Leadership Department Newsletter - June 2012

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Leadership versus Dictatorship

On the way from St. Petersburg to Moscow, the LEAD Study Tour group spent one day in Novgorod, Russia, located alongside the Volkhov River, where we visited the local Kremlin and learned a bit about the city’s history. In the tenth century, the city developed a local government system—known as the Novgorod Republic—that allowed the population to vote on civil affairs. This was a very unusual example of shared leadership in a region dominated by dictators. In fact, in 1570, Ivan the Terrible, the first czar and emperor of Russia—known for his tyranny and disdain for shared leadership and the republican system—destroyed the city, killing most of its population. The city was rebuilt later on, and today it is a beautiful town with a population of around 200,000.

After centuries of various forms of dictatorship, Russia has now implemented democracy across its large territory. Although democracy is not always a guarantee of shared leadership, the history of Novgorod stands as a monument of the superiority of shared leadership over dictatorship.
David Van Dyke received his doctoral degree in Educational Administration in 2011. As a fourth generation teacher, David is passionate about elementary education and enjoys long-term connections with his students. In addition to his educational career, David is a talented musician and enjoys performing on weekends and holidays with his band, The Van Dyke Review. In this interview, David talks about music, his career and personal life.

LEAD: You are a teacher, a scholar and a musician. How do you feel about doing such different things at the same time?

Van Dyke: I think the fact that I'm most comfortable when I'm busy helps quite a bit. I have a type-A personality, so I'm always trying to get things done. Being a teacher gave me the free summers to write my dissertation. Being a musician is a fun way to help pay the bills.

LEAD: How did you start your musical career?

Van Dyke: I started playing the guitar when I was 13. Like every teenager in 1983, I loved Michael Jackson. My father told me he remembered an act bigger than M.J. and I said I didn't think that was possible. He gave me a Beatles cassette for Christmas that year, a Greatest Hits compilation. I put it on a drawer and forgot about it until I was bored enough to give it a listen. I fell in love with The Beatles from the first time I heard Paul McCartney yell "One, two, three faah!" to open "I Saw Her Standing There." My dad had an old guitar and I asked him to show me how to play "Twist & Shout." It was just three chords—D, G & A— but I was hooked. My first gig was a church talent show. I've been performing in front of people ever since. I play three instruments, the guitar, harmonica and lap dulcimer.

In 1996, I lived on the west coast with my wife, Dawn. I started playing solo in coffee houses and smaller performance venues. When we moved back to Michigan in 1998, I co-founded a group, The VanDyke Revue, with my father, John. We are a four-piece group, performing nearly every weekend in and around northern Indiana and southwestern Michigan.

LEAD: What are some highlights of your musical career?

Van Dyke: Some highlights include:
1. Writing and producing our self-titled album. The album has been positively reviewed by Roger Ebert of the Chicago Sun Times, Andrew Hughes of the South Bend Tribune and Mario Bourzac of Michiana Now.
2. Sharing a stage with blues legend Duke Tomato and Christian music pioneer Randy Stonehill.
3. Performing on New Year's Eve in the Florida Keys.
5. Performing in Wrigleyville, Chicago, on a chartered bus trip.

Find out more about The VanDyke Revue at www.vandykerueve.org

LEAD: Please share one turning point of your life.

Van Dyke: The biggest turning point in my life (and by far the best thing I ever did) was convincing Dawn VanDyke to marry someone so far beneath herself.

LEAD: Please describe your career as a teacher and what do you like most about elementary and/or secondary teaching?

Van Dyke: For the last 13 school years, I have taught general science, mathematics, US history and reading at Clay Intermediate Center (IC) within the greater South Bend Community School Corporation. From the minute the students entered my classroom, I knew I was in the right place. I had not planned to teach middle school before earning my bachelor's degree in elementary education. This just happened to be the first school where I interviewed.

What I like most about teaching middle school is the connections I make with my students. One of my greatest joys after all these years is having former students (now adults) approach me and tell me what they learned in my classroom.

LEAD: Could you share one of your scholarly contributions as a teacher?

Van Dyke: This last fall, I applied what I learned through my study. I wrote a “One School at a Time” grant from WNDU-16 and Martin's Supermarkets. With the funds from the grant, Clay IC was able to purchase 40 copies of Eric Jensen's Teaching with Poverty in Mind: What Being Poor Does to Kids' Brains and What Schools Can Do About It. We were also able to afford professional development hours for teachers studying the book. The faculty at Clay IC began (and will continue) an initiative to meet these students’ needs.

LEAD: In which ways has the doctoral program changed your personal and professional life?

Van Dyke: Completing my doctorate was among the most difficult things I've ever done, but I don't regret it. I'm the first person in my family to be called "Dr.,” though I only use the title when making dinner reservations. I'm applying for an administrative position this fall through the South Bend Community School Corporation, so we'll see. . .

LEAD: How much did your program portfolio contribute to your professional experience?

Van Dyke: It helped immensely. I appreciated the freedom to put together a product that was specific to my professional needs. One project required evaluating my school's security measures. I came up with an action plan for my school which is partially in place today.

In my dissertation, I measured four socio-demographic factors of academic success specific to SBSC students. These were: a) acceptance of evolution, b) gender, c) race / ethnicity, and d) socioeconomic status. Of these variables, I found that one, socioeconomic status (particularly poverty status) acted as a predictor of academic achievement and/or failure. The information used in my study was derived from classroom activities at Clay IC and Indiana's standardized state test, the ISTEP.

LEAD: What is your dream for the future?

Van Dyke: I'd like to teach Guided Inquiry Methods for Science Instruction and Classroom Management Techniques to aspiring teachers. I'd also like to record some of my songs for children.

LEAD: A favorite book?

Interview: Dr. David Van Dyke
Van Dyke: My favorite novels are *The Prince of Tides* and *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. In addition to Pat Conroy and Mark Twain, some of my favorite authors include James Loewen, Paul Begala, Michael Shermer, Joe Queenan, Richard Dawkins and Roger Ebert.

LEAD: Tell us about your family.

David Van Dyke: I’m a fourth generation teacher. My great-grandfather, Thomas Martin, petitioned his community to start a high school in South Huntington Township in Western Pennsylvania. His daughter, Eleanor Van Dyke (now 102 years old), graduated from Park College in Missouri and went on to get her master’s degree in Chicago in 1933. She taught fourth grade in Niles, MI. One of her children, my father John, taught art for the Lewis Cass School System. I’m married to a teacher, too!

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Annual Leadership Conference and Roundtable on Emotional Leadership

In less than a month (July 22-25, 2012) we will meet for the annual Leadership Roundtable—which has developed into a leadership conference for the entire Andrews University campus and surrounding community. The conference, focusing on Emotional, Social and Spiritual Leadership, starts on Sunday July 22 at 5pm with keynote speaker Daniel Goleman. Pre-conference workshops begin Friday evening (July 20) and continue all day Saturday and through Sunday morning. Be prepared for active participation in exploring emotional leadership.

Registration and more information at: www.andrews.edu/grad.

Pre-Conference Workshops: The conference will start with a series of pre-conference workshops on the topic of *Spiritual Leadership*, beginning on Friday evening and continuing Saturday and Sunday with a keynote address by Richard Blackaby, co-author of *Spiritual Leadership*, coordinated by the Christian Leadership Center of Andrews University.

For roundtable posters click here.

Call for Proposals: You are welcome to submit a proposal to present a paper on leadership at Roundtable. The call for proposals is at www.andrews.edu/grad (deadline is May 15).

Roundtable Book:

Make sure to read the book *Social Intelligence: The New Science of Human Relationships*, so you can follow the presentations and participate in panel discussions. There will be a book signing by the author, so you may want to bring your books for autographs.

Research Boot Camp (July 25-27, 2012)

The third Leadership department Research Boot Camp is planned for July 25-27—Wednesday afternoon through Friday noon. This will be a dynamic working session for people completing either chapter 3 (research design) or chapter 4, (findings) in their dissertation or thesis work.

The camp provides an opportunity to work closely with attentive methodologists in an intense three days of writing with lots of faculty feedback. Methodologists Shirley Freed and Isadore Newman, and SPSS specialist Shawn Collins will be present and focused on helping participants make progress. Other faculty members will also be available to give direct and specific feedback also. The group will go out for dinner Wednesday evening with Isadore and Shirley—one of the “unofficial” fun events of past boot camps, providing an opportunity for a bit of down time.

There will also be two dissertation defenses during this time—one qualitative and the other quantitative—for those who are interested in observing a defense. This is optional, since many boot camp participants will want to work around the clock to take advantage of the opportunity for methodological feedback.

Past boot camp participants report that it has really helped them move their research forward. If you are working on chapters 3 and 4 of your dissertation (or MA/EdS research project) and would like to participate in boot camp, please contact Duane Covrig (covrig@andrews.edu), providing the following information:

1. Name of dissertation chair
2. Name of methodologist
3. Chapter you plan to focus on (and specific section, if possible)
4. Times you plan to attend (official hours are Wednesday, 2-6pm, Thursday 9am-6pm, and Friday 9am-12pm).

LEADERSHIP PROGRAM NEWS

Shawn Collins Defends Dissertation
Shawn Collins (2010) successfully defended his dissertation, “The Emotional intelligence profiles and cognitive measures of nurse anesthesia students in the Southeastern United States” on May 29, 2012. His committee was Duane Covrig (chair), Isadore Newman (methodologist), Margaret Callahan, Shirley Freed and Wayne Perry (external examiner).

Roundtable 2012 Supports Competency Development

As you plan for another pilgrimage back to Andrews this summer, please pack some ‘competency evidence’ into your suitcase. After the inspiration of Richard Blackaby (if you choose the pre-session) on Saturday and Sunday and Daniel Goleman on Sunday evening and Monday, we’ll be focusing on you and your program. How will we do that? By a series of breakout sessions giving you an opportunity to choose a session where you’ll get ‘hands-on’ help in developing a particular competency.

For your research competency, bring your research-in-progress documents—even if it’s just an idea at this point. For the other competencies, bring 1 – 2 pieces of evidence of your practice and some knowledge base references to use as you start writing a reflection paper for one competency. Using the rubrics, faculty will be facilitating a competency session where you will become more skilled at writing reflection papers and using the rubrics for evaluation.

So—pack your bags! We are anxious to see each one of you!

K-12 PROGRAM NEWS

Educational Leadership (K-12) Welcomes its 2012 Cohort

The EDAL faculty and staff are looking forward to meeting our new participants at orientation (LEAD 630) beginning on Monday July 16, 2012. In addition, we will be welcoming students from our former sister school, Atlantic Union College. Since this is the last newsletter before Orientation, please check the reading list below and the Announcements section at the end of this newsletter.

Reading List: For the newcomers of the K-12 program, please read these books prior to the start of Orientation:


Please complete the Strength Finder test and bring it with you to Orientation.

If you have any questions or need assistance prior to your arrival, please contact Janet Ledesma at 260-471-6054 or email me at jledesma@andrews.edu.

HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAM NEWS

LEAD Participants Visit Universities in Russia and Scandinavia
The Berlin Wall

Copenhagen

The Red Square in Moscow

The Red Square
From May 31 to June 17, a group of 21 participants from the Leadership and Higher Education programs visited universities in Russia and Scandinavia as part of a study tour project in International Higher Education. Participants interacted with faculty and students at the University of Copenhagen, the University of Helsinki, Saint Petersburg State University, and Moscow State University. The group was excited about learning the characteristics of higher education in those countries, particularly in terms of how they differ from US universities. Participants also visited historical sites in each country and took city tours of Minsk, Warsaw and Berlin. Some highlights of the study tour are pictured below, and you can also access the Tour Blog at: http://russiatourandrews.blogspot.com/