

# James P. Rustowicz

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My name is James Rustowicz and I am the third of six children. Being raised as a middle child in a family can be equated to being a member of a micro-community within a community. My parents have always encouraged independence and teamwork. I have been taught since a young age it is necessary for everyone to do their part and work together to get things accomplished. As a child in my family, it was our responsibility to do our assigned jobs around the house, not to receive an allowance, but simply because it was what had to be done. We also were encouraged to always do our best in school, because as a child, our "job" is to go to school and apply ourselves to our studies. Throughout my educational career, I have strived to do my best, and have received many accolades along the way. I truly understand the need to work hard and always put forth my best effort in my education.

In high school, I was a very diversified student. I was involved in sports, student leadership, Casey's Corner, a small business school store, and community service. Community service is something in which I have always taken part. I remember helping to stuff envelopes and doing beach sweeps when I was just four years old, continuing through high school and into college. I was a cadet with the Grand Island Fire Company, a volunteer soccer coach for several years, and a volunteer with my church. At St. John Fisher College, I am a Service Scholar, a role of which I am very proud.

I am presently going to be a senior at St. John Fisher, and am a business and marketing major. Since beginning at Fisher three years ago, I have been very involved on campus in clubs and organizations, and in the Rochester community as a service scholar. Currently, I am class president and serve on the SGA senate. I have been chosen to be a part of Great Beginnings and a leader on the Orientation Team. I am also a co-captain for the Events and Collaboration committee for the Teddi Dance for Love. In the leadership roles I have on campus, I am often dealing with new Fisher students. It is important to uphold the Fisher values and present myself as a positive role model. I see the values stated in the Fisher Creed, and strive to live by them. It is important to have respect, for myself, for others, and the world around me. I am open-minded, and willing to accept those who are different than I. I am a person of great integrity, and strive to do what is best. I am a responsible person, and I know the value of an education. I consider myself to be a leader, and am viewed as one on campus, both by students and faculty, as noted by my position of Class President and being chosen to serve on the President Student Advisory Board with Dr. Rooney.

Volunteering has been a key component of my life. I enjoy helping others simply for the sake of being there to aid people in their time of need. Through the Service Scholar Program at St. John Fisher I have had the opportunity to work in the Rochester City Schools, helping inner-city students with homework, and with the Catholic Family Center. At the Catholic Family Center I have been able to apply my marketing skills and collaborate on events and fundraising. Both placements were so different, yet both so rewarding. I like to see the passion of a young student as they "get" something, and I loved using the skills I am learning at school and applying them to help the fund development department at Catholic Family Center.

Overall, as a person, I feel I am honest, responsible, and have a lot of integrity. Through the guidance of my parents, professors, and other positive role models, I have become a person with many goals and achievements. I am determined and hard working and am willing to do anything to help others. Through my volunteer work I have been able to see how fortunate I am and how much help others need. Because of this, I am always offering a helping hand or kind words of advice to help improve someone else's life. Throughout my life, I would like to help others and make a name for myself. I am determined to improve others lives, so I am remembered for my positive attributes. I strive to be the best person I can be in order to be a positive influence on my peers, younger siblings and the children with which I work. I am very mature and people know they can trust me to be responsible and make good choices. I am held accountable to handle all situations and do so the best way possible. I am known for doing the best thing possible and doing everything I can to succeed and to help others succeed. My leadership qualities have allowed me to excel at working with a team, and I have learned how to communicate and connect with all different types of people. I am very personable and enjoy working with others. Through this, I can read people well and am able to effectively help others. Although I am involved in many activities, I have learned to balance my schoolwork, activities, and volunteer service so I can handle it all and put time and effort into each category. I benefit from all these activities because they made me into a well-rounded person. Through my experiences, both in and out of the classroom, I have developed into a leader on campus. A trait I will always carry with me is integrity. *The supreme quality of leadership is integrity (Dwight D. Eisenhower).*