



*Changing the Future of Leadership*

# The Shepperd E-Leader

## Student Leadership Forums Get Overhaul

Our Institute is excited to implement the new S.O.S. (System of Service) Program beginning in the 2009-2010 school year. The Shepperd Leadership Institute has been providing unique leadership training to youth throughout the state since 1994. Although successful in previous years, we believe it is our responsibility to meet the ever changing needs of students and public school guidelines by providing opportunities for learning leadership skills that are responsive to changes in pedagogical methodology. The majority of the changes initiated are based on consistent recommendations received from various forum organizers and/or sponsors in addition to the statewide facilitator and student evaluations received each year.

The new program material currently consists of two curriculum modules:

1. How Leadership is Communicated: students learn about themselves and are given the tools enabling them to interact with a variety of people.
2. Dealing with Change: students are guided through a step by step process for implementing change.

In addition to the modular content format, the new program utilizes a limited number of individual worksheets rather than the traditional student workbook, allowing for greater flexibility

of program delivery. Program organizers can opt to provide the entire program in a single day or choose to provide only one module, depending on their individual needs.

The newly designed program also required adaptation on the part of the Institute's Program Coordinators, Shannon Hernandez and Valorie Rogers. Both have received additional training, conducted extensive research and obtained certification as True Colors™ Facilitators.

While much has changed, the new program maintains many of the most effective elements from the former program. Students will continue to have opportunities to work in multiple groups for creative stimulation, practical training and networking. Forum organizers are still responsible for recruiting volunteers and providing appropriate facilities and a/v equipment. Also, while there are minor associative costs for meals and facility usage, there is no charge for the program materials or staff time. Lastly, in addition to the onsite content delivery, Institute staff work with forum organizers before and after the event to ensure the most effective program possible.

**If you would like to host a student forum in your area, please contact program coordinators at 432-552-2850.**



**Carl Bernstein**

### **From Nixon to Bush: What President Obama Can Learn from Presidents Past**

**Thursday, October 15, 2009  
7 PM  
UTPB Gymnasium**

For more information, please call 432-552-2850.  
Admission is free. No tickets required.



**Bob Woodward**

**John Ben Shepperd  
Public Leadership  
Institute**

Take the attitude of a student, never be too big to ask questions, never know too much to learn something new.

- Og Mandino

Don't try to fix the students, fix ourselves first. The good teacher makes the poor student good and the good student superior. When our students fail, we, as teachers, too, have failed.

- Marva Collins

## Institute Staff:

**Robert Burns  
Director**

**Dr. Karen C. Johnson  
Associate Director**

**Dr. Carol Traut  
Professor**

**Shannon Hernandez  
Senior Program Coordinator**

**Valorie Rogers  
Senior Program Coordinator**

**Nellwyn Barnett  
Event Coordinator**

**Shelly Pope  
Administrative Assistant**

**Betsy Almendarez  
Administrative Assistant**

### Contact Information:

Phone - 432-552-2850  
Fax - 432-552-2851

theinstitute@utpb.edu

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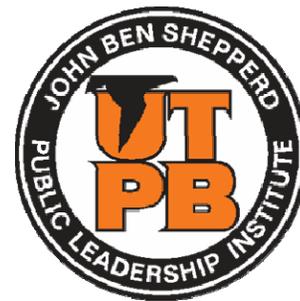
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## Coming Soon:

### The 25th Annual Texas Leadership Forum



The Shepperd Public Leadership Institute will host the 25th Annual Texas Leadership Forum on January 15 –16, 2010, in Austin, Texas.

Online registration is now available:

<http://aa.utpb.edu/jbs-leadership-institute/texas-leadership-forum/registration-information/>

This year's forum boasts an impressive slate of world-renowned speakers, practical training workshops and unparalleled networking opportunities. For more information on the Forum, lists of speakers and sessions, please visit our website at:

<http://aa.utpb.edu/jbs-leadership-institute/texas-leadership-forum/>

## Leadership Graduate Honored in D.C.

Last month, UTPB Leadership Studies graduate, Eric Kounce and his wife Holli were honored as recipients of the 2009 *Angel in Adoption*<sup>™</sup> award. The couple, along with other award recipients, was recognized at the annual *Angels in Adoption*<sup>™</sup> reception and gala on September 30, 2009. The event is sponsored by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute (CCAI). Each year members of Congress are given the opportunity to select individuals, families or organizations from their home state who have demonstrated a commitment to improving the lives of children in need of permanent, loving homes.

In addition to the awards gala, the couple attended numerous legislative seminars and met with members of Congress. The three-day program is designed to inform adoptive and foster parents about current legislative issues relevant to the adoption process.

Holli and Eric have been foster parents since 1999 to more than 20 children. During that time, they have adopted five of their foster children, Jessica, Alieha, Samuel, Caleb, and their most recent addition Jacquelyn, was adopted on 9-9-09 at 9am!

*Congratulations to Eric and Holli on this truly special award.*