Hi Class,

We've started our journey into "Individual and Collective Leadership Models" at a brisk pace. The road will likely be bumpy ahead. I encourage seat belts and goggles (I can bring extra goggles if you're out).

In order to get everyone to the discussion with some understanding of the format, Roger has encouraged us to read the second chapter from Bohm's book on Dialogue. I will be sending that out as a separate e-mail. What is attached is a much shorter piece that basically summarizes the key issue (good for busy people).

Our conversation on Friday included us asking all the usual questions and getting none of the usual answers. We now have to redefine leaders (and followers), power, authority, management, and the function of the culture in all of the above. In case you missed class last week, you'll be sure to want to ask right away this week for someone to redefine a "Bureaucratic Skeleton". We will all be better off if we can use this new terminology with the correct context.

In the meantime, Roger has assigned us three homework problems. Here is a summary in case you weren't writing fast enough:

1) Draft a quarter-long leadership project. The goal is to accomplish something that is discontinuous with the current state, and is something you can't do alone. Pick a measure-able result so that it is verifiable. For extra credit, consider a result that would not be expected given the understanding of the situation as it is currently.

2) Consider a protocol for leadership in an ideal sense. What fundamentals are present? What are the metrics for determining success? In what specific ways does the style change in consideration of the university rather than corporate setting?

3) Design a leadership interview. Who would you want to interview (on campus)? Be sure to frame the conversation to give the questions context. Write questions you would ask to determine their leadership practices.

The good news on this assignment is that Roger encourages us to work together on our homework. Yeah! We'll all get a chance for collaboration before the quarter is out. In addition, we'll also be getting some guest speakers to join us. I'm sure they won't mind us asking specific questions, but we must avoid the mentality of a "firing squad" during our discussions. Thanks in advance.

See you on Friday for our ongoing adventure. And its not too late to join, so bring a friend or two. I'd hate for people to miss out on this great opportunity because they didn't hear about it.

I'm off to work on the quality of my attention,

Dianne

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