



## **Christy Ferrari**

B.S. in Elementary/Special/Early Childhood Education

Graduate: May 2013

Student Club/Organization: Student Government Association. Fall 2009-Present

### **Why did you choose to do this experience?**

I chose to be part of the Student Government Association (SGA) for many different reasons. I was part of SGA in high school and decided that I wanted to continue participating again in college. Once I arrived here on campus, I knew that I wanted to meet new people and gain leadership skills. Through SGA, I am able to make a difference on behalf of my peers and hope that they will one day be inspired to be a positive influence in someone else's life.

### **What are the benefits of doing this experience?**

I have gained so much from being part of the SGA family. This experience has provided me with the opportunity to develop important leadership skills that I will be able to use for the rest of my life. I have made strong connections with the people on SGA and believe that this experience will stay with me for many years to come.

In addition to the skills and connections I have developed through SGA, I have also gained a feeling of campus unity and an inspiration from the Sisters of Mercy with the amounts of materials we collect for those less fortunate. Participating in SGA has given me a sense of pride in that no matter the size of the task, with the proper work ethic, I can achieve anything.

### **How has this experience enhanced your academic experience or shaped your career goals?**

This experience has helped me become more vocal in the classroom by participating in class discussions and allowed me to develop better time-management skills. Being part of SGA has also helped shape the leadership skills that I will need when I become a teacher.

### **Describe any exciting project or responsibility you've worked on during your experience?**

The leadership weekends were two of the best weekends that I have had with GMC. They taught me so much about myself, along with great leadership lessons that I can use in all aspects of my life.

### **Was there anything unique about your experience that you can share with us?**

I was very nervous because I was the new kid and I didn't really know anyone. My nervousness went away quickly because everyone was so nice and welcoming. My peers on SGA are some of the nicest people I've met on GMC's campus.

**What advice would you give to other students who may be considering a similar experience?**

If someone were considering joining SGA, I would tell them that they definitely should. Even though I was hesitant about it at first, I have gained so many valuable skills through this experience that I would encourage other students to take advantage of the opportunity to give back to the GMC community.

**Is there anything else you would like to share? Life lessons?  
Things you wished you would have known?**

If you are thinking about joining a team or a club, go for it! You are only young once and you should make the best of it. College is not about partying or sleeping in; it is about what happens when you leave and set out on your own. These four years will help mold and shape us into the kinds of people we will want to be after graduation.

Being a part of something good will have a lasting impression on you for the rest of your life. I know that participating in charitable events has helped those who are truly in need, while also giving me a sense of purpose on campus.

Another piece of advice I have for students is that although getting involved on campus is very important, you cannot join everything. Your main priority should always be school, then focus the rest of your time on gaining experience.