

Additional Information

For more information on building your leadership skills or getting involved in a leadership role on campus, please contact the Dean of Students office.

We have a variety of activities to assist in you in building your leadership skills as well as getting involved in the community.

The Student Leadership Institute provides opportunities such as workshops and a University Leadership Conference. Our Greek Life programs works with numerous sororities at CSUF that provide all types of ways to get involved on campus as well at the Community-based Learning And Service Center which coordinates community service activities for CSUF students.

Feel free to contact any of us for more information. We look forward to hearing from you!

Dean of Students

(714) 278-3211, TSU 235

Volunteer & Service Center

(714) 278-7623, TSU 2

Student Leadership Institute (SLI)

(714) 278-5999, TSU 235

Greek Life

(714) 278-3211, TSU 235

Women's Center/Adult Re-entry

(714) 247-3928, UH 205

Women's Studies

(714) 278-2006, EC 475



CAL STATE
FULLERTON

California State University, Fullerton

Dean of Students Office

Titan Student Union 235

P.O. Box 6830, Fullerton, CA 92834-6830

714.278.3211

www.fullerton.edu/deanofstudents

CAL STATE FULLERTON

STUDENT AFFAIRS

We would like to thank the University of California, Irvine Office of the Dean of Students for use of their publication in creating this brochure.

Women
in
Leadership

Dean of Students

Women in Leadership

The changes in the status of women in higher education during the last two decades make leadership roles a unique opportunity for women today. Women have been able to change the who, how, what, and why of decision-making. Currently, women still have barriers to overcome in accessing leadership opportunities. The barriers that affect women include both external factors such as traditional values and norms in society and also internal messages about "proper" behavior for a woman. Attributes perceived as being needed for good leadership: being assertive, decisive, independent, comfortable with control, and (yes!) even being aggressive at times are not behaviors encouraged in women. To develop women's leadership roles you must address both the internal and external barriers. The following are suggestions for enhancing women in leadership.

Encouragement

We all need it so why not share it! Sometimes a person just needs to be told to take a chance. Encouragement is the first step to taking a risk, sharing an idea or running for office. Check your own attitudes - do you encourage men more than women? Do you unconsciously check for "extra" qualifications if nominating, electing, or appointing a woman to a position? Encouragement is a true motivator.

Mentoring

Learning the ropes. Sharing knowledge. Providing opportunities. A mentor can help a person's career to move faster and smoother. Look around and see if someone can be a mentor to you. A mentor could be a professor, another student, a program advisor, or it could be you! Do you have experience in your organization? Be a mentor to an emerging female leader in the organization - it will ensure quality leadership for the future and help encourage women to grow.

Language

Does your language exclude women? Do you always assume the male pronoun? If you do, just replace pronouns with articles:

- ◆ A careful secretary consults her dictionary often.
- ◆ A careful secretary consults a dictionary often.
- ◆ The average man on the street speaks his mind on the issues.
- ◆ The average voter speaks out on political issues.

You can eliminate the pronoun, use plural nouns and pronouns or alternative male and female in your speech. You can use chair for chairman, representative for spokesman, call a policeman a police officer and call a female doctor simply a doctor.

Communication

Studies show that in groups, men tend to dominate meetings and control policy decisions. Women who wish to develop their verbal skills could take a speech class, join a toastmasters group, or take an assertion training class. In your organization you can suggest rotation of responsibilities that enhance an individual's verbal skills, i.e. chairing a meeting, introducing speakers, representing the organization or giving a report to the organization. Enhancing leadership in all people means sharing challenges, opportunities, and rewards. Look to others for their possible contribution to your organization. Make choices based on ability and watch your own potential grow.