



ETHICAL LEADERSHIP FOR A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

October 13-15, 2011

Co-sponsored by

Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi and
Collaborative Educational Programs for the Americas, Inc.

Executive Summary

One of the most gratifying leadership events of this year took place October 13-15, 2011, at the 34th annual conference of the Society of Educators and Scholars. *Ethical Leadership for a Global Perspective* was the theme and the Holiday Inn in Corpus Christi, Texas provided the beautiful setting.

This year's conference attracted thinkers from academia, business, the military, and other disciplines, including government, politics and civics. One hundred delegates gathered for this event which represented 30 colleges, universities and other institutions from across the country. Over 60 presenters shared ideas on leadership during this three-day event while providing a premier opportunity for networking and high-powered professional development.

Doctoral students from Texas A&M - Corpus Christi did a superb job of organizing and implementing proposal selection, logistics, publications, registration, catering and entertainment. The outstanding work of these individuals was evident throughout the event, as all aspects of the conference blended seamlessly and professionally. These doctoral students had the opportunity to collaborate with senior professionals from many disciplines while at the same time actually *practicing* leadership.

In our increasingly globalized society, the conference aimed to encourage, mentor and support new and upcoming leaders in diverse fields of interest. Everyone saw first-hand the tremendous interest in ethical leadership--especially the need to regain our confidence in public leadership and improve our future through collaboration, mentoring, and maintaining a focus on humanistic values and ethical practices.

A festive reception marked the beginning of the conference on Thursday night. Everyone enjoyed lively music as the Moody High School Mariachi de Oro strolled through the crowd. The excitement had already begun!

Friday morning's opening session started with the posting of the colors by the Army ROTC Islander Battalion and a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem sung by Jennifer Garza. Texas A&M – Corpus Christi President Flavius Killebrew and Texas State Representative Connie Scott offered thoughtful and relevant remarks to set the tone for the day. Provost Chris Markwood was a special guest at lunch. Breakout sessions pertaining to all aspects of the conference theme were not only informative and thought-provoking, but also inspired questions, discussions and networking. A special feature which enhanced the conference

atmosphere was the lovely background music during meals provided by guitarist Jim Dugan, saxophonist Bobby Hesch, and pianist Bill Powell.

The Friday evening dinner featured a much-anticipated presentation by Lieutenant General Donald Campbell, Jr., Commanding General of III Corp and Fort Hood. His inspirational remarks highlighting the leadership traits needed in today's violent, uncertain, complex and ambiguous world reinforced the conference theme of ethical leadership. After dinner, delegates were thrilled to have the chance to meet and be photographed with General Campbell, one of our nation's most outstanding leaders.

On Saturday morning, two Brigadier Generals, Paul Peña of the New Mexico National Guard and Orlando Salinas of the Texas Military Forces, reiterated Lieutenant General Campbell's remarks. They emphasized that members of our armed forces are also confronted with the challenges of globalization. These include the speed in which information is received in this technological age. They look to educators and scholars to create a culture of learning to help student-soldiers confront these challenges and future career development.

Conference participants had positive reactions to the event. Season Mussey, Texas A&M – Central Texas, felt that all of the presentations fit well with the theme of ethical leadership for a global perspective. "I learned a great deal about education, scholarship, and leadership as well as how to apply these ideas to my practice and professional pursuits. The conference was well organized and executed with much-needed time for networking built in. I hope that we can continue the conversation about the research consortium. I really do believe that excellence happens when you are collaborating with like-minded visionaries, many of whom I met this weekend." Jan Seiter, also from Central Texas, added, "It was a great pleasure to discuss all of our common issues. I am really looking forward to our association in the coming years."

"Thank you for the opportunity to present at such a great conference," added Kenny Taylor from Taylored Strategies. "It was well put together, coupled with the location and those we met...a beautiful experience it was." Karina Gil followed by saying, "I just wanted to echo the sentiment from Kenny. It was a great conference and we look forward to the one next year." Texas State Representative Connie Scott wrote, "It was an honor and a privilege to work with you and your team...I am certain that this is the first of many successes!"

This partnership between CEPA and Texas A&M – Corpus Christi, which brought together internationally-minded individuals and educationally responsible entities, was in response to the urgent need for a different approach for improving leadership.

As a member of this year's leadership team you are encouraged to continue to share your ideas on leadership and engage other thinkers at our next session where innovative and creative ideas will flourish. Work has already begun on **ETHICAL LEADERSHIP FOR A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE — 2012 in Corpus Christi!**

Conference Program: http://cepa.tamucc.edu/files/program_booklet_final.pdf

Photo Gallery: http://education.tamucc.edu/gallery2/main.php?g2_itemId=29971&g2_page=10

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