February 14, 2013

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Dear PMC Friends,

Our next Emerging Leaders Academy (ELA) session will kick-off at the end of the month. Have you registered yet? Have you forwarded the information to someone you think would benefit from the skills enhancement? (The registration deadline is next Friday.)

Speaking of registering, we've just opened the registration for the Inspiring Women in Public Administration Conference. We invite you to join us on April 17 for this uplifting networking time - see more details below.

Those are only two of the exciting things we have coming up. Check out the Save the Date section below for information about the 64th City & County Management Conference, our next Supervisory Leadership Training course, and our open enrollment workshop on Social Media Engagement in the Public Sector.

Need to grab flowers for someone for Valentine's Day and want to make sure you're sending the right message? Below, see what the various colors symbolize.

Emerging Leaders Academy
The Emerging Leaders Academy (ELA) is a succession planning program targeted to promising, non-managerial staff to help them prepare for leadership roles in their departments and agencies. Participants meet together ten times over five months, with classes designed to help them hone their skills for positions of increasing responsibility while also growing their effectiveness in their current roles. The spring 2013 session will begin at the end of February with locations in Topeka, metro Kansas City, and — for the first time — Wichita, thanks to a partnership with the Hugo Wall School at Wichita State University (WSU).

The KU Public Management Center created ELA to fill a need we perceived among public sector agencies. The limited training resources in most organizations are targeted toward
technical skills and supervisory/managerial training. But with so many baby boomers approaching retirement, we know that organizations are concerned about preparing an adequate leadership pipeline and they often lack capacity to focus on this need themselves.

**Program Content:** ELA classes balance skill enhancement around topics that are essential to effective leadership (and that can be used immediately in any position) and career planning to help participants identify the role(s) they will seek in the future and prepare to successfully compete for those roles. We use the StrengthsFinder assessment to provide insights about areas of natural interest and talent. Participants also complete a mentor-shadowing process and prepare a professional portfolio designed to highlight their competencies and identify skill gaps. Program graduates cite these activities as crucial to their learning about themselves and how to achieve their goals. Specific class topics include effective communication, generations in the workplace, introduction to budgeting, ethics, and more.

<Read more or register for ELA>

**Registration Deadline:** To ensure first choice of location, register by February 22, 2013.

**Contact:** Noel Rasor, ELA Program Director, 913-897-8460, noel@ku.edu

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**KU Inspiring Women in Public Administration Conference**

The 2013 KU Inspiring Women in Public Administration Conference's theme is "Having It All / Making the Leap: Inspiration for Your Professional Journey." We'll focus on one of the ideas that emerged during the 2012 conference - an idea we heard from U.S. Treasurer Rosie Rios. She said that women can have it all – what she called "the whole pie of life" – and each of us gets to decide what's in the pie and how we slice it up.

For some, having it all is about finding a self-directed balance of personal and professional. For others, having it all requires making a leap: taking the risk to put ourselves in the running for positions of greater responsibility so that we can strengthen our influence around issues that matter to us.

On April 17 we’ll come together to exchange stories, ideas, and encouragement around both of these themes – having it all and making the leap – to find new ways to be “all in” for

<Read more or register for the conference>

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**Save the Date**

Mark your calendar for the following upcoming events:

**The Heart of True Leadership: Supervisory Training for the Public Workforce**

*March 5-7, 2013*

Location: KU Public Management Center, Topeka

This three-day course is designed to make sure participants walk away with enhanced skills and new strategies to manage staff effectively whether they're new to a supervisory role or have held those responsibilities for years. This award-winning training is practical, engaging, and relevant for new supervisors and experienced leaders seeking a quick refresher.

<Read more or register for the course>

**Social Media Engagement in the Public Sector**

*March 22, 2013*

Location: KU Public Management Center, Topeka

Being a part of the social media community is becoming a necessity not an option. In this workshop you will learn the history, impact, and trajectory of social media as well as the practice of making it part of your strategy and operations.

<Read more about the workshop>

**64th City & County Management Conference**

*April 18-19, 2013*

Location: The University of Kansas, Kansas Union, Lawrence

During this conference we'll focus on the challenge of "Organizing for the Future." In addition to presenting informative and thought-provoking speakers, the conference provides a critical networking opportunity for local government leaders. Additional information and registration materials will soon follow.

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**Flower Color Symbolism**

Did you know that every flower color has a meaningful story about its symbolism dating back thousands of years? The flower colors you choose for a bouquet can be as important as the types of flowers used in an arrangement.

<Learn what it is that you're saying with flower colors>
Thank you,
Your Friends at the KU Public Management Center

Back row (left to right): Jonathan Morris, Noel Rasor, Alecia Gray, Marcia Maurer. Front row (left to right): Terri Callahan, Charles Jones. Staff member not pictured: Cindy Dunham
Picture courtesy of Susan Geiger, photographer for our Kansas Certified Public Manager(R) Graduation