

5 Takeaways From Leadership Academy

Rollins offers a 12-week in-house leadership program to employees who want to improve awareness, thrive during times of change, and learn how to influence people. Five program graduates share their top reasons you should apply.

1. It puts your emotional intelligence to work. You'll have the opportunity to get to know yourself better by exploring your working style and understanding different types of motivation. "I am constantly referring to my personal assessments to understand myself and members of my team," says Min Sun Kim, program manager for Edyth Bush Institute for Philanthropy & Nonprofit Leadership.

2. It teaches valuable skills. You'll learn the hallmarks of true leadership and how to persuade and positively influence others—even those you don't supervise. "You don't need a title to be a leader," says Karla Knight, academic administrative coordinator for Arts & Sciences.

3. It builds self-confidence. You'll learn how to see challenges from a different perspective. This kind of clarity can reduce stress during difficulty times and build self-confidence. "The program is a great way to increase your confidence and understanding of work relationships and how handling each person differently can increase your chance of having positive experiences with coworkers," says Patrick Skelley, system administrator for IT.

4. It surrounds you with other leaders. Not only will you get to study how leadership ideas have developed over time, you'll have the opportunity to network with other campus leaders and draw on their experiences. "I enrolled because I wanted the opportunity to meet staff from other leadership positions and have the opportunity to collaborate with them and share skill sets," says Mary Edwards, assistant director of Facilities Management.

5. It helps you to clarify your vision. Training gives you a chance to step back from daily tasks to examine the bigger picture and think about how the future may unfold. Knowing how to develop and communicate your vision, especially during times of change, can empower and motivate others. "Change is inevitable, and learning the ins and outs of how and why change happens can make or break an organization, team, or person is so vital," says Leslie Fair, assistant director of gift management.

Rollins Leadership Academy is open to current and aspiring administrators and supervisors and to those who want to be more effective in their staff-level roles. To learn more, visit bit.ly/leadership-academy or contact David Zajchowski at 407-646-2015.