AMERICAN STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

- NEW ORLEANS -

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Conferences Attended:

 SG Training With an "Attitude"
The Revelation of Delegation
No More Drama: Conflict Resolution the "Right Way"
Presidents & Vice Presidents - Round Table
What Can Your Student Government Really Accomplish? Choose Realistic Goals

SGA Training With an "Attitude":

"Being in SG will be the biggest relationship you'll ever experience."

Leadership Learning Edge

What would take us from where we are now to a further, better, and more efficient place in mind?

LEADERSHIP SPECTRUM

Exercise #1: Measuring Leadership (w/o talking!)

1st Line: Line up in order from shortest to tallest.2nd Line: Birth month & date.3rd Line: Order of status/leadership.

What we learned: There is no way to measure how one is a better leader than the other. The first two lines are measureable and/or facts, but **no one can tell you how you are as a leader.**

INTENT VS. IMPACT

Exercise #2: Student Interaction

Group A: Interactive, great eye contact, enthusiastic, go for the opposite sex.Group B: Introverted, no eye contact, observant, go for the same sex.

What we learned: Different students interact in different ways - do not assume your way is the right way. Ask open-ended questions. How do we know what the students want?

The Revelation of Delegation:

"When in doubt, mumble; when in trouble, delegate; when in charge, ponder. "

Why Do We Hate Delegating?

Reasons we avoid delegating:

- We are impatient.
- We are perfectionists.
- We had prior bad experience.
- We lack confidence.
- We feel guilty.
- We set the standards too high.

Reasons why delegation is a *good* thing:

- You are as strong as your weakest link - bring up those around you (by skill building).
- Increases productivity.
- Builds trust.
- Creates retention of members.
- Frees leaders to do other things.
- Helps achieve goals.

NOTE: After 3 text messages back and forth, CALL THEM!

How to Delegate

- Delegate early avoid crisis mode!
- Delegate to the right person make the person feel proud/good.
- Fully describe the outcome paint the picture for them and ask many questions.
- Clarify the rules how does their part fit into the larger plan?
- Check in regularly and provide support be available to answer questions.
- Specify deadlines are they confident they can finish in time?
- Build motivation and commitment why did you choose them?
- Establish and maintain control make sure they know what you are looking for.
- Focus on **RESULTS!** Concern yourself with what is accomplished.

No More Drama – Conflict Resolution the "Right Way":

"Every conflict is an opportunity for growth and change."

"I still disagree, but now I know where you are coming from" *Try to find a win-win situation.*

Listen to Understand *vs.* Listen to Debate

Ask questions to truly understand what is going on, that it comes from a *pure place*.

So... What causes Drama?

What are some conflicts in SG and how can they affect our environment?

- People not pulling their own weight.
- Egos clash.
- Miscommunication.
- Lack of transparency.
- Division of "power".

How does assumptions come into conflict with SG?

- When were you wrong about someone?
- Were your assumptions wrong?
- Did we hear the right thing?
- Are your assumptions getting in the way of cooperating with others?
- Why are you assuming this certain way?

What opportunities present itself for us if we can work together in the end?

- Trust.
- Growth.
- Confidence.
- Stronger support system.
- Team Building.
- Bigger motivation.

Remember: Student government *is* dramatic - there are new issues every day!

Presidents and Vice Presidents Round Table:

"The most important thing to remember is to lead by example." We are not politicians. Don't promise them what you can't provide. As presidents [and student government leaders] of our campus, we have to remember that everything we do will be seen. **There will be times where you feel like you are under a microscope**, but that's okay because we need to do our best to represent the school population. It is our responsibility to **put the students first as we are servant leaders**.

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What Can Your Student Government Really Accomplish? Choose Realistic Goals:

"Even the greatest SG's are limited in their power and influence."













Credits

Special thanks to all the people who made and released these awesome resources for free:

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