LUXURIES LOST

Focus: Leadership

Time: 10 minutes

Objectives:

1. Identify exemplary leadership characteristics
2. Encourage responsibility
3. Explore personal philosophies of leadership

Materials needed:

- LUXURIES LOST poster (handout) - provided

Introduction:

A leader’s job is not to do all the work, but rather to motivate, encourage, support, and develop the people who report to them. Their employees’ successes are the leader’s successes…and their failures as well. Leaders are not judged solely on their own accomplishments. A leader’s satisfaction and reputation is built on what their employees achieve.

Directions:

1. Distribute the LUXURIES LOST handout, or project or post the handout on the wall for everyone to view.
2. Ask each participant to take one minute to reflect on the leadership principles advocated.
3. Each participant then selects one principle and provide a brief explanation and example of how they are currently “living” this principle.
4. After each participant shares, colleagues may offer insight and positive feedback.
5. ALTERNATIVE OR ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY: Each participant selects the one principle that they believe is the most challenging to practice, and describes the barriers they feel prohibits them from “living” that principle.

Discussion Questions:

1. What can you do to help your employees be more successful?
2. What can the College do to facilitate success for employees?
3. What are the most positive words you communicate to your employees? How often?
4. How do your employees know that your praise is sincere?
5. How do you typically make contact with your employees? How often?
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As a Leader, you have lost the luxury to…

…think mostly about yourself – putting your needs first.

…act on feelings rather than facts – jumping to conclusions and reacting rather than thinking things through.

…overtly complaining to others about what is “unfair.”

…form opinions and making judgments without knowing both sides of the story.

…blame others and not take steps to fix the problem yourself.

…not listen to others’ ideas, opinions, feelings, and concerns.

…take sides disproportionately…favoring some people and excluding others.

…close your eyes or walk away when problems arise.

When the best leader’s work is done, the people say “we did it!”

~Lao Tzu~