Calling ALL LEAPers!

Are you ready to seize career opportunities when they arise? If so, congratulations as this is a critical, attribute of successful people. You already know that, since you participated in one of the Leadership Education in Action Program (LEAP) cohorts. But, I bet you are asking yourself, “is there more I can learn to make myself increasingly competitive when that special opportunity presents itself?” The “I am ready” answer – of course there is!

The LEAP coordinating team has put the finishing touches on the next level of leadership training presenting you with an opportunity to acquire tools and develop competencies enabling you to climb higher on your personal development leadership ladder.

The program is called LEAP$^2$ and it is a rigorous program designed to enable you to further develop your leadership skills and competencies through a personalized program that focuses on advanced leadership capabilities. In order to participate, you must be a uniquely-motivated LEAP I graduate who aspires to a higher-level leadership position.
LEAP$^2$ will take you on a leadership development journey that will include enlightening in-class sessions and practical, application-based activities. In-class time may be supplemented with time spent out of class on additional readings, preparing materials for in-class discussions, and participating in site visits to community businesses and organizations.

You’ll notice that there is an exponent in the title of this program. You can look to the benefits as “LEAPing – to a higher power,” or “LEAPing – to the next level” or that the value of the program can be described as “LEAP–Squared.” Whichever way you look at it, rest assured that if you invest yourself, you will benefit from the added insights, skills, competencies and perspectives.

If participating in LEAP$^2$ is an opportunity you would like to pursue, please complete the attached application and return it to the Professional Development office by Thursday, December 12, 2013.

If you have any questions, please contact Leslie Carr at 661-362-3100 or via email at leslie.carr@canyons.edu, or Dr. Van Hook at cocceo@aol.com or by cell phone at 661-373-5305 or 661-373-5145.

Remember most of the professional positions that will exist in five years, do not exist today. We need to expand our skill base and update our toolkit so that we will be ready when that new opportunity presents itself. We anxiously await your application for this exciting new program and look forward to helping you attain your leadership goals.

Sincerely,
The LEAP$^2$ Coordinating Team
Dianne Van Hook • Diane Fiero • Diane Stewart • Leslie Carr
What does the program include?
LEAP² is designed to for those individuals who are ready to take the next transformative step in their careers. This program focuses on the further development of leadership skills and competencies through a personalized program that will focus on advanced leadership topics. The program will include:

- Six in-class sessions to be held from **8:30am – 3:00pm** on the following dates:
  - A one-day Teambuilding Retreat will take place during spring FLEX week, February 3 – 7.
  - **February 21**: Introduction to Leadership, Organizational Culture, Program Outline, Signature Project
  - **March 7**: CEO Panel
  - **March 21**: Partnerships with local businesses and non-profits
  - **April 4**: Case building, Advocacy, and Project Management
  - **April 25**: Planning and generating resources
  - **May 16**: Signature Project/Graduation Luncheon
- Work on a signature project
- Practical, application-based activities that may take place outside of scheduled class sessions and in the community
- Partnering with local businesses and organizations
- Applied work place learning

By the end of the program, you will be more prepared to lead and move forward with your career goals by completing a specific and detailed personal professional development plan. The Chancellor guides the LEAP² effort and will take a direct role in its planning and activities.

What are the goals of the LEAP² program?
In addition to furthering the advancement of your leadership skills, LEAP² is designed to help you:

- Expand your understanding of the importance of an organization’s culture, and the role it plays in being able to get things done.
- Maximize your leadership potential, and find the right “fit” for your personal leadership style, strengths, and goals.
- Develop an understanding of case building, advocacy, system politics, project management and the national perspective on Community Colleges.
- Provide training on non-profit leadership, resource and partnership development, fundraising strategies, and project management.
- Help you sharpen communication and collaboration through a LEAP² retreat.
- Effect positive change through a district-wide signature project.

What does LEAP² not include?
LEAP² is not a program that focuses on the basics of leadership or the development of management skills. It is not for employees looking to escape their day job, desiring a new way to earn flex credit or wanting to spend time schmoozing and getting to know Executive Cabinet members and the Chancellor.
What does participation in LEAP² involve?

- Each LEAP² session will be designed around one or more presentations and interactive, small group activities focusing on a specific leadership development theme and a cluster of topics.
- LEAP² participants will put what they learn into immediate practice by applying the concepts and techniques they acquire to address real campus or community opportunities.
- This requires off site visitations to local businesses and organizations.
- Research will be done outside of class on issues and college programs.

What commitment is required of you?

LEAP² will include six in-class sessions that will take place in 6.5-hour blocks. Additional time is required outside of the scheduled in-class sessions.

Activities include:

- Meeting regularly with your mentor group
- Informative readings
- Site visits to community businesses and organizations
- Networking and/or collaborating both internally and externally
- Research on session topics

How do I LEAP on Board?

To pursue this opportunity, please complete the attached application. Creativity is encouraged. Think outside of the box. Please complete and send your information to the Professional Development Office by Thursday, December 12, 2013. Applicants will be notified about admission decisions via email.

For more program information, or if you have questions, please contact Leslie Carr at 661-362-3100 - or via email @leslie.carr@canyons.edu or Dr. Van Hook at cocceo@aol.com or by - cell phone at 661 373-5305 at any time (note: phone is off from 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.) -