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## An Exploration of Emotional Intelligence and its Relationship to Higher Education Effective Leadership Practices of Leaders in a Community College Environment

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**Fylstra, Beth Ann. (2015). *The correlation between a pastor's job experience and church servant leadership practices*. Ph.D., Walden University.**

Churches contribute both indirectly and directly to community economic development and social transformation. Some researchers cite lack of leadership as a factor in Christian churches in the United States experiencing declining attendance, with many churches closing. The purpose of this study was to determine the extent to which a senior pastor's past and current church leadership experience affects servant leadership practices in the pastor's current church. Servant leadership theory was this quantitative, correlational study's theoretical framework. Five research questions focused on a pastor's past and present church leadership experience and how it affects the servant leadership practices within the organization's leadership. Forty-six leaders from six church organizations took the Organizational Leadership Assessment (OLA). Individual church OLA scores were calculated and then analyzed using correlation and moderation analysis against each pastor's past and present experience. Findings did not indicate any statistically significant relationship between a pastor's past or present leadership experience and servant leadership practices within the church. Additional research is recommended, as statistics did show trends indicating some statistical significance may be uncovered with a larger sample size. Findings could enhance social change initiatives by identifying which church organizational servant leadership aspects emerge early in a pastor's tenure as opposed to those aspects which emerge after more time, experience, and training. This study will benefit church and not-for-

profit leaders by providing a better understanding of how a leader's work experience affects organizational leadership behaviors.

**Golden, Vicki A. (2015). *An exploration of emotional intelligence and its relationship to higher education effective leadership practices of leaders in a community college environment*. Ph.D., Wayne State University.**

The purpose of this quantitative study is to fill a gap in the current performance improvement literature as it relates to community college senior leadership, emotional intelligence (EI), and frequency levels of leaders engaging and performing effective leadership behavioral practices. The study sampled senior leaders from selected community colleges in five states in the American Midwest. Senior leaders completed the Assessing Emotions Scale (AES) (Schutte et al., 1998) to measure EI and the Leadership Practices Inventory (LPI) to measure leadership efficacy. Descriptive statistics were used to provide information on senior community college leaders' self-reported degree of EI and their self-reported level of frequency of standing relative to effective leadership practices in the domain of higher education. Inferential statistics were used to determine the relationship between EI leadership attributes and leadership efficacy. The results of the investigation provide new data that could advance post secondary educational leadership to improve institutional performance and provide information on whether EI theory can be extended to the community college.