

# FIRST-YEAR/SENIOR RETREAT

## Senior Leader Information & Expectations

### POSITION DESCRIPTION:

Senior Leaders (SL) are students in their final academic year at Babson participating in the First-Year/Senior Retreat. These leaders are the primary facilitators and leaders of the retreat experience for the participating first-year students. Senior Leaders present a 5-7 minute testimonial about their personal experience, lead and facilitate small group discussions with first-year students, and lead activities and ice breakers throughout the retreat. Senior Leaders also provide mentorship and guidance for their small group of first-year students throughout the Fall semester following the retreat experience. Selected leaders should be able to talk openly in small or large groups about topics such as: identity, social pressures & responsibility, passion & purpose, academic challenges, leadership, friends & relationships, and making mistakes.

### PROGRAM GOALS:

- We will offer first-year students a unique opportunity to reflect on their experiences at Babson away from the daily distractions of campus life
- To help first-year students initiate new relationships with other first-year students, experienced student leaders, and professional staff who can serve as a resource throughout their time at Babson
- To assist first-year students examine the positive and negative influences on their lives in the social culture of Babson

### SENIOR LEADER EXPECTATIONS:

- Attend the entire First-Year Senior retreat (planned for October 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 \*date subject to change)
- Develop as a Senior Leader team within the structure of the FYSR Retreat and beyond
- Facilitate small group discussions and activities throughout the weekend that are inclusive of all members
- Utilize free time during the retreat to mingle with the first-year students, pay close attention to students who may be shy or withdrawn
- Serve as a mentor to all of your group members throughout their first year at Babson
- Be friendly, attentive, open-minded, and inclusive
- Utilize other Senior Leaders and professional staff on the retreat as a resource – remember, you are not alone!

### TALK GUIDELINES & TIPS:

#### *Preparation*

- The preparation of your talk will require a considerable amount of time (writing, rehearsing, meeting) prior to your departure for the retreat
- You will need to meet with a staff member at least **4 times** to work on, hone, and rehearse your talk
- The talk is your unique story of transition and challenge at Babson – it is not advice or preaching, it is the narrative of your own development
- Have a confident introduction and definitive conclusion
- Use concrete examples that are illustrative of your point, details are important

#### *Execution at the Retreat*

- Your individual talk should be 5-7 minutes
- You will not read your talk or have anything written to rely on during your talk, you should have your talk rehearsed and memorized at the retreat
- Use humor at appropriate points, if necessary