The Leading Edge

The growth and development of people is the highest calling of leadership.

Harry S. Firestone, Founder, Firestone Tire Company

The Role of the Flight Commander

Read

For 12 Commanders' Response Videos, see the last page of this newsletter. The video responses are for use only by the Flight Commander.

Build On Your People

As a Flight Commander, you have the opportunity to build on your people. Use these videos as a tool to create a positive environment.

Watch

Visit the AFPIMS page to download FCE experiential lesson plans and lesson guides, plus the Course Director's Handbook.

Consider starting a Leadership Book Club*

Leadership is more a matter of self-study than of formal instruction, and that is highlighted in the classroom. Leadership is a proven, discussion-based model where participants discuss their personal lessons-learned with their peers. Facilitators can use this same kind of approach in their Flight Commander Leadership Courses. How? See the Learning Library Question Prompts handout.

Questions to Consider

"The single best way a leader can learn and grow is through reading … So many of our best leaders can point to a book that changed their perspective. The Leading Edge is designed to give flight-level leadership expertise at Air University and course directors, lesson managers, and individual leaders in the field. We recommend you forward them to include the responses as part of their Professional Development Plan (PDP), as well as refer to them during class discussions. These answers and ideas can help create a local leadership book discussion group. It also serves as a bridge to generate ideas for your leader development courses."

consider these questions when you conduct your pre-course materials which support our self-development. As a course director, you should plan to inspire your participants to Read for professional development, self-improvement, as well as entertainment and relaxation is something that organizations that deliberately welcome new members and have a plan be encouraged. But our approach is not the only way. Another time-tested method to learn leadership is through media. Reading about leaders, their successes, and their failures. Listening to stories about projects and teams. The Role of the Flight Commander in many units, the flight commander is the first line of leadership. They are often responsible for the development and growth of their team. How are you developing your team? Discuss your role with your commander. Talk with other flight commanders about their daily tasks and what they perceive their role to be in their units. Listening to others' experiences provides context for what their own leadership role should be. How does your list align with the four duties and responsibilities for commanders outlined in AFI 1-2, The Leading Edge -- a summary of key leadership lessons

Questions to Consider

What is your Commander's Expectation of your role as a Flight Commander? What is a book that you read as a junior leader? Which leadership books did your mentor or boss suggest you read as a young leader? Is there a leadership author or a leadership book series you recommend? Are there any books that changed your perspective? Which leadership author or book series do you recommend the least? If you were a leader, what action would you take to further your out-of-class leadership development? What are you reading now? What is your Commander's Intent? What are the top characteristics of an effective leader?

Leadership Library Question Prompts

Consider starting a Leadership Book Club* by using the Leadership Library Question Prompts handout. If your unit would like to create its own Flight-level leadership course using professionally developed resources from Air University visit www.airuniversity.af.edu/flightcommandercommandersedge

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