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As Leaders We Can Make a Difference in a Culture of Change

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As Leaders We Can Make a Difference in a Culture of Change

As Leaders We Can Make a Difference in a Culture of Change

I am pleased to offer you a copy of our Inaugural Issue of the *International Journal of Leadership and Change* along with future issues. In the future, we will be moving to a fully on-line version of *IJLC*. You have been selected to receive the *Journal* based on your commitment as an institution to preparing leaders within the profession and your commitment to providing quality learning experiences for your students.

The one constant in our global world is change, and as leaders at our respective institutions we have the responsibility to help ensure our graduates are prepared for an ever changing world. Our mission as a College is *Empowering Individuals to Lead and Serve Our Dynamic World* and we are committed to providing learning opportunities for our students that will engage them with other individuals from across the globe. Likewise, our educator preparation programs incorporate leadership outcomes and, as a College, we are making strides to internationalize our curriculum. The commitments on the part of the College and Western Kentucky University have served to inform the focus of the *International Journal of Leadership and Change*.

As leaders from different areas and levels of responsibilities, our decisions have the potential to impact numerous individuals within our sphere of influence and beyond. Whether we are leading from the top, in the middle, and/or leading up, our scholarship and that of others serves to influence our work. We have specifically incorporated both research/theoretical and applied/practice components within the *IJLC* to broaden perspectives conveyed within the *Journal* to help address the needs of leaders, many of whom came into their position without any formal academic training in the area of leadership.

In our efforts to influence others to achieve their identified goals and to do “the right thing,” we also have to continue our own professional development, which includes reframing our own perspective and looking at situations from multiple perspectives. We work in environments that are uniquely different from other positions of leadership with competing expectations from various constituents within the profession; and our ability to respect diverse perspectives, promote productivity, and to respond in an ethical and responsible way, with a high degree of integrity, will determine our effectiveness as leaders.

The *IJLC* leadership team has been diligent in attracting individuals from leadership positions, who bring different perspectives to the concepts of leadership and change, to serve on the editorial board and have identified respected leaders and/or scholars to provide unique perspectives on leadership and change for our Inaugural issue. Publically, I want to thank them for their diligence in putting this issue together, and trust that you will find the articles informative and beneficial to you as a leader and agent of change.

Sam Evans

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