



UNIVERSIDAD DE CÓRDOBA

FACULTAD DE EDUCACIÓN Y CIENCIAS HUMANAS

DEPARTAMENTO DE IDIOMAS EXTRANJEROS



A PERSONAL LEADERSHIP STATEMENT

ERWIN YESID CORCHO DÍAZ

LUIS SEBASTIÁN MARTÍNEZ CAMPO



UNIVERSIDAD DE CÓRDOBA

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING PROGRAMME

DIPLOMA COURSE

Lifelong Professional Development: Empowering Foreign Language Teachers

MONTERÍA – CÓRDOBA

2020



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**Statement submitted in fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of English Teaching
Program**

MENTOR

PEDRO AGUAS CASTILLO

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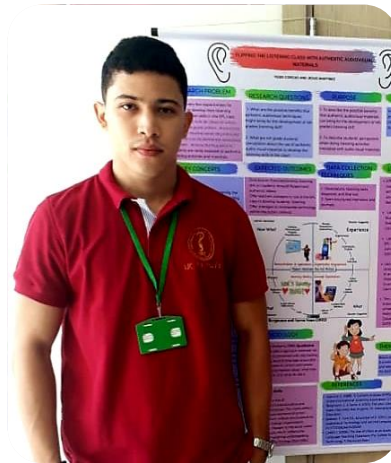


Our Leadership Profile

How do we see ourselves as a future leader?

“Leadership is not an option in our degree; that’s why we are ready to accept challenges because we believe they mean more opportunities to acquire knowledge and as a future leader we will do our best to guide everyone who follows us. As a leader we see ourselves providing guidance to our group by setting goals to all our students and acting as a guide for them, we would like to provide the power and the strength to lead a group, directing the activities toward a shared goal and encouraging others to walk effectively sharing the same objective”.

Erwin Corcho & Sebastian Martinez.



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1. Introduction

Throughout many years, leadership has been considered a complex term to define since it carries several meanings, which are of vital importance for its explanation. Nevertheless, the term leadership has been defined by different authors, in different words and contexts; those definitions imply a similar approach, which is to guide a group of people to accomplish a common objective. Mallory (2009) “leadership is the art of serving others by equipping them with training, tools and people as well as your time energy and emotional intelligence so that they can realize their full potential, both personally and professionally” (P. 23). In other words, leadership is the ability of influencing people to endeavor willingly for mutual objectives.

Effective leadership is providing the vision and motivation to a team so they work together toward the same goal, and then understanding the talents and temperaments of each individual and effectively motivating each person to contribute individually their best toward achieving the group goal. (Kimer 2011, p 23)

Similarly, Lisa (2011) expressed that “leadership is the ability to guide others without force into a direction or decision that leaves them still feeling empowered and accomplished” (P.27) Based on that, leadership is the ability to inspire, foster and work with others towards a goal. Indeed, the main purpose of the leader is getting others to follow what has been established, and thus, they can be able to reach their destinations. For instance, a teacher leadership shows others what they can do to take risks for a better learning environment and no just working for



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students; it supports other teachers to make changes and enhance.

Our perspective of leadership is the capacity of a person of guiding a group; fostering, helping, and inspiring them to work with confidence toward the accomplishment of a common objective.



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2. My assumptions

We believe that an effective school leadership is vital to student progress. Good leadership in schools helps to foster both a positive and motivating culture for staff and a high-quality experience for learners. That is, educational leaders need to be excellent communicators and know how to improve the quality of students learning outcomes.

Vision is perhaps one of the most important qualities a leader can have as it provides momentum and direction, not just for the team leader but for each and every team member. Lathan (2003) concluded that “in order for leaders to be successful in pursuing their vision and enacting their plan, they must pair their vision with unrelenting passion” (p, 2). Vision and passion from an effective leader should generate inspiration, motivation and excitement that permeates throughout the school. Therefore, leaders should use their knowledge, experience, beliefs as well as their assumptions to identify and maximize learners’ strengths, which are essential elements of leadership development. Effective leaders and members cultivate and capitalize on the diverse talents of teams and group members.

Sandberg (2015) defined leadership in the most creative and truthful way. Sandberg also stated that “it is about making others better as a result of your presence and making sure that impact lasts in your absence” (p, 1). A great leader becomes such an inspiration for others that the teachings they spread will continue to have a lasting impact.



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Consequently, to be a good leader in educational processes, it is necessary to be able to work well with other people, being willing to listen to others, communicate well, establish trust, ask questions to stimulate thinking, develop a sense of teamwork, and among others. Teamwork is necessary between students, students and teachers, and among parents and educators. The more teamwork opportunities you exhibit, the more opportunity exists for students to learn the vital skills of compromise and collaboration. Collaborative work strengthens the relationships of the team. It creates higher levels of loyalty within the team. It allows people to pursue what they are passionate about. The collaborative leadership style allows each team member to focus on what they are best at doing. Moreover, collaborative work helps you to expand your mind, because you are not dealing with just one idea, you are dealing with several ideas - you listen others points of view.

In order to improve as future leader, some questions that come to our mind are:

- ✓ What are our biggest strengths to lead?
- ✓ What can we do to motivate a team?
- ✓ How will we guide my team to improve or develop their individual skills?
- ✓ How do we monitor the performance of the people that I have to lead?

These are some questions that we consider meaningful and every future leader should ask to themselves. We have already thought of their answers, and these have helped us to feel more commitment to our duties as future English teacher leaders.



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3. Leadership empowerment and implications for the future

Empowering leadership can be quite useful in educational contexts, particularly as a behavioral tactic. Empowerment often refers to helping someone realize their abilities and potential, perhaps for the first time. In that sense, our personal prospective plans as future teachers, educators, professionals and leaders are to inspire our subordinates, making them understand the goals, purpose, and objectives of our vision. In addition, introducing and organizing new ideas to that group in order to accomplish the group goals will be part of our future actions. However, first we should be self-aware, we should work hard to intimately understand our strengths and weaknesses; and second, we are expected to know what our values are as well. Thus, we will be capable of motivating, instructing and managing the people we will be in charge of and know how to approach them feeling actually valued.

In empowering our future learners, we will let them know that we believe in them and their abilities to handle the most demanding tasks. We will also strive to build confidence in themselves so that they can improve, even when they make mistakes. Therefore, we intend to involve students in real issues, give them a voice in and out of the classroom, give them decision-making power in the curriculum, and among others. Implementing all these plans will have positive implications for the educational system, students of the institution as well as for the group of educators and managers.



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4. Conclusion

Knowing how to manage people's strengths to reach higher goals is one of the best qualities of a leader. Therefore, communication is the key to success. Without clear communication, your team will have trouble to understand your mission, goals, and vision. Good communication is a leadership attribute that should be consistent when it comes to establishing work expectations or giving constructive feedback. With great communication, your team will have a broad understanding to what they are working for. It is also important to remember that listening is an integral part of communication. Make yourself approachable and be willing to listen to the members of your group. When you listen well, you gain a clear understanding of another's perspective and knowledge. Listening fosters trust, respect, and openness.



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