Innovation through Leadership

June 1, 2015

“Everyone wants to feel that he counts for something and is important to someone. Invariably, people will give their love, respect, and attention to the person who fills that need.”

John C. Maxwell, Leadership 101

Leaderhip

Real leadership is being the person others will gladly and confidently follow.

Annual Conference

The CEPA Consortium is hosting its annual leadership conference October 22-24, 2015. The theme is Innovation through Leadership. The conference site is the El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel, San Antonio, Texas.

Look who’s coming: TCU

Texas Christian University, from the Big 12 Conference, is planning on sending a delegation of doctoral students to CEPA 2015. TCU “encourages students to conduct research shoulder-to-shoulder with top-notch professors,” according to the Chancellor, Dr. Victor J. Boschini, Jr.

Bold leadership initiatives boost the learning experience where “students learn to be leaders by exploring issues that matter.” Chancellor Boschini believes that education is “more than the sum of semester hours.” Developing tomorrow’s leaders “is an exciting learning experience that grows from our mission,” he says. The mission at TCU is “to educate individuals to think and act as ethical leaders and responsible citizens in the global community.”

We are “certainly proud of our wonderful Chancellor,” Jean Mrasek, Chief of Staff, said when describing their leadership team at TCU. Donald J. Whelan, Jr., Vice Chancellor for University Advancement at TCU, says, “The culture here is TCU’s greatest strength. It generates tremendous loyalty and support among faculty and staff. Even visitors frequently comment that there is ‘something special’ happening on this campus. These things do not happen by accident. Chancellor Boschini’s leadership sets the tone for all of this.”

CEPA applauds TCU’s commitment to the overall education of our future leaders and continues to encourage other universities to take the lead, as well. In order to flourish as
individuals as well as a global society, we must foster the uniqueness and interests of every person while providing them with a broad, universal education.

A call for engaged leadership

Dr. Cornell Thomas, a Professor of Educational Leadership at Texas Christian University, will lead, coach and mentor TCU’s delegation of doctoral students at CEPA 2015 where they will share their vision on leadership.

This initiative is an extension of a course called: The Small College, where students will consider case studies, develop potential action steps, along with possible outcomes.

When speaking of his doctoral students, Dr. Thomas believes that “to lead with a commitment to engagement means to value every person’s self-identity, their presence, and the gifts they bring to the organization.” He means practicing inclusion intentionally. “The inclusion of all voices involved in the life of the organization results in levels of synergy where excellence becomes the norm and even higher levels sought,” he clarifies in his writings. He further states that “engaged leaders are personable, hands-on, supportive, facilitating, visionary, inclusive and very successful.”

Special 2-hour collaborative session

This year CEPA 2015 offers a Special 2-hour collaborative session, which allows for a professor to invite up to ten graduate students to participate in a close-knit gathering. The professor, along with the students, can handle the session in any format they wish. They can present mini-papers, panel discussions, discussion and enhancement of in-class projects/assignments, and propose ideas.

The purpose of this format is to more readily promote the CEPA concept — 1) coach and mentor our future leaders and 2) have established leaders take the lead in the mentoring process, promote camaraderie and generate the excitement among young people wanting to become tomorrow’s leaders.

Championing success

Join us for an empowering weekend. The conference recognizes dreamers and visionaries, their pursuit of goals, and a desire to grow and excel. This event provides a premier opportunity for networking and high-powered professional development.

Honorable Bill Jones, California’s Secretary of State, and Dr. Fred Rodriguez, CEPA: mentoring young people at CEPA 2002

— What future leaders look like —

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