

LeaderTIPS:

Tools, Ideas, and Possibilities for Success

JANUARY 2008

ISSUE THREE:

MOTIVATION



“One can never consent to creep when one feels an impulse to soar.”

- Helen Keller

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Motivation

One of the most important parts of developing motivational skills in leadership is recognizing where motivation comes from. The common phrase to “get people motivated” implies that it is something you do to someone. A better approach would be to treat it as something you do *with* someone. Motivation can’t be forcibly created, rather it is a collective effort. People around you need to feel that what they are working towards is worthwhile and will benefit them. Much of this comes from your own attitude as a leader towards the goals and vision of the group. If you involve everyone in the development of those goals and allow and encourage them to be invested in the progress of the group, people will feel much more motivated to put forth their hardest work.

Identifying Vision

Everyone speaks of the need for vision in great leadership, but what exactly is vision? The Oxford English Dictionary defines vision as having the interesting characteristic of being a “mental concept of a distinct or vivid kind... of an attractive or fantastic character.” That statement captures a lot of what makes having a powerful vision so important. Your vision must be attractive and compelling so that it draws in those around you to connect with it. Vision is essential because it shapes the goals and attitudes of everyone who participates in it; it will define everything else the group does. There are many ways to develop vision, from an inspired idea of one person to a collaborative approach that includes the ideas of the whole group. Whichever way is appropriate to the situation at hand, a compelling vision is essential to the motivation of a group.

TOOL OF THE MONTH

You’re invited to stop by anytime and use our:

Leadership Library

We have books on all types of leadership, activities, inspirational stories, and more. Best of all, it’s free!

Come by the Student Pavilion to Room 150 if you want to look around and check out some materials.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Want to eat lunch with a leader? Then sign up for the Lunches with Leader series. For more information on this unique opportunity visit: www.seattleu.edu/leadership. Or to sign up via email contact oxenhand@seattleu.edu.*
- *Let us help you! Order a Leadership Take-Out and one of our well-trained staff members will facilitate a workshop catered specifically to your group. Contact pegram-f@seattleu.edu for all of the details.*
- *Bravo! Leadership Development applauds you. We want to hear about someone you know who exemplifies what it means to be a leader. Go nominate them today at www.seattleu.edu/leadership*



Don't Settle for Less

An important part of any job or project is to reward yourself and those around you when you achieve your goals, as well as to take some time to reflect on the work that has been accomplished. But don't stop there! Set new goals, push the group further, and see what can be improved on for the future. Maintaining progress is important to staying motivated.

It's Time to Vote!

As the next round of presidential elections rolls around, it is time to think about participating in our country's great democratic tradition of voting. The next few weeks are the traditional time for the majority of the states to hold their primaries and/or caucuses. For more detailed information on how you can register to vote and participate in the

primary or caucus for your state, visit <http://www.rockthevote.com/2008-presidential-primary-caucus-calendar.php>. Even if it is too late to get involved in the early stages of the election, you still have time to register to vote so that you'll be ready for the big election come next November.

SU SPOTLIGHT:

INTERNATIONAL WEEK and the INTERNATIONAL DINNER



Come enjoy tasty treats of an International flavor!

Dinner in Champion Ballroom on Sat, Jan. 26th from 6-10PM
International Week (Jan. 22-26)