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Leaders to Follow

International Leadership Institute: Providing Leadership Development Services and Programs in the US and Europe since 1985

NEW YEAR, NEW FOCUS, NEW GOAL

By Sara Tusek

With a New Year come new challenges, new ideas and new hopes. The International Leadership Institute begins each new year with a fresh look at our mission and goals; you may read the entire mission on the "Mission and Values" page at our website, www.ili.cc.

For this issue of *Leaders to Follow*, I want to focus on just one sentence in our mission (the last sentence):

"We will assist people in achieving their God-given



Our view outside the window in January, in Florida!

goals, dreams and purposes."

In some ways, this sentence sums up what we have been doing through the Institute since 1985. Beginning with career and leadership development programs for college students, we have endeavored to equip young adults with the necessary tools for success in their career development. As administrators in career offices for four universities (New York Institute of Technology; St. Lawrence University; Covenant College; The University of the South) we helped thousands of

young adults to gain sufficient self-knowledge and knowledge of the job market to launch their careers.

During the 1990's we shifted our focus to assisting business executives, offering *Business Leadership Forum: USA* executive education programs in conjunction with such institutions as the Czech Ministry of Industry and Trade, the US State Department's US AID Programs (through the Agency for International Development), the University of North Florida, the Slovak Chamber of Commerce for Bratislava, Jacksonville University, the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce and hundreds of U.S. businesses, non-profit organizations and government agen-

The International Leadership Institute (ILI)

- WAS FOUNDED IN 1985 IN PRINCETON, NJ
- REMAINS DEDICATED TO LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
- HAS RUN MORE THAN 70 EXECUTIVE EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS IN THE US AND EUROPE, FOR MORE THAN 900 LEADERS.
- HAS PARTNERED WITH THE US DEPARTMENT OF STATE, THE CZECH MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE, THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA, THE JACKSONVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND MORE THAN 700 OTHER BUSINESSES, UNIVERSITIES, RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS, PRIVATE CITIZENS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES
- THROUGH THE ILI PUBLISHING HOUSE, PUBLISHES BOOKS, REPORTS AND PERIODICALS AIMED AT ASSISTING CURRENT AND FUTURE LEADERS, WHO SEEK TO UNDERSTAND AND IMPLEMENT CONTEMPORARY LEADERSHIP STRATEGIES WHICH ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES OF THE 21ST CENTURY.

INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE PUBLISHING HOUSE ANNOUNCES FEBRUARY PUBLICATION OF 21ST CENTURY JOBS

Written as a basic handbook for the job seeker (or job changer) in the 21st century, this book offers everything you need to be ready to find the job you can enjoy and do best.

From self-analysis exercises, through finding out "where the jobs are" right now (and will be in the near future), 21st Century Jobs can help you get your first job, overcome career obstacles or enter an entirely new career. The skills and strategies taught in 21st Century Jobs will last you for a lifetime.

For information on ordering this book, please visit our website at www.ili.cc



Leaders to Follow

New Year, New Goal

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Yet even while we focused on assisting well-established business and professional leaders, we never lost our interest in young people.

The Institute has, since 1990, offered career and language development programs for teenagers and college students: the *American English Language Immersion Program in the United States* centered on improving conversational English language skills while learning about the historical, economic, political and social contexts of American life; *Operation Take-off: USA* helped European university students improve their leadership skills through career-related internships.

Hundreds of young people have taken part in these programs, leading them to successful international careers, further education in graduate school, the development of life-long friendships, new citizenship and even marriage!

New Year, New Goal

So while our new goal is *not* so new in one sense, *it is new* in the way that matters most. We are persuaded that our particular assignment at this time is to bend our efforts in the direction of young people again. After much prayer, we believe this is the direction that God is indicating for us for our June 2010 move to Prague to launch our “Cesta Tam” ministry to people in the Czech Republic.

In Prague, we'll offer conversational English classes aimed at

Jarda leading a conversational English group at Betlemska Kaple in Prague



helping young people to develop their language skills to further their career or educational goals. Jarda began these English

lessons in 2006 during his trips to Prague, and I have been teaching English in an American high school for eleven years, as well as periodically visiting Prague.

We'll also offer career development programs (in English) for those young adults who have sufficiently mastered English to take part. These activities will help us make friends, whom we can then invite to Christian activities, as our purpose in Prague is to share the gospel of Christ with the people we meet.

“Goals, dreams and purposes.”

The decades we have spent teaching career and leadership development have given us the habit of thinking in terms of goals. Goals are measurable; they are challenging, yet attainable; they are a practical means for shaping decisions and behaviors.

Dreams, on the other hand, are more amorphous. They can be vague and hazy, but they are just as necessary as the more clear-cut goals. Without dreams, the soul withers and life is sterile. Purposes are more complex than goals or dreams. We draw our own purpose from God, and hope to inspire others to do the same.

Our new goal for 2009 is an old goal, refined and redeveloped. This goal will remind us to continue the transition in thinking and doing that will allow us to follow God's guidance to make “Cesta Tam” our main focus into the foreseeable future.

TWO TRAVEL-AND-LEARN PROGRAMS FOR 2009:

MAY '09, JEWELS OF THE AMERICAN WEST

In a slight reworking of a spring ritual, this year ILI is welcoming a group of Czechs to travel in the US—not around the sunshine state of Florida, but first in New York City and then in the American West.

JUNE '09, CZECH IT OUT! PRAGUE AND MARIENBAD

This summer we will be in Prague, preparing for our move to the Czech Republic next year, and are inviting our friends to join us there! We'll show you the best of Prague, and take you on a relaxing and rejuvenating trip to the spa town of Marienbad in Western Bohemia.

Please visit our website, www.ili.cc, for more details.