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Leadership Scholarship Program
Journal Entry One
January 2015

Part 1

- In what areas do you hope to see personal growth during the spring semester?
- What goals do you have for yourself? What role do you see the social change project playing in your development?

Part 2

- Identify your top five talent themes.
- Discuss how you think your top talent theme will impact this project?
- Discuss how you think your top talent theme can be developed during this project?

Over winter break, I reflected on and identified three of my own personal weaknesses with my parents. While confidence can be a great attribute, my parents suggested that at times, (1) I may be unaware (and uncaring) of how I appear to others. By examining the second quadrant of my Johari's window, I can find both positive and negative elements, and work to refine the positive. My parents also observed that (2) I tend to quickly dismiss their input, especially over the phone. I'd like to give others the common courtesy of my full attention when they speak, and acknowledge their opinions. My goal is to truly listen to and understand my teammates, peers, family members, and supervisors. I've also learned that I can be very sensitive when I do receive feedback. (3) I take comments very personally, and am easily offended. I am hesitant to seek advice because I feel vulnerable to verbal attacks. This mindset needs to shift to a positive outlook. This change will happen gradually, and I have begun to mentally prepare for confrontations by reminding myself of the purpose: to improve. Faculty, advisors, and my parents are all there to help me grow into a better person; not to tear me down.

Moving into the spring semester and the social change project, I plan to think and act positively. I want to use my words to uplift others, and I want to use my ears to genuinely hear others, too. I believe the social change project will truly be a challenge of my personal strengths and a chance to improve on my weaknesses. Every interaction with my peers is an opportunity to assert myself as a positive, motivated individual who is ready to contribute to the team. Communicating with committee members and advisors requires an open-mind; I will be ready to receive their feedback knowing that it is meant to help the group succeed together.

My top five talent themes, in order, are: strategic, achiever, communication, woo, and focus. My committee choice for the social change project echoes my top talent theme: strategy. By using my top theme, I can help guide my cohort in defining the reason why we are performing this service, and develop creative ways to share our mission with ASU students. How are we

going to inspire others with our actions? This is a strategy question that I don't have the answer to, yet. By being on the ASU Events Committee, I can answer this question and impact the project by giving it purpose. As I mentioned in my individual processing assignment, "Creating effective ways to combat homelessness locally is not enough; we must involve our fellow peers in the ASU community. I want to inspire our cohort, my advisors and staff, and the community to take action against homelessness. Everyone has the power to help, but I want to figure out why we should help. Once the mission statement is finalized, I plan to incorporate each of its elements into every ASU event so our message/goal is clear and attainable to all."

My top talent theme can be developed in this project by stimulating thought in different areas I haven't considered before. I have not done a service project that addresses the issue of teen homelessness; this will be a new experience for me. I will have to find my own personal "why" for this project before I can become an effective, impassioned team member first. Once I have my own reason for this service, it will be easier for me to find common links among my peers and unite us all under a group mission. Considering that the service project event plans will centralize around this mission, developing a strategy to engage students is imperative. This experience will teach me how to connect with an audience and effectively garner their support for the cause. My strategy is to create strategy.