



Innovation through Leadership

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“Everyone wants to feel that he counts for something and is important to someone. Invariably, people will give their love, respect, and attention to the person who fills that need.”

John C. Maxwell, Leadership 101

Leadership

Real leadership is being the person others will gladly and confidently follow

Annual Conference

The CEPA Consortium is hosting its annual leadership conference October 22-24, 2015. The theme is *Innovation through Leadership*. The conference site is the El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel, San Antonio, Texas.

TAMU heads to CEPA 2015



A research-intensive flagship university

CEPA welcomes the delegation of professors and doctoral students that [Texas A&M University](#), an influential dynasty from the Southeastern Conference, will be sending to CEPA 2015. Along with the University of Texas and the private Rice University, it is one of only three Tier-One universities in Texas.

TAMU serves as a model for developing leadership and for having the fortitude to enhance the integration of knowledge, explore new ideas and collaboration. Welcome TAMU!

TAMU Presidential Professor Recipient



Dr. Janet Hammer, a Clinical Professor and Associate Department Head for Undergraduate Studies at Texas A&M University, will unveil their approach to developing innovators and

leaders through an international baccalaureate degree at TAMU. As one of the nation's premier research universities, TAMU will be the only institution of higher education in the nation to implement this unique and innovative program beginning 2016.

Dr. Hammer, one of only two professors, is the recipient of the 2015 Texas A&M [Presidential Professor Excellence Award](#), the highest award at A&M for teaching. As part of this award she received \$25,000 and will maintain the title for the rest of her career.



Dr. Cynthia Boettcher, along with Dr. Hammer, will lead, coach and mentor TAMU's delegation of doctoral students at CEPA 2015 where they will share their vision on leadership.

Dr. Boettcher is the recipient of the 2013 George Bush International Teaching Award at

Texas A&M. She, along with Dr. Hammer, is a two-time Texas A&M University Distinguished Teaching Award Winner.

What distinguishes TAMU?

In the 21st century, Texas has seen tremendous growth in International Baccalaureate (IB) programs offered in K-12 schools. Because of Texas A&M's engagement with student global experiences and in conjunction with the IB Americas office in Bethesda, Maryland, Texas A&M University's College of Education will be certifying its undergraduate pre-service teachers to teach in public IB schools.

As innovators, faculty and doctoral students have been researching and developing the required curriculum to be the first Tier I institution in the country to offer such an endorsement to its pre-service teachers. TAMU scholars will present the tenets of the learner profile, to include how learners construct meaning through concepts and knowledge. Strong emphasis is placed on the ideals of international understanding and responsible citizenship, to the end that IB students may become critical and compassionate thinkers, and informed participants in local and world affairs.



At CEPA 2014, San Antonio's Mayor, Honorable Ivy R. Taylor, encouraged all universities to be

at the forefront in dealing with the challenges of the 21st century. A connection exists among the universities in Texas and campuses throughout the hemisphere for developing tomorrow's leaders. In particular, she challenged everyone to get involved in providing leadership all over the Americas.

TAMU is heeding the mayor's challenge. They are sharing their vision in the greater San Antonio community and beyond.

Being average is over



Samantha Shields, a doctoral student at TAMU, affirms that attending CEPA 2015 will be a good way to get the mind in shape. Participants will reap many benefits, to include: socializing with colleagues from other institutions, listening to exciting presentations, and sharing with other researchers. Research ideas will be inspired through different styles of presentations.



Amy Ging, another doctoral student at TAMU, believes that great leadership experiences should aspire to achieve: ingenuity, creativity, and the inspiration to bring something extra to whatever the delegate

ends up doing. Shields and Ging are models of future leaders. Universities like Texas A&M are encouraging their students to engage their brains in extra leadership opportunities and combine it with a way for them to discover their individual interests.

Thomas Friedman in his book, *That Used To Be Us*, encourages future leaders to explore a world of ideas. He states that at many top-level universities, like Texas A&M, the direction has moved to "coach and inspire a new generation of leaders so that they will not only do today's important work but also invent tomorrow's." Friedman goes on to say that "critical thinking alone just doesn't buy what it used to buy. Critical thinking has become the basic price of admission." Therefore, as colleges and universities know, if they want to succeed they must seek faculty and students with the ability to innovate. Friedman believes, with change coming as fast as it is, that is the only thing that will save them.

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