



Dedicated to the development of capacity and capabilities in adults for change and growth.

John Inman and Associates

John Inman
16705 SW Gopher Valley Road
Sheridan, Oregon 97378
503-843-4680
Jinman@wetherhaven.com
www.wetherhaven.com

The Start of the Journey

To: [Don Prickel](#)

Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2000 8:22 AM

Subject: Don, any news?

Don, how is the application process going? I am very anxious to get this process behind us. The opportunity to lead training and development in the high tech industry is beyond belief. The need is through the roof. I can not wait to get started. Keep me apprised. Hope all is well with you.

From: [Don Prickel](#)

To: jinman@onlinemac.com

Sent: Wednesday, July 26, 2000 3:41 PM

Subject: Ad. Ed. Masters--OSU

Dear John, Congratulations! You have been admitted to the Adult Education Cohort Master's Degree Program. The Graduate Admissions Council accepted your file and the petition letter I wrote in your behalf. You will be receiving soon a formal acceptance letter from the School of Education when all the details are processed. Now, we are planning an orientation meeting for all cohort members, as noted below. Please reserve this time on your calendar.

Discussion of critical leap

The process of convincing Don that I would be a positive addition to the program, the application process, waiting for acceptance, and then acceptance into the program started the journey to a major change in my career and in my life. Taking my first step into our masters program was one of the most difficult decisions I have every made. The process set me on the path of learning to become a professional in the field of adult learning and created a permanent change in the direction of my career. Little did I know how much of a change that would be.

Alignment with metaphor and learning philosophy

My journey is aligned with my personal philosophy and metaphor of learning. Through embracing new road maps, I am enriching my life and journey. My journey has been difficult as I have studied and learned in our masters program, and it all started with the courage to create a conversation about my entry into our program. My journey is also experiential, is helping me build efficacy, and supports my intellectual pursuit of knowledge, all essential attributes of my philosophy of learning.

References to literature

Leadership is of critical interest in my study of adult education. My critical leap reflects more on leadership than anything else that I have learned in our program. The characteristics of the leader I wish to become exhibited by me during the start of my journey include: vision as referenced in (Wheatley, 1999, p. 131); asking questions that matter as referenced in (Brown, Isaacs, & Margulies, 1999, pp. 506-510); creating conversations as referenced in (Wheatley, 2002, p. 27); curiosity as referenced in (Kouzes & Posner, 1999, p. 86); passion as referenced in (Apps, 1994,

p. 112); and courage as referenced in (Brenegar, 2001, ¶ 8). These leadership attributes are fully explored in my leadership portfolio, which is found in this masters portfolio.

References

Apps, J. (1994). *Leadership for the emerging age: Transforming practice in adult and continuing education* (1st ed.). San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers.

Brenegar, E. (2001). The lesson of leadership courage. Retrieved November 26, 2002 from the World Wide Web: http://morrisinstitute.com/weekly/mihv_pc_bren_01.html

Brown, J., Isaacs, D., & Margulies, N. (1999). Asking big questions, a catalyst for strategy evolution. In P. Senge, C. Roberts, R. Ross, B. Smith, G. Roth, & A. Kleiner, *The dance of change: The challenges of sustaining a learning organization* (1st ed., pp. 506-510). New York: Doubleday/Currency.

Kouzes, J., & Posner, B. (1999). *Encouraging the heart: A leader's guide to rewarding and recognizing others* (1st ed.). San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers.

Wheatley, M. (2002). *Turning to one another: Simple conversations to restore hope to the future* (1st ed.). San Francisco: Berrett-Koehler Publishers.