Executing Making Difficult Decisions



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Putting Decisions into Perspective



Values are the Foundation for Leadership



Values: The foundation of all Leadership

- A value is a belief, a mission, or a philosophy that is meaningful
- Personal values are the foundation for actions/decisions
- Organizations also are guided by values & often determine success
 - Sears' commitment to trusting the customer.
 - Apple Computer's belief in the values of solving problems of society
- Implementing values energizes

Values are Determined by Many Things...

- Parents' values
- Family situation
- Experiences
- Disposition
- Birth order
- Astrological sign
- Others



Some of My Values

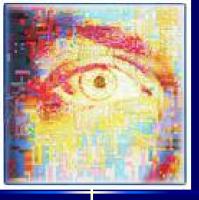


- Education is the way
- Anything is possible given creativity & a sense of humor
- Integrity, honesty & doing the right thing are most important
- Build, cultivate, and treasure relationships
- Make it fun & if it isn't move on
- Focus, focus, focus
- Set goals, stay the course, see through to completion
- Family first!
- Do what you can to help others
- Remain balanced and rational
- Think strategically but be prepared to do anything and everything (no job is too small) to see the vision through
- Empower others let wild horses run!
- Seek collaborators with complementary talents & interests
- Grow the pie
- Laugh, learn, & grow

Values Serve as the Leadership Compass

Directs

- Decisions
- Attitudes
- Directions
- Interactions
- Vision
- Strategy & Tactics



Vision

- Visions serve as a guiding light
- Constantly evolve strategy based on opportunities as they arise
- Being open to variety of avenues is key to working toward the vision
- Vision is the fun part but only represents ~5-10% of time/effort

Back to Decisions...

Defining Difficult

Emotionally hard

- Possible confrontation?
- Scared?
- Not clear why making decision
- Unsure if doing the right thing
- People may criticize you
- Don't know what will happen next

Making Decisions



- Collect facts
- Make the best possible decision given the information and time available
- Be decisive don't second guess decisions but...
 - If your gut is telling you something is wrong reevaluate
 - Make course corrections as needed as more information is available
- Balance the necessary issues: Legal, past experience, facts, personnel, precedence
- Check in with the key players

Never Look Back...

- Make decision
- Communicate with the appropriate people before, during and after
- Learn from your decisions
- Never dwell on past decisions
- Practice making decisions
 - Grow in your ability to make decisions
 - Build your skill and people will follow you

Control Meter

4 Phases of Leadership

(So Said Terri Fiez (S²TF))

Phase I: The Honeymoon
Phase II: Steer the Ship (change and transformation)
Phase III: Walk Side-by-Side (build in succession)

Phase IV: Let Wild Horses Run

Type of Decisions and How they are approached varies as the organization progresses

The Honeymoon

Budgets – Slash and burn

- Evaluate assets wood shop
- Faculty workload instructors
- P&T errors in judgement
- Hiring w/tenure example
- Freshmen/senior experiences
 - Faculty buy in
 - College buy in

Generally – Pilots are nonthreatening!!

Change and Transformation

- Performance reviews the good and the bad
- Redefining department
 - Qualifying/prelim exam
 - Collaboration-R-us space
- Formalizing workload
- Executing the vision

Walking Side-by-Side

- Help others make decisions and propagate the culture
- Help recruit leaders in other departments – faculty image of dept. head changed
- Mid tenure and tenure decisions
- We're a team checking in

Let Wild Horses Run

Relinquish all control

Fully confident in others ability to make decisions based on common values

Leadership Traits to Practice

- Be proactive with others
- Be decisive
- Be fair



- Execute the hard decisions & find comfort in knowing you're doing it for the right reasons
- Don't let things get you down or cause you to lose sleep
- Think big
- Drive initiatives versus responding to requests
- Be creative
- Keep a positive attitude
- Deal with problems in a timely fashion (especially personnel issues)
- The end goal will guide your actions
- Listen carefully



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Community

Values