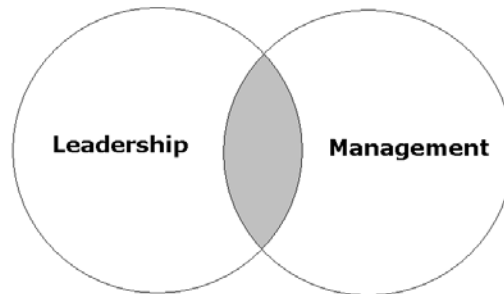


The Role of the President

This resource is intended to help leaders of organizations, particularly Presidents, understand their roles and expectations within an organization and to consider how leadership and management intertwine in the role of President.



"Management without leadership encourages an uninspired style; leadership without management encourages a disconnected style." – Gosling & Mintzberg

Responsibilities of the President

Below is a list of possible functions a President might serve with a student organization. Not all Presidents may serve all these functions, some may be delegated, and some things that Presidents do may not be included, but this is a sampling of some basic responsibilities.

- Presides at all meetings of the organization
- Calls special meetings of the organization
- Schedules all practices, meetings, and other activities of the organization
- Obtains appropriate facilities for organization activities
- Prepares and files any reports
- Appoints committee chairs
- Applies for and completes annual recognition forms
- Attends required meetings for registered student organizations
- Ensures all requirements for official organization registration are complete
- Liaison between organization and University officials
- Grooms and recruits future organization leaders
- Represents organization at official functions
- Figurehead/face of the organization
- Sends and receives correspondence on behalf of the organization

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

- Maintains contact with organization advisor, organization alumni, and any affiliated University department or national organization
- Remains fair and impartial during organization decision making processes
- Votes in cases where there is a tie
- Coordinates elections
- Maintain official organization memorabilia, property, or records
- Recruit new members
- Make sure members feel valued and connected to the organization

Sources:

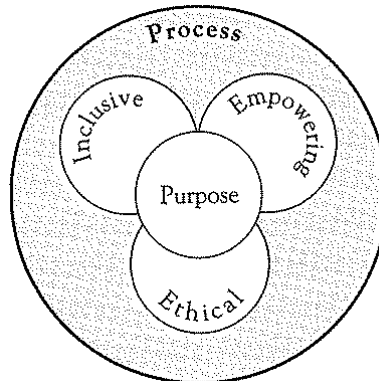
Komives, S.R., Lucas, N., & McMahon, T.R. (1998). *Exploring Leadership: For college students who want to make a difference*. Jossey-Bass: San Francisco, CA.

Myths about Leadership

1. Leaders are born, not made.
Truth: Leadership can be learned.
2. Leadership is hierarchical.
Truth: Leadership occurs at all levels.
3. You need to hold a formal position to be considered a leader.
Truth: Everyone can be a leader.
4. You have to have charisma to be an effective leader.
Truth: A charismatic personality is not a pre-requisite for leadership.
5. There is one standard way of leading.
Truth: There is not one identifiable right way to lead an organization or group.
6. It is impossible to be a leader and manager at the same time.
Truth: Both leadership and management are necessary for organizations to succeed.
7. You only need to have common sense to be a leader.
Truth: Leadership is a teachable discipline with skills and processes.

Relational Leadership Model

"Leadership is a relational and ethical process of people together attempting to accomplish a positive change." – Komives, Lucas, & McMahon





Inclusive- of people and diverse points of view

Empowering- of other who are involved

Purposeful- commitment, vision, and collaboration

Ethical- driven by values and moral leadership

Process Oriented- how the group becomes a group, remains a group, and accomplishes its purpose

Relational Leadership Styles

Transformative Leadership – a process where leaders and followers raise one another to higher levels of morality and motivation

Servant-Leadership – viewing self as a servant or steward and joining with the goal of serving others to make a difference

Followership – members are not sheep, but rather co-adventurers who are committed to the organization and need to be empowered, honored for their contributions, and valued for the roles they take in helping the organization achieve its vision and goals