

COURSE:

Communication in Teams

INSTRUCTOR:

Dr. William Gorden

COURSE COMPLETED:

Fall 2009

ASSIGNMENT TITLE:

Teams Brochure

ASSIGNMENT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Team B was required to create a brochure containing information that was researched and developed by teams one through four throughout the semester. This brochure was to be handed out during the banquet hosted by the B team for Kent State communication faculty and alumni.

REFLECTIONS:

I was not actually part of the B team that did the actual assembly of the brochure. However, I was appointed, by the class, as the president of the final project. I was responsible for overseeing teams A, B, and C. The A team, which I was also a member of, was elected to orally present the knowledge and information all four teams had gained over the semester concerning teamwork and to also make final recommendations to CCI faculty and alumni on increasing the communication between the school, alumni, and current students. The B team was responsible for hosting the event and making the brochure. The C team was responsible for typing a reflective paper that represented the students' thoughts on the class and what we had all learned throughout the semester. I felt extremely honored to be elected by my classmates. It allowed me to demonstrate my leadership skills, and I felt like all the hard work I had put in for my team did not go unnoticed by, not only my team, but the rest of the class. Because I had this responsibility, I needed to oversee each team's assigned responsibility. I helped the B team design the format for the brochure, in addition to providing them with specific criteria of information to include in the brochure. I was very proud of the final product and it was a big hit at the banquet.

(Team B: Kelly Lokia, Allyson Kolbl, Zack Siegrist, Sarah Weingart, Ashley Williams, Shardell Artis, Justin Marino, and Brittany Satyshur)

Different Walks

Although we all go through different walks of life it is never too late to learn from those around you. Even though working in teams may seem very challenging at times, in the long run it is more rewarding than not. Every person you meet along your path impacts who you are. Learn from those around you and you will see life in a different perspective. A team is made up of individuals. Each person has a voice of their own and we must learn to listen for every voice in the group to make a team.

Together Everyone Achieves
More



T.E.A.M.

**"Working together with hands, head, and heart
takes and makes
big
WEGOs"**

- Dr. William Gorden

Special Thanks To:

Deborah Easton: Kent, OH
Jeff Antoon: Hudson, OH
Susan Christopher: New York, NY
Don Gibson: Dover, OH
Dan Kearney: Illinois
Roger Howe: San Diego, CA
Lenny Ralphs: Salt Lake City, UT
Beth Zbasnik: Malvern, OH
Gerald Sargent: Spring, TX
Chris Tengler: Boston, MA
Larry Long: Illinois
Jim Williams: Kent, OH
Jeffrey Bolt: Kent, OH
Judith Johns: Kent, OH
Andrea Peck: Mayfield Heights, OH
George Fai: Hudson, OH
James Trebing: Near Kent, OH
Carolyn Offutt: Parma, OH
Robert Kelley: Indianapolis, IN
Laura Mazur: Kent, OH
Ann Petrella: Akron, OH
Katie Ramunni: Columbus, OH
Ken Steele: Lenexa, KS
Christopher Clark: St. Louis, MO
William Gorden: Kent, OH

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Communication in
Teams

December 1, 2009

Dr. William Gorden

aka "Coach"

Together Everyone Achieves More



A New Start

When a new semester begins one never knows what that semester will bring. The Communication in Teams Course, lead by Dr. William Gorden, took us on a journey to the great unknown... a journey into the world of working with teams. Through this journey there have been many lessons learned and many friends made. We have worked side-by-side learning about each other, and about the alumni who have gone before us into the journey of life.

Getting to the Core of it.

There were two primary questions that needed to be answered to fully understand this course. Those questions are:

- What makes for effective teamwork?
- How might the School of Communication Studies engage its alumni in ways that would mutually benefit the alumni and the students?

These questions were answered both by the team members themselves and by alumni, professors, instructors, and advisors of KSU both inside the College of Communication Studies and out.

“The key to an effective team is one in which egos are blended into another four-word that I have coined, WEGO...WEGO means learning together .” —Dr. William Gorden

“To have effective teamwork, one must also have open brainstorming. This allows all group members to expand their projects to all possibilities.” — Team 1

“Teamwork is part of our day-to-day living and in order for an effective team to meet its objectives we must understand exactly what job each individual has within the team.”—Team 2

“Make sure the group is always communicating and everyone understands their parts. It’s no good when there is confusion or people just aren’t talking to one another. Always talk.”—Jeff Antoon

“Unity on the purpose and goals of the team are first and foremost. Everyone must be on board at all times or failure looms in the near future.”—Dan Kearney

“A great deal of [a team’s] success depends on leadership.”— Gerry Sargent

“Email makes interpersonal communication between faculty and students more convenient. Email makes it easier for the faculty and students to stay in touch.”—Paul Haridakis

“Having a Big - Little relationship with alumni in the field students want to pursue would be a positive way to build relations and network.” — Rozell Duncan

“The School of Communication Studies could publish a monthly newsletter that would have a few short paragraphs on current research / findings in the field. It would have to be written in a very practical and simple way. [This could improve the student /alumni relationship.]” —Lenny Ralph

“My most important piece of advice to soon-graduates would be to keep you options open and consider different careers, and learn all you can along the way.”—Carolyn Offutt

