CCI congratulates student, Cairo DeGaillard, as the October 2014 Student Leader Spotlight award winner! Cairo is currently a junior, majoring in mathematical finance with a minor in business administration, who was nominated by her supervisor, Soi Smith. Cairo was nominated for her hardworking nature and overall professional attitude. Cairo serves as a student worker in the Campus and Community Involvement office, the community service chair in BSU, co-captain of the Prowlers dance team, and an orientation team member. Soi Smith described Cairo by saying, "Cairo is very friendly, hardworking, and seeks to improve herself and others. Her peers and professional staff enjoy working with her because she is very responsible and professional."

Cairo balances her commitments by prioritizing her academic assignments and scheduling all of her events accordingly. She finds her leadership inspiration in her mother because of her mother's tenacity in overcoming obstacles, saying, "If ever she was knocked down in life she did not stay down. That characteristic is very important to me because it keeps me going when I hit bumps along the road." Cairo recommends that if you are interested in holding a leadership position in a particular group then you should talk to the leaders within that group. She recognizes that, "Sometimes their passion can inspire you."

Cairo describes, "What makes me a leader is my passion for trying to push organizations to be their best. When I am truly invested in an organization and its cause I want it to be better than ever... I get involved when I have the opportunity and even when there isn't opportunity... I create it for myself."