 will be released in October 2024.



Examples of Partner Organisations

make_sense



TIMOTHY SMITH NETWORK

The Kasiisi project



SWARA
VOICE OF WOMEN

