



PRESIDENT'S ACADEMY for life-long leaders

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THE ACADEMY

The challenges facing our world are increasingly more complex with a global pandemic and other health care issues, political divides, environmental challenges, issues of social justice, long wars and, as we write this leader's guide, an economy with world-wide inflation.

While some may wonder what kind of world we are leaving to our next generation, we wonder about the next generation we are leaving to face the challenges we leave behind.

We created the President's Academy for Life-Long Leaders to deliberately and intentionally develop our next generation within the Mustangs Family to be prepared to lead through these challenges.

MSU TEXAS MISSION

Midwestern State University is a leading public liberal arts university committed to providing students with rigorous undergraduate and graduate education in the liberal arts and the professions. Through an emphasis upon teaching, augmented by the opportunity for students to engage in research and creative activities alongside faculty and to participate in co-curricular and service programs, Midwestern State prepares its graduates to embark upon their careers or pursue advanced study. The university's undergraduate education is based upon a comprehensive arts and sciences core curriculum. The understanding that students gain of themselves, others, and the social and natural world prepares them to contribute constructively to society through their work and through their private lives.

OUR VISION

By 2028, MSU will be the university of choice for those seeking a valuesbased community where everyone is informed, empowered, engaged, and committed to the success of all.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

CONTINUOUSLY IMPROVE MSU STUDENT SUCCESS through a campuswide plan for increasing retention, persistence, and graduation rates.

GROW FINANCIAL RESOURCES to best attract and support our students, faculty, and staff.

REVIEW AND ALIGN RESOURCES AND EXPENDITURES to ensure adequate opportunity to invest in top priority activities to support students, faculty, and staff, and achieve overall growth.

CREATE A POSITIVE, INCLUSIVE WORKING ENVIRONMENT that supports the success, professional development, and training of our faculty, staff, and leaders to become an Employer of Choice.

REVIEW AND REVISE THE PROCESSES, PRACTICES, AND POLICIES OF MSU. Implement changes as needed to reflect best practices, streamline campus operations, and eliminate unnecessary barriers to recruitment and retention of students, faculty, and staff.

QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PLAN (QEP)

Midwestern State University has developed a QEP designed to prepare new students for academic success and engagement. The First-Year Mustangs Adventure Program will meet these goals through a 0-credit hour, first-year seminar that helps students take responsibility for their educational journey through a curriculum focusing on academic engagement and community-building. Each section will be led by a trained peer educator and supported by a faculty or staff mentor. Students will receive a customized Mustangs Adventure Guidebook that will provide activities and prompts reflecting the course goals and student learning outcomes, and students will meet weekly with their peer educator to reflect on and discuss their adventures.

A MESSAGE FROM INTERIM PRESIDENT KEITH LAMB

Dear Mustangs Family,

This guide outlines the direction we will move at Midwestern State University, as we grow and develop leaders of character who will increasingly assume roles of significant responsibility.

I am blessed to have had many powerful role models in my life. At the top of my list is my late father. From him I learned perseverance and positivity, even when facing long odds. My wife and partner of 25 years, Kelley, has taught me grace and challenged me to be a better version of myself. My children have inspired me to do my best work. Collectively, they have taught me the importance of commitment to a purpose. For me that means giving everyone in my life the opportunity to live and work in an environment that allows them to grow, develop, and thrive. It means empowering others to assume the highest level of responsibility they can attain, and then preparing them for even more. It is through this type of development that we will build career opportunities for individuals, and leadership depth for our university, our community, and beyond.

OUR VISION AT MIDWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

By 2028, MSU will be the university of choice for faculty, staff, and students in North Texas by creating an environment where everyone is empowered, engaged, and committed to the success of all.

To achieve our vision, we will develop a certain kind of person who sees clearly what must be done and does not wait for permission to act. This requires us to have development programs for everyone within the Mustangs Family who aspires to be that certain kind of person.

I encourage you to get involved. As a member of the Mustangs Family, you are part of our journey to create a sustainable, values-based culture. Through collaboration we will make our vision a reality. Remember – if you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.

We have many opportunities in front of us. As always, I appreciate your partnership, ideas, and your drive to be the best.

Warm regards,

Keith W. Lamb, Ph.D.

INTERIM PRESIDENT MIDWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY **CORE VALUES**





PEOPLE-CENTERED

COMMUNITY



INTEGRITY







We use a compass to symbolize we are on a journey. As leaders, our journey is a life-long pursuit to hone our skills and develop our talents. This compass is the leader competency model we will integrate into our programs.

As we progress through our careers, we assume roles with more responsibility and increasingly greater challenges. This guide introduces our approach to preparing all members of the Mustangs Family for the challenges we will face as individuals and teams.

A MESSAGE FROM VICE CHANCELLOR STEVE SOSLAND

This field guide introduces the framework of the President's Academy for Life-Long Leaders and the eight points of the compass we will use to guide our journey as we develop people to lead at increasingly higher levels of responsibility at Midwestern State University and beyond.

We designed the President's Academy to be both scalable and customizable. Being scalable means, we will have different offerings for the various levels of leaders throughout the Mustangs Family, from Students to Senior Leaders among faculty and staff. Being customizable means, we tailor curricula to meet the unique needs of our university colleges and departments.

The author Alvin Fine says, "...life is a journey, a sacred pilgrimage, made stage by stage."

The following pages explain the stages of our leader development journey.

Warm regards,

Sten

Steve Sosland

VICE CHANCELLOR, LEADER AND CULTURE DEVELOPMENT, TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

A MESSAGE FROM CHANCELLOR TEDD L. MITCHELL, M.D.

What does it mean to leave a legacy? If you ask Google, it will tell you it means, "putting a stamp on the future and making a contribution to future generations." In short, people want to feel their life mattered.

As Chancellor of the Texas Tech University System, I want to know the work I'm doing is making a positive impact on the lives of those we serve now and for generations to come. I want our faculty, staff, and students to know that their life matters.

As we've worked to establish and foster a values-based culture across our system, we had the idea to create a people development framework that allows participants to not only impact their own lives, but also the lives of those they influence. As leaders, it is our responsibility to not only continually sharpen our axes and hone our skills to improve the lives of others, but to cultivate and guide the next generation of leaders who will eventually take up the charge of building their own legacy.

The President's Academy for Life-Long Leaders sets the framework for our people development programs at Midwestern State University. I encourage each of you to get involved. Together we will make a positive impact on our university, our system, our community, and the world.



Warmest regards,

mo mo

Tedd L. Mitchell, M.D.

CHANCELLOR, TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

A CERTAIN KIND OF PERSON

What if students graduated with the perspective that the point of their education is not just to gain knowledge and a degree but to become a certain kind of person. Highly proficient in some domain, yes, but more than that.

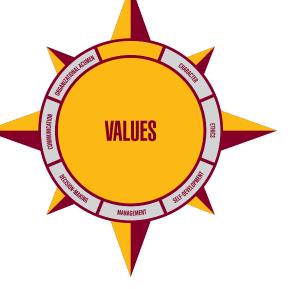
The kind of person who sees clearly what must be done and does not wait for permission from authority or peer-group approval to act. The kind of person who sees everything through the prism of core values and who strives to live up to those values in every aspect of work and life. The kind of person who never sees other people as merely an expedient means to one's own career success and who earns the trust and love of those they lead. The kind of person who, by virtue of personal humility and indomitable will in service to a cause larger than oneself, inspires others to help in achievement of Big Hairy Audacious Goals that stimulate progress.

— Jim Collins in the foreword to Leadership Reckoning









Each of us possesses a moral compass programmed by parents, teachers, coaches, grandparents, clergy, friends, and peers. The compass is an integral part of our being. It continues to differentiate between proper and improper behavior until the day we die.

- John Huntsman, former Utah Governor

In her book, *Built on Values*, Ann Rhoades tells us that leaders drive values by making the commitment to a values-based culture where they lead by example. Many organizations make the mistake of having a very small group of senior leaders name the values for others to live by.

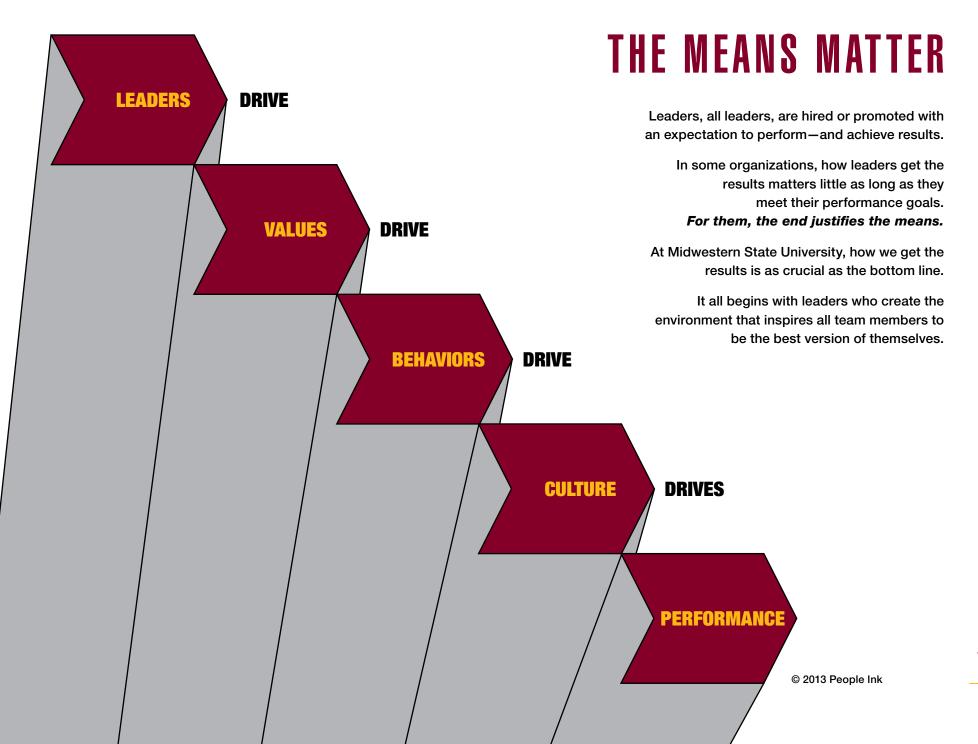
We believe leaders create the environments that allow team members to live their personal core values that drive their behaviors. Our collective behaviors – how we choose to act – determines our organizational culture.



Unhealthy cultures put people and the goals of the organization at risk. We choose to build healthy, sustainable cultures based on the values of the people in our universities and system teams.

Our journey to create a sustainable, values-based culture began in September 2021, when a team of 109 summit participants identified the core values shared amongst the group. We then held town hall meetings across the campus to give the opportunity to all students, faculty, staff, and administrators to give input and make improvements to the original document.

Our academy programs will remind participants of the values and desired behaviors to which we committed during our values summit.



MIDWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY SHARED VALUES

PEOPLE-CENTERED

Engage others with respect, empathy, and joy

- Honor and act upon the unique needs of all people
- Celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of every person in every role
- Empower others through personal attention to unlock ground-breaking potential
- Commit to attract, recruit, and retain a diverse workforce reflective of our students
- Create a welcoming environment that fosters trust, teamwork, well-being, and fun
- Develop activities embracing meaningful traditions

COMMUNITY

Cultivate a diverse and inclusive campus environment

- Promote a culture of equity, diversity, and belonging
- Nurture a safe and open environment for difficult conversations
- Welcome honest communication and constructive feedback
- Recognize, acknowledge, and dismantle barriers to equity, inclusion, and success
- Provide meaningful and accessible support to the MSU community



INTEGRITY

Always do the right thing

- Act honorably and respectfully in all situations
- Take responsibility for our words and actions
- Learn and grow from successes and failures
- Communicate and act with honesty, humility, and transparency
- Make courageous and ethical decisions



VISIONARY

Adopt innovative ideas to pioneer new paths

- Inspire and empower others through and beyond the educational experience
- Foster an environment of critical thinking, problem solving, and creativity
- Champion continuous institutional progress
- Collaborate to explore opportunities and overcome challenges

CONNECTIONS

Value relationships with broader communities

- Forge pathways for experiential learning beyond the campus
- Encourage open communication, service, and collaboration wherever we go
- Create genuine bonds so each person feels recognized and valued
- Collaborate to develop programs that benefit our communities
- Share and celebrate the Mustangs can-do spirit

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Character without capacity usually means weakness in a leader, but capacity without character means danger.

- David Gergen, former presidential advisor

President Thomas Jefferson founded the United States Military Academy (USMA) at West Point, New York, as the nation's first academy focused on developing lifelong leaders of character. Character development is the primary mission of West Point.

Character is the pattern of behavior and decisions in a person's life that is influenced by the virtues they have developed. Dr. Scott Parsons is the Character Development Integrator at USMA. He writes about different types of virtues:

MORAL VIRTUES – Character traits that respect the humanity of ourselves and others.

Examples: courage, compassion, honesty, justice, respect

CHARACTER

INTELLECTUAL VIRTUES – Character traits that develop the habit of life-long learning and thinking, enabling the pursuit of knowledge and truth.

Examples: autonomy, critical thinking, judgment, reasoning, reflection

CIVIC VIRTUES – Character traits that serve the common good, enabling thriving communities.

Examples: citizenship, civility, neighborliness, service, volunteering

PERFORMANCE VIRTUES – Character traits that make it possible for intentions to be realized, enabling excellent work and the achievement of goals.

Examples: confidence, motivation, perseverance, resilience, teamwork

PRACTICAL WISDOM – The virtue that enables us to perceive, understand, and act admirably, in complex situations.

This includes discerning what to do and how to do it in situations where there is no good option and our other virtues conflict with one another.

In the academy, we will integrate the specific character virtues one must posses to be successful while leading others. Participants will discuss these virtues and identify the traits that will make them effective leaders within the Mustangs Family.





Ethics is knowing the difference between knowing what we have a right to do and what is right to do.

Potter Stewart, former Associate
 Supreme Court Justice

Ethics is the application of the moral principles of our character to the daily decisions we make in our lives.

Michael Beer, Harvard Business School professor, and author of *Fit to Compete* says, "The road to your higher ethical ambition starts with personal reflection about your values and purpose in life. Take the time to have an honest conversation with yourself to help figure out what matters to you, and where your ethics lie."

In their book, *The Power of Ethical Management*, authors Ken Blanchard and Norman Vincent Peale, describe five traits of ethical leaders: **PURPOSE** – Be driven by your purpose and use it to guide your actions.

PRIDE – Show a sense of healthy pride. Unlike false pride, which stems from a distorted sense of self-importance, healthy pride springs from a positive self-image and confidence in one's abilities.

PATIENCE – Have faith that things will work out well as long as you adhere to your values and principles.

PERSISTENCE – Stay the course and remain true to your purpose and values.

PERSPECTIVE – Keep the big picture in mind, and understand what's truly important.

Participants in the academy will participate in case-study discussions about ethical decisions they are likely to face in their organizations and at their level of responsibility in the university and beyond.



SELF-DEVELUPMENT



According to Covey, there are four dimensions of self-renewal:

MENTAL – Gaining knowledge and visualizing how to use it.

SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL – Building relationships and service to others.

SPIRITUAL – Realigning with our values, personal meditation or prayer and individual study.

PHYSICAL – Focusing on nutrition, exercise and stress management.

Effective leaders build endurance for the long journey of their careers. This includes building positive habits in each of the four dimensions of self-renewal.

Our academy programs will allow participants to create personal development plans in each of the dimensions of renewal and select accountability partners to help each other progress through their plan.

Give me six hours to chop down a tree, and I will spend the first four sharpening my axe.

Abraham Lincoln

In Stephen R. Covey's book, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, the seventh habit is Sharpen the Saw – Principles of Balanced Self-Renewal. He tells the story of walking upon someone in the woods feverishly trying to saw down a tree. The person inquires of the tree cutter, "You look exhausted. Why don't you take a break and sharpen your saw? I am sure the saw will cut much faster if you do." The tree cutter responds, "I don't have time to do that. I am too busy sawing the tree."

We all need time for self-renewal. Time to recharge and reinvigorate ourselves for the work to come. We need to acquire new tools and sharpen the ones we use regularly.



Leaders are people who do the right thing; managers are people who do things right.

- Warren Bennis, Leadership Scholar

There are two common schools of thought on the differences between management and leadership:

- 1) All leaders are managers, but not all managers make good leaders.
- **2)** All managers are good leaders, but all leaders are not good managers.

Both Warren Bennis and Peter Drucker, two of the most prolific authors on this topic, have similar versions of the opening quote. The point they make is not about trying to label individuals as managers or leaders, but rather understanding that both leadership and management are critical functions needed for the effective organization.

We need people who can create a vision, inspire, galvanize and get results (leading); and we need people



who can plan, staff, organize, prepare, implement, control and measure results (managing). Sometimes, and in some organizations, one person may be able to fill both roles. Often the roles are filled by separate individuals.

Leaders must ensure the functions of management are in place for the organization to run effectively. Ken Blanchard says in his seminal book, *Leadership and The One Minute Manager*, "Managers need to use different strokes (leadership styles) for different folks, depending on their competence and commitment in their present job."

This compass point focuses on the functions of a manager. How do we manage ourselves? How do we manage projects? How do we standardize and improve processes? What systems do we put in place to ensure consistent, predictable, positive results? How do we measure those results?

We will scale our academy programs for management challenges faced in different levels of leadership and tailor the curriculum to fit specific challenges in the university.



DEGISIUN-MAKING

JU TEXAS ISTANISS

There are risks and costs to action. But they are far less than the long-range risks of comfortable inaction.

- John F. Kennedy, 35th U.S. President of the U.S.

Decision-making is a learned competence. We can learn to make good decisions from others – trusted mentors, friends, and colleagues. We can learn through our own experiences of successes and failures. We can also learn the processes of decision-making.

This compass point focuses on decision-making processes for individuals and those in a collaborative team environment.

In the academy, we will discuss:

- + how our values inform us during difficult decisions,
- + how to make decisions with limited resources,
- + how to make timely decisions, and
- + how to make decisions when leading through a crisis.

We will study and understand the practice of bringing together highly believable people who are willing to engage in thoughtful disagreement to enhance the quality of decision-making and increase the chance of success.

We will use case studies and historical examples to learn from others and discuss what we will do when faced with similar challenges. Then, applying lessons learned, we will develop algorithms based on values and principles to speed the decision-making process and tailor the methodology to fit the university.

Our academy programs will be scaled for the decisions typically made at that leader level and tailored for unique challenges being faced in the university.

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The single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place.

George Bernhard Shaw, Irish Playwright

When Stephen R. Covey was writing his most famous book, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, in the 1980s most organizations' people-development programs centered on individual growth and independence. His first three habits acknowledged this and focused on the principles of Personal Vision, Personal Leadership, and Personal Management.

Covey's next three habits helped lead the transformation from independence to interdependence—collaboration and breaking through silos. These habits focused on the principles of Interpersonal Leadership, Empathetic Communication, and Creative Cooperation.

This new focus on interdependence meant that the oneway, directive communication that had been so much





of organizational development history would no longer work effectively as we transitioned to new generations in the work place. It became increasingly important to develop the next generation of leaders by listening to them and empowering them to learn, lead and communicate effectively.

In 2004 Covey published *The 8th Habit: Find your voice* and inspire others to find theirs. This new emphasis on empowerment has led us to focus on behaviors like listen to understand, assume good intentions, and respond rather than react.

Our academy programs will remind participants of the importance of collaborative communication to develop a positive working environment that leads to better solutions for complex challenges.





"People who have mastered organizational acumen exhibit an understanding of how their organizations work and how different elements influence or interact with one another. Organizational acumen includes knowledge of systems, people, structures, and processes that work together to make the enterprise healthy or unhealthy. In a leading-edge workforce, organizationally masterful individuals talk matter-of-factly about the value chain including people, processes, inputs, suppliers, outputs, customers, and outcomes."

Henrik Ekelund, President & CEO of BTS Group

Effective individuals master their required competencies, build strong relationships, and get results in their part of the organization. For many, the pace of our daily work causes us to keep our heads down, focus on the tasks in front of us, and work closely with those in our own silos.

According to Robert Kaplan, Harvard professor and author of *The Balanced Score Card*, "A mere 7% of employees today fully understand their organization's strategies and what is expected of them in order to help achieve organizational goals."

Our faculty and staff programs will introduce participants to the organizational structure of each entity within the Midwestern State University. We will review the purpose, vision, and mission for the university. We will review the budget process, funding sources, and the grant proposal procedures. We will get an overview of relevant State Laws, Regents' Rules, System Regulations, and Operating Policies.

Students will learn how to study organizations and match their skills and education to connect with potential career opportunities.

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LEADER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS FOR FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENTS

Each of our programs are designed to build a solid foundation and enhance a leaders skill set. We understand each leader has different leadership experiences and needs. We ask you to reflect on your leadership journey to see which of these programs will add value for you.







OUR VALUES INITIATIVE

The *Our Values Initiative* is a program designed to bring our values to life. Sessions will focus on each of our values, and guidance will be provided on how we can operationalize each of our values.

Session Topics Include:

- + Our Values: Where we started and where we are going
- + People-centered
- + Community
- + Integrity
- + Visionary
- + Connections

STUDENT LEADER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

This program will provide experiential learning for all MSU students. Within this program, students will utilize scenario-based learning, readings from a variety of influential authors, and receive five hours of professional coaching from an International Coaching Federation (ICF) credentialed coach.

The Student Leader Development Program will utilize a cohort model of students who will represent multiple facets of MSU's campus culture. Selected students will meet monthly for a classroom-based experience and matched with a mentor to enhance their development.

Curriculum for this program will bring to life the competent leader model within the President's Academy for Life-Long Leaders.

Topics include:

- + The President's Competent Leader Model
- + Leadership and Character
- + Decision Making as a Leader
- + Effective Leader Communication
- + Managing Others
- + The Ethical Leader







This program is designed to introduce leadership theories and models to Mustangs Family participants who have an interest in moving into a leadership role within their organization.

- + Principles of Leadership
- + Emotional Intelligence for Leaders
- + Leadership Communication
- + Transforming Conflict into Collaboration
- + Feedback Essentials

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+ Building Your Leadership Presence



EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM

This program is designed to provide functional knowledge of effective leadership to those with less than three years of supervisory experience.

Session Topics Include:

- + Six Dimensions of an Effective Leader
- + Emotional Intelligence
- + Understanding Unconscious and Conscious Bias
- + Leading with Your Strengths
- + Developing Your Team
- + Leading for Results
- + Managing Conflict
- + Leading Your Team
- + Motivating Your Team



NEXT-LEVEL LEADER PROGRAM

This program is designed for those participants who have experience in a supervisory position and seek to further develop their personal and professional leadership style.

Session Topics Include:

- + Values-Guided Leadership
- + Next-Level Character
- + Leadership Ethics
- + Developing Self

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- + Next-Level Management
- + Intentional Decision-Making
- + Next-Level Communication
- + Organizational Acumen
- + Next-Level Self-Awareness



ONE TEAM FELLOWS PROGRAM

This program is designed to provide high-level leader development that includes engaging classroom instruction, team and organization-wide projects, readings, and various other experiences designed to enhance the leadership abilities of those who aspire to senior leadership roles.

Session Topics Include:

- + Authentic Leadership
- + Emotional Intelligence I & II
- + Developing your Influence
- + Team Development
- + Psychological Safety and Trust
- + Adaptability and Resilience
- + Critical Thinking/Decision Making
- + Leadership Well-Being
- + Diversity and Inclusion
- + Organizational Issues
- + Lessons Learned in Leadership
- + MSU Team projects

SOURGES

SOURCES

Values

Ann Rhoades, *Built on Values* (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2011)

Bill George, True North (San Francisco: Josse-Bass, 2007)

Character

Brené Brown, The Call to Courage video (NETFLIX, 2019)

Keith Hamel and Scott Parsons, *The System Meets the Framework: Character Education at USMA* (West Point, New York: West Point Magazine, Winter 2022)

Ryan Holiday, *Courage is Calling* (New York: Portfolio/Penguin, 2021)

Ethics

Ken Blanchard and Randy Conley, *Simple Truths of Leadership* (Oakland: Berrett-Koehler Publishers, 2022)

Michael Beer, *How to Be a Leader Who Stays True to Their Ethics* (Boston: Harvard Business Review, September 2021)

William J. Bennett, *The Book of Virtues – a treasury of great moral stories* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1993)

Self-Development

Carla A. Harris, *Expect to Win* (New York: Penguin Random House, 2009)

Stephen R. Covey, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1989)

Management

Peter Drucker, *The Effective Executive* (New York: Harper Books, 1966)

Warren Bennis, *On Becoming a Leader* (New York: Basic Books, 1989)

Decision-making

Ray Dalio, Principles (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2017)

Communication

Kerry Patterson, Crucial Conversations: Tools for Talking When Stakes are High (New York: McGraw-Hill, 2012)

Stephen R. Covey, *The 8th Habit* (New York: Free Press, 2004)

Organizational Acumen

Patrick Lencioni, *The Advantage – Why Organizational Health Trumps Everything Else in Business* (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2012)

THOUGHT LEADERS

Many of the organizations we observed use leadertainment as a major focus for developing leaders. They engage authors or nationally recognized speakers to deliver presentations and then leave it to individuals to determine how to use the information, or not.

We took a different path. We have partnered with thought leaders on topics relevant to developing leaders of character. We have chosen to work with them over time and integrate their lessons into our programs. These are some of those with whom we are working:



Ann Rhoades

The driving force behind the culture at Southwest Airlines. She taught us how to build a cultural foundation on shared core values.



Stan McChrystal

Retired Army four-star general and founder of the McChrystal Group. He taught us the power of collaborative communication and empowerment.



Pat Lencioni

Author of multiple books on building organizational health. He taught us how to create vulnerability-based trust and to utilize the Working Genius model to get the right people in the right seats on the bus.



Randy Conley

Together with Ken Blanchard is helping us develop emotionally intelligent servant leaders who fundamentally know how to build trust.



Carla Harris

Former Vice-Chair of Morgan Stanley. She taught us her Pearls of Wisdom and the importance of helping young leaders find coaches, mentors, and sponsors to assist in their career development.

ACKNUWLEDGMENTS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

FROM STEVE SOSLAND, VICE CHANCELLOR, LEADER & CULTURE DEVELOPMENT, TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

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MOTES

NOTES



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