

Spotlight on ILA Members

ILA Members are doing amazing leadership work around the world, from starting new degree programs to nurturing young people who make a difference, from running innovative workshops and seminars to fostering organizational change.

Spotlight on The Leadership Center at Morehouse College:

Ascribing to Global Leadership with a Social Conscience through Education, Research and Training Programs

by Melvinia Turner King, Interim Executive Director, Leadership Center at Morehouse College

In setting the bar high to reflect the ideal of the Beloved Community embraced by former Morehouse College President Benjamin E. Mays, Howard Thurman, Martin Luther King Jr. and other distinguished Morehouse alumni, the Leadership Center at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, is training a new generation of leaders. These emerging leaders, prepared to address pressing contemporary ethical and social concerns, especially those affecting African American life and culture, are supported by Morehouse President Robert M. Franklin's vision "to develop Renaissance Men—leaders with a social conscience—who will champion the causes of equality, justice and peace in their communities and around the globe."

The mission of the Leadership Center at Morehouse College is to develop ethical leaders serving public, private, and social sectors in local, national, and international communities. The vision of the Leadership Center at Morehouse College is to be a preeminent academic center for the study and practice of leadership that fosters and sustains an inclusive, global civil society where justice is tempered by integrity, compassion, and courage. As a primary tool in attaining these goals, The Ethical Leadership Model™ developed by the Leadership Center's founding executive director,



Morehouse student Van Newkirk (r) in Johannesburg with Oprah South Africa Leadership Project

Walter Earl Fluker, is used throughout the three core areas of the Center—Education, Ethical Leadership Training Program, and Research. Fluker's ethical leadership model embodies cultivation of character, civility and community, which are the primary values in the Morehouse leadership tradition.

Education

The leadership studies program is the heart of the Leadership Center's comprehensive approach to developing leaders. It is an interdisciplinary exploration of leadership history and theory consisting of both a leadership studies minor and general education courses. The program emphasizes the need for 21st century leadership to develop ethical, integrated solutions to complex issues. Distinctive in its capacity to provide leadership through education, research and training, students are challenged to study ethical leadership through the lens of an interdisciplinary, global perspective. This is coupled with developmental experiences that feature conversations with nationally and internationally recognized leaders in public life, as well as key players in the corporate, scientific, philanthropic and humanitarian communities. The Center promotes excellencies in global and local com-



Morehouse students Evan Waddy-Farr, Ryan Bates and Adam McFarland in Berlin during Presidential Roundtable

petencies in the study and practice of leadership by providing an integrated and cohesive experience for students to critically reflect upon self. They explore civility as a moral agent in learning beyond their own disciplines through formal and theoretical constructs of intellectual leadership.

As a premier annual event, the Center hosts the Coca-Cola Leadership Lecture Series. This special program provides an opportunity for the nation's most renowned public leaders and leadership experts to share their experiences and insights on contemporary leadership issues and the challenges likely to confront tomorrow's leaders. It is designed to expose students, faculty, staff, administrators and the general public to lectures by world-class leaders and leadership experts. Since 1997, the lecture series has brought to campus distinguished lecturers Warren Buffet, James MacGregor Burns, Georgia L. Sorenson, Ambassador James Joseph, Sara

Lawrence-Lightfoot, Douglas Daft, Tavis Smiley, Michael Eric Dyson, Derrick Bell, Shirley Jackson, David Gergen, Eric K. Shinseki and Helene Gayle.

The International Leadership Program

The International Leadership Program fosters international awareness and bridge building between students, faculty and community leaders in the United States and their counterparts in other global settings. Two premier projects include the Oprah South Africa Leadership Project and the African Presidential Archives and Research Center (APARC). The Oprah South Africa Leadership Project provides cross-cultural immersion and international exposure through travel and study for students from Morehouse and partnering institutions in South Africa. It is one of the nation's premiere endowed programs for undergraduate service in South Africa. Training is designed to prepare students and faculty as global leaders through a comprehensive academic and participatory experience grounded in the philosophy of ethical leadership.

African Presidential Archives and Research Center, a collaborative initiative with Boston University, provides opportunities for students to interact directly with world lead-

ers and gain an inside view of the African political arena. As part of the roundtable experience, students meet and interact with former African presidents and other dignitaries. In addition, a delegation of students and staff travel to places such as Johannesburg, London, Berlin and recently



Morehouse faculty engaging with students during an ethical leadership training session

Tanzania to participate in the African Presidential Roundtable. The Roundtable features closed-door discussions with major private sector leaders, heads of major multilateral organizations, and key international political leaders and policy makers, as well as a videoconference scheduled annually in October.

Ethical Leadership Training Programs

The Leadership Center develops campus-based local, state, national, and international training and consultation programs for undergraduate and pre-college students, alumni, leadership educators and practitioners, public leaders, college faculty and administration. The training programs consist of lectures, customized workshops, international ethical leadership certificate programs, along with structured certificate programs targeted to mid-level and senior-level leaders in business, public service, higher education, science and religious institutions.

Using poignant rituals, hands-on workshops, community development projects and intensive experiential strategies, the training addresses how spiritual and environmental elements shape human consciousness and actions. Participants grasp the importance of being alert, working through fear and seeking help—even from those they lead. They learn to look deep within and discover the gifts of freedom, imagination and creativity.



Morehouse students Tshepo Moshaliba, Kyle Bridgeforth and Chauncey Smith with President Karl Offmann of Mauritius (seated) and Fellows in APARC during 2010 Presidential Roundtable in Tanzania

Participants are introduced to leadership strategies through the development of character, civility and community. Opportunities for leadership development begin in high school through the Center's flagship Coca-Cola Pre-College Leadership Program, and recently added LEAD

Global Ethical Leadership Program. Students are immersed in programs and activities designed to create and foster an awareness of self in relation to others, organized around the theme *Creating the Beloved Community: An Orientation to Ethical Leadership*. Participants in this in-depth training focus on character, civility and community.

Research

In addition to education and ethical leadership training programs, Morehouse College is one of the few undergraduate institutions to conduct research in leadership. The Leadership Center research involves faculty, students and scholars-in-residence in data collection, analysis and publication of papers on interdisciplinary issues. The Scholars-in-Residence program brings global scholars and public intellectuals to the campus, providing them the opportunity for concentrated work on research projects that serve as a resource for instruction, development, publication and training. During AY 2009-10, there were five scholars affiliated with the Center, with Andrew Young, former U.S. Ambassador serving as Distinguished Scholar-in-Residence and Jochen Fried, Director of Salzburg Institute serving as Global Scholar-in-Residence.