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## Fearless Friday: Piper O'Keefe

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# Fearless Friday: Piper O'Keefe

**Abstract**

This Friday we celebrate the fearless leadership of Piper O'Keefe! Piper is a senior studying globalization and political science. Currently, Piper is the president of the College Democrats, a fellow with the Eisenhower Institute, and involved with the service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega (APO). [*excerpt*]

**Keywords**

Fearless Friday, Uncategorized

**Disciplines**

Civic and Community Engagement

**Comments**

Surge is a student blog at Gettysburg College where systemic issues of justice matter. Posts are originally published at [surgegettysburg.wordpress.com](http://surgegettysburg.wordpress.com). Through stories and reflection, these blog entries relate personal experiences to larger issues of equity, demonstrating that -isms are structural problems, not actions defined by individual prejudice. We intend to popularize justice, helping each other to recognize our biases and unlearn the untruths.

# SURGE

**[ VERB ] : to move suddenly or powerfully forward or upward**

## FEARLESS FRIDAY: PIPER O'KEEFE

February 3, 2017



This Friday we celebrate the fearless leadership of Piper O'Keefe! Piper is a senior studying globalization and political science. Currently, Piper is the president of the College Democrats, a fellow with the Eisenhower Institute, and involved with the service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega (APO).

Piper has had a busy year! She spent her junior year studying abroad in Germany and Rwanda, but never left behind her passion for social justice. In Heidelberg, Germany, she studied near the largest temporary refugee camp in Germany. There, she helped tutor refugees in German. Piper noted that children had programs to help them learn German, but adults had no such program, so she was happy to help. In Rwanda, Piper studied post genocide restoration and peace building. She focused specifically on women's rights and talked to women in every branch of government and the supreme court.

Since returning to Gettysburg, Piper has taken over as President of College Democrats, during an election year no less. College Democrats registered over 400 new college voters this year, doubling the total number of registered PA college voters. In fact, 70% of registered Pennsylvania democrats (at the college) voted in this election, one of the highest voter turnouts ever. The group also did outreach in Adams County, knocking on doors in nearby towns to encourage people to vote and tell them more about the then-Democratic nominee Hillary

Clinton. Piper has also spent this semester as an undergraduate fellow at the Eisenhower institute, participating in a year-long program focused on international refugee policy with a student panel.

In the future, Piper is looking to apply to the Peace Corps for her post-graduation plans. She is particularly interested in going to Africa and working with a country that participates in Michelle Obama's program "Let Girls Learn," which brings education to girls throughout the world. She is also considering applying to Americorps, and her career goal is to become a human rights lawyer. As anyone can see, when Piper sets her mind to something she can do anything, and we wish her luck in the future!