



PennState

NLCG

Fall 2025

Newsletter



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Opportunity knocked this year to lead our organization, and when our team stepped into our respective roles, we set out to create a year that felt both ambitious and supportive for the community. Throughout the last 12 months, we have built progress from previous years, while keeping the centerpiece consistent: our members. From the launch of our first-ever professional development curriculum, to embarking on our first overnight trip as an organization, we have worked diligently to create new opportunities both personally and professionally that drive impact.

Watching members take advantage of new opportunities, build relationships, and continue to shape the culture at the organizational, Smeal, and university levels has been incredible, and we are confident that the passion and dedication brought to NLCG this year will empower the organization to continue the momentum.

As we hand things off, we are genuinely excited for Mariana and the 2026 Executive Board. They are stepping into this opportunity with momentum and a clear sense of purpose, ready to move the organization in ways that reflect both their vision and the foundation that has been built in previous years. NLCG's best days are still ahead, and we look forward to watching the next board continue strengthening this community and creating opportunities that carry the organization into its next chapter.

-Matt Miller

2025 EXECUTIVE BOARD



**Matthew
Miller**

President



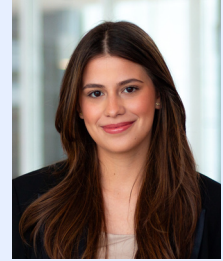
**Ruby
Bjalme**

VP of Talent
Acquisition



**Ashton
Murray**

VP of Organizational
Engagement



**Clarissa
Garcia**

VP of Consulting
Services



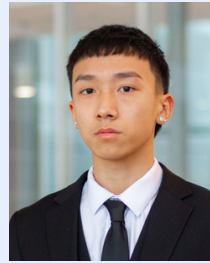
**Sophia
Winnick**

VP of Corporate
Relations



**Luciana
Lavarreda**

VP of Learning
& Development



**Charles
Wang**

VP of Finance &
Administration



**Saaniya
Karpe**

VP of
Outreach

Over the past year, we have been grateful for the opportunity to advance and strengthen the organization. From building upon long-standing initiatives to launching new ones, our focus has been on creating meaningful experiences that empower NLCG members to grow as professionals and leaders. It has been a privilege to support this community's development, collaborate with dedicated peers, and contribute to the continued evolution of NLCG. We are proud of the progress made and confident that the foundation built this year will enable even greater success in the years ahead.

FALL 2025 SBUs

SBU Blue

The Blue SBU, led by **Connor Imbro**, partnered with varied clients including **Cybercheck**, **Penn State College of Medicine**, and **X-Hab 3D** to deliver high-impact consulting engagements that drive measurable results and strategic improvements.

SBU White

The White SBU, led by **Sophie Bang**, worked with notable clients such as **Penn State Office of Physical Plant**, **Clark Associates**, and **Unilever** to drive meaningful change through strategic consulting initiatives.

SBU Black

The Black SBU, led by **Tim Fiedler**, coordinated with unique clients, including the **BedRez**, **Pat Croce & Company**, and **Penn State School of Music** to tackle critical business challenges with innovative consulting solutions.

SBU Pink

The Pink SBU, led by **Mariana Agadis**, engaged with dynamic clients, such as **Forkland Foods**, **Remote Security Solutions**, and **THON** to create transformative solutions through collaborative consulting efforts.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

This semester, NLCG introduced a redesigned Professional Development curriculum aimed at giving members a more structured and impactful learning experience. Spearheaded by VP of Learning and Development Luciana Lavarreda, the new program follows a multi-semester progression that builds consulting, leadership, and client management skills step by step.

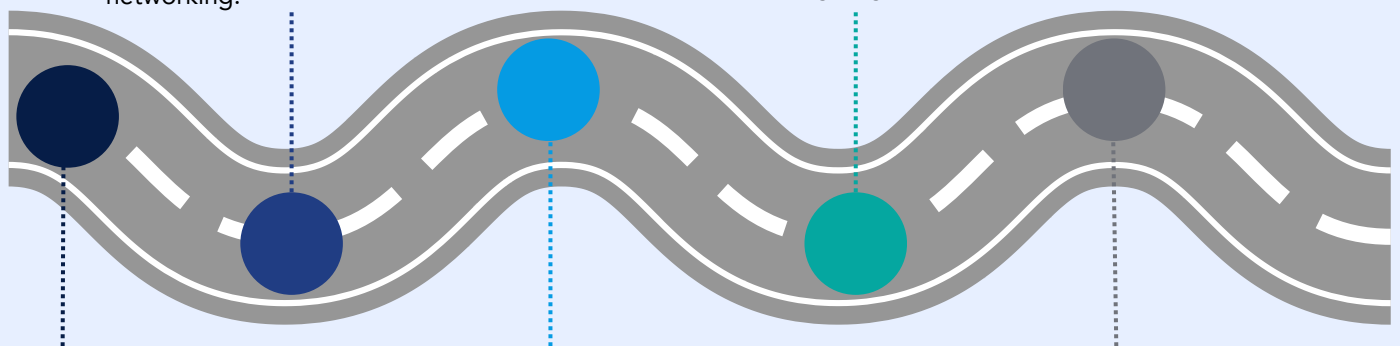
NLCG Semesterly Objectives; Visual Aid Roadmap

First Semester

- **Professional Development:** Build foundational consulting and professional skills; understand NLCG structure and culture.
- **Consulting Services (Associate):** Learn to operate as an individual contributor, mastering accountability and research proficiency.
- **Corporate Relations:** Learn about the recruitment process and begin networking.

Third Semester

- **Professional Development:** Transition into leadership and strategic thinking; begin mentoring others.
- **Consulting Services:** Develop leadership and ownership of processes, projects, and people.
- **Corporate Relations:** Strengthen corporate partnerships and prepare for full-time recruiting, by refining resumes, engaging with NLCG alumni, and pursuing targeted internships.



CTP Students

- Students are introduced to the role of a consultant/student leader.
- Focus on basic professional skills, communication, and early training modules.
- Begin observing or lightly participating in consultant activities.
- Emphasis on building confidence, understanding expectations, and learning organizational culture.

Second Semester

- **Professional Development:** Deepen technical and client-facing skills; refine deliverable quality.
- **Consulting Services:** Strengthen mentorship capabilities, improve project management, and refine analytical output.
- **Corporate Relations:** Refine professional communication and secure internships by conducting informational interviews and beginning case practice.

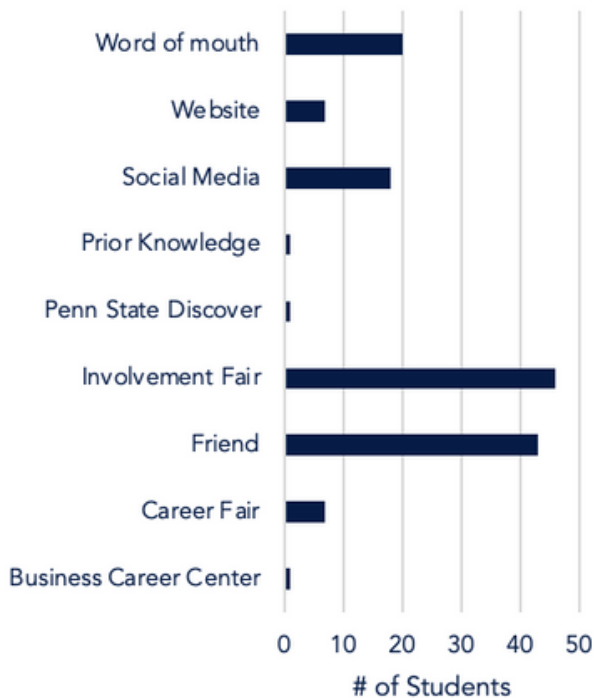
Fourth Semester

- **Professional Development:** Prepare for post-graduation transitions, solidify leadership identity, and reflect on NLCG impact.
- **Consulting Services:** Lead teams, manage culture, deliver feedback, and resolve people-related challenges effectively.
- **Corporate Relations:** Leverage networks, polish interviewing skills, and maintain a professional presence.

Developed by Erin Roney, L&D Lead

THE NLCG PIPELINE

Breakdown of How Students Learned About CTP



EXPANSIONS IN OUTREACH

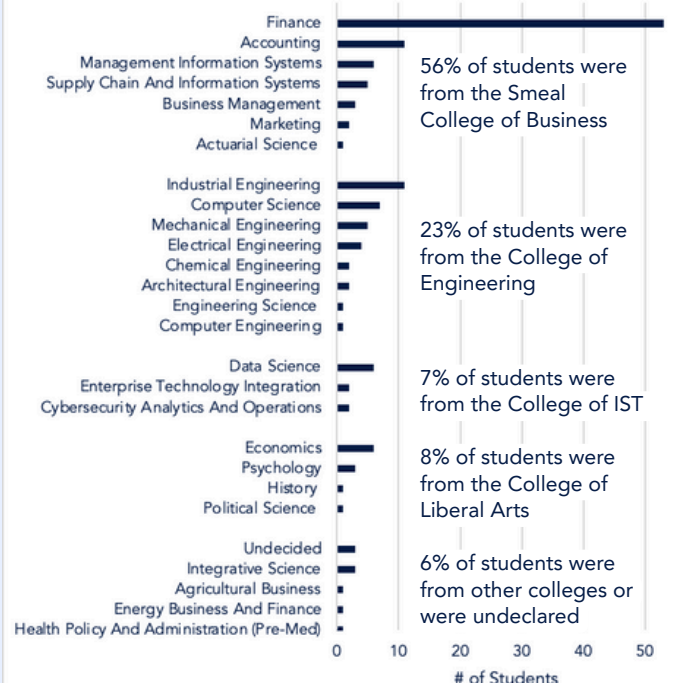
This semester, the Outreach team made strides in expanding NLCG's reach outside the Smeal College of Business. NLCG was able to secure a spot in the Industrial Engineering Involvement Fair, giving members the opportunity to attract talent from a new college.

Additionally, two executive board members, Luciana Lavarreda and Clarissa Garcia, presented a short 5-minute pitch to Dr. Sarah Root's introductory Industrial Engineering Seminar, further enhancing NLCG's visibility outside of Smeal.

CONSULTANT TRAINING PROGRAM

This semester, we had record attendance at CTP, with over 200 students initially joining the Canvas page. A key driver of this turnout was NLCG's presence at Involvement Fairs and word-of-mouth through friends. Throughout the process, approximately 144 students continued. 72 students moved forward to interview for NLCG, and in the end, 24 new associates were offered positions in the organization.

Breakdown of CTP Students by Major



FALL 2025 OFFICE VISIT TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

Thanks to a kind donation from the Iles family, NLCG has the opportunity to visit the offices of our corporate sponsors at various locations. Last fall, students were able to visit PwC and KPMG in New York City for a day. This fall, around 45 of our members participated in an overnight trip to Washington, DC.



NETWORKING BREAKFAST

As a part of this event, NLCG hosted a networking breakfast with a turnout of around 30 alumni. Students were able to gain valuable insight into various industries and opportunities in the area through lived experiences of PSU alumni.

CORPORATE AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Members were able to visit two of our corporate sponsors, EY and KPMG. Through this experience, students were able to partake in an interactive case study with KPMG, attend a catered lunch and Q&A panel with EY, and immerse themselves in a cultural experience at the Smithsonian Institute.



SPRING 2025 TRIP TO PHILADELPHIA

In the Spring 2026 semester, NLCG will be doing an overnight trip to Philadelphia to visit PwC and Deloitte's offices. This trip will take place from March 22nd to 23rd, so keep an eye out for more information that will be posted on our website and social media closer to the date!

ORGANIZATIONAL ENGAGEMENT



This semester members had various organizational engagement activity options to meet new members, with a mix of asynchronous and in-person events. With the changes in the PD curriculum minimizing cross-cohort interactions, organizational engagement events are crucial in driving culture and belonging within the organization.



CORPORATE NETWORKING NIGHT



This semester, NLCG introduced a fully revamped Corporate Networking Night. Hosted in the Eric J. Barron Innovation Hub, the event featured 15 employer tables thoughtfully distributed across three elevated floors, creating a more spacious and engaging atmosphere. Attendees also enjoyed an elevated refreshment experience, including a curated charcuterie board. We were pleased to welcome representatives from RSM, EY, PwC, Grant Thornton, and KPMG, whose presence contributed to a highly successful evening of connection and opportunity.

Through this event, students from both CTP and NLCG were able to learn more about different sectors of consulting from current employees of the various firms, some of whom were Penn State and NLCG alumni.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL GRADUATING SENIORS!



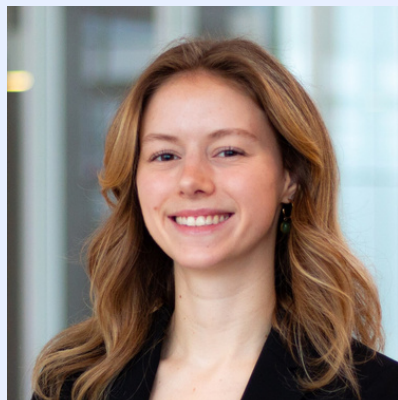
Abdullah
Jaouni



Cole
Apeldorn



Drew
Lauer



Jessica
Krieger



Matthew
Miller

LEGACY AWARD RECIPIENTS

Each semester, NLCG presents four Legacy Awards to members who exemplify the organization's core values through exceptional dedication and impact. This semester's recipients are:



The Gus Colangelo Award for Passion and Belonging was awarded to **Jackson Mopsick**



The SCNO Legacy Award for Results and Impact was awarded to **Will Bonawitz**



The NCG Legacy Award for Excellence and Integrity was awarded to **Connor Imbro**



The Tenured Member Award was awarded to **John Papadopoulos**

NLCG IMPACT

OUTSIDE OF THE SMEAL COLLEGE OF BUSINESS



Harshi Chinnam
Data Science

"As a data science major, I've always been fascinated by how analytical thinking connects to real-world business challenges. NLCG has been an incredible way to explore that intersection, allowing me to apply the problem-solving mindset I've gained through my major in a consulting environment where strategy and impact come to life. What I've come to appreciate most is the human element of consulting: collaborating with clients, understanding their needs, and working closely with a team to drive solutions. It's an experience that balances my analytical background with the interpersonal side of business that I didn't always think I'd get to explore through data science alone."

"Joining NLCG from an engineering background, I was pleasantly surprised with the amount of professional growth opportunities that the experiential learning program offers to all students regardless of academic background. The level of belonging and inclusivity that I share with the amazing members that make up the organization has brought me to understand many new perspectives outside of my academic focus area and build lasting connections with like-minded peers. Throughout my future within NLCG, I am excited to continue expanding my level of excellence in familiar areas, build in-depth comprehensions through new learning opportunities, and connect with more talented individuals throughout NLCG's expansive network."



Jason Baldanza
Industrial
Engineering

2026 EXECUTIVE BOARD



**Mariana
Agadis**
President



**Mahika
Chatterjee**
VP of Talent
Acquisition



**Joey
Kopec**
VP of Organizational
Engagement



**Rishita
Kadre**
VP of Consulting
Services



**Alexis
Wanger**
VP of Corporate
Relations



**Satty
Prabha**
VP of Learning
& Development



**Arjun
Dixit**
VP of Finance &
Administration



**Lauren
McKean**
VP of
Outreach

Building on the foundation established by past executive boards, our vision for NLCG's progression is clear and purposeful. As the incoming Executive Board, we are committed to sustaining and refining the initiatives of the outgoing board—advancing the Professional Development curriculum, continuing the annual city trip to engage with corporate sponsors, and broadening recruitment beyond the Smeal College of Business. In the year ahead, our focus will be on strengthening alignment with the professionalism and processes of the consulting industry while expanding recruitment across the university to enhance diversity in experiences and reflect industry practices.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR INCOMING PRESIDENT

As the incoming CY2026 Executive Board steps into our roles within NLCG, we are both humbled and energized by the opportunity to serve this community. Our transition from working within consulting services has given us a deep appreciation for how our students consistently embody NLCG's core values: Results, Excellence, Belonging, Passion, and Integrity. Through a wide range of projects and deliverables, our clients benefit from the service we provide, but the true impact lies in the growth of our students. In a single semester, they are challenged to acquire new skills, refine their communication, and excel within high-performing teams. Together, we continue to shape future professionals who leave the organization stronger than when they entered.

Looking forward, we are dedicated to advancing NLCG's legacy and pursuing its long-standing goal of becoming the premier student consulting organization in the nation. Though ambitious, this vision is achievable because our students are the backbone of NLCG—driven, resilient, and committed to raising the bar for themselves, their peers, and the clients they serve. We are honored to lead NLCG into 2026 and confident that together we will accomplish great things.

-Mariana Agadis



Thank You for an Incredible Semester!

From targeted professional development sessions to value-driven impact on our engagements, this semester was defined by meaningful growth, continuous learning, and a deep sense of belonging. As we work to further strengthen and elevate this organization, we remain grateful to our sponsors, faculty, and members whose support makes these experiences possible. Here's to the progress ahead!

Contact Information:

Client Inquiries:

Contact Rishita Kadre at rbk5531@psu.edu

Sponsorship Opportunities:

Reach out to Alexis Wagner at anw5838@psu.edu

General Questions:

For all other inquiries, email us at nlcg@psu.edu