



## Celebrating the Family of Leaders

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Ladies and gentlemen, hello.

It's hard to put into words the profound impact this program has had on my life, but I'll do my best. You all know that I cry at the drop of a hat and tonight I might just explode. As I stand here today a mix of emotions engulfs me, making it both an honor and a challenge to express the depth of my gratitude and affection for each one of you. This marks not just the end of a chapter but the closing of one of the best experiences in my life – my peer leading journey.

For the last three years, this peer leading program has been my academic home, my safe space. This is where I fell in love with chemistry. It has been transformative and has shaped my future in ways I couldn't have imagined. People ask me: what do you love about the program? Although the answer that others give is that they love helping other people - and that is amazing - I think my answer is more selfish: I love the people in the program, my fellow Peer Leaders. For me, that is what sets this program apart. I love every single one of you. Getting to know you, becoming friends, laughing with you, seeing you grow as Peer Leaders and as human beings has been the highlight of this journey for me.

I will miss our Preview moments, the confused looks when Dr Becvar asks us impossible questions, seeing you in workshop, seeing your faces. More than just a program, being a part of this chemistry peer leading story has changed my life in ways I could never have anticipated. It has been a journey of self-discovery. The skills we've honed – leadership, communication, and the ability to inspire – are not just academic; they are life skills that will serve us well in whatever paths we choose to tread. This program has taught me that true fulfillment comes not just from personal success, but from the success of those around you. It has shown me the power of collaboration, the strength found in unity, and the beauty in celebrating each other's victories. As we go forth into the world, let us carry these lessons with us and continue to make a positive impact wherever life takes us.

In closing, let me express my deepest gratitude to each of you. Thank you for the memories, the laughter, the challenges, and the triumphs. Thank you for being my mentors,

my confidantes, and my friends. You will always have a special place in my heart. I wish each and every one of you boundless success, unending joy, and a future filled with as much fulfillment as you have brought into my life. Taylor Swift once said, "Hold on to the memories and they will hold on to you." That's exactly what I am going to do, keep the memories we built together close in my heart, forever.