



The Bark | February 27, 2023

Peer Collective Summit: A Message from Robin Holmes-Sullivan



Hello, Students!

I'm delighted to be making a guest appearance in The Bark this week to encourage you to sign up for the [Peer Collective Summit](#) happening on Friday and Saturday, March 10 and 11.

One of the main reasons I loved being your VPSL and wanted to take on the challenge of being your president is my deep admiration for Lewis & Clark students. You make L&C a place like no other, and you do this through your leadership. I started the [Peer Collective Summit](#) last year as a way to bring current, emerging, and aspiring student leaders together to build community, establish support networks, and dream big. The theme is "*Growing Together*," with sessions about wellness, leadership, and belonging. I'm so pleased the summit is taking hold, with an [exciting agenda](#) and [dynamic slate of presenters](#) lined up for its second year.

This is my personal invitation to all of you to [register for the summit](#). Whether you already think of yourself as a leader or you simply want to learn about what being a peer leader means, you will get something out of the event. You all have talents and perspectives that are valued, and welcome. Please [register](#), and as part of the deal you get to come to my house for a reception on Friday night, March 10. I love hosting students at the Cooley House and hope to see you there.

I believe in you!
Robin Holmes-Sullivan
President

The VPSL Column: Guest Columnist: Brian White

Greetings LC Students!

I am Brian White, associate dean of students and director of LC's [International Students and Scholars \(ISS\) office](#). Did you know that this spring, LC international and [Third Culture Kid \(TCK\)](#) students represent 84 countries right here on campus? Across the undergraduate, graduate, and law campuses, 133 international students and another 119 TCKs are currently enrolled.

The ISS office welcomes these students to LC, with the goal of making our campus a home away from home for them. Among many other things, we help international students get visas, social security numbers and work permits so they can have the same learning and extracurricular experiences as domestic students. We help American TCKs navigate the sometimes confusing transition from living as expatriates with their families to being seen and understood as locals.

International students and TCKs bring many different cultures and perspectives to our community, and I have found that almost all of them are curious to learn about the “real life” America that exists beyond the version on TV and the movies. The best way for them to get to know real American culture is by getting to know you. And remember, that kind of learning is two-way. If you have international students and TCKs in your classes or residence halls, ask them about their home countries and places they have lived overseas. Share your favorite American snack food (and try theirs). Be curious!

One great opportunity to do so is coming up this week: the [58th Annual International Fair](#). On Saturday March 4, the [International Students of Lewis & Clark \(ISLC\)](#) will host displays, share snacks (Masala Munch or Kopika Coffee Candy, anyone?) from their countries, and stage a performance of music and dances that include many of the cultures represented on campus right now. Plus, during the event they'll be raffling off a new iPad! The fair is free and you are welcome for whatever time you can spare.



Brian White
Associate Dean of Students/Director of International Students and Scholars