

## **“Who am I” and Strategic Planning Analysis**

This paper expands on the Keirsey Temperament Analysis performed earlier in the semester, which identified aspects of my personality that impact my business interactions and leadership skills. With a better self-awareness and understanding of the global issues facing the 21<sup>st</sup> century, it is possible to develop a plan of action that correlates to my individual beliefs and motivations.

### **Core Values**

I can narrow my personal values into three key elements which direct the way in which I approach life. This moral compass is not something I was born with; rather, it has developed over years of experiences that have shaped me into the man I am today.

#### *Accountability*

Perhaps my strongest value, and coincidentally my greatest criticism of others, is accountability for one's actions. This idea has been engrained in my head for as long as I can remember by influences at home and at school. I have always strived to please others by taking care of the things I needed to do and going above and beyond expectations whenever possible. Responsibility can be viewed from multiple perspectives, be it a personal, social, or environmental view of the world. When each element is practiced and actively maintained, the individual is perceived as a genuinely trustworthy person whose actions speak louder than words. Responsible people serve as role models for those less introspective into their own approach at life.

#### *Respect*

This value, like accountability, reaches all levels of our daily interactions, from the personal to the global scheme. It begins with the individual, as respect for oneself translates into a general appreciation for others and an understanding that we all share the

same home. Respect to our environment is more crucial than ever for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, as we approach the threshold of ecological instability that threatens all species on Earth. We need to be mindful of how our daily activities impact the ecosystem and why a change in our thinking is critical to our proliferation.

### *Endless Pursuit of Knowledge*

This last value can be described as simply a love of life; from my perspective, you either get busy living or you get busy dying. So, it is important to continually test yourself and stretch your knowledge so that your thoughts and beliefs never lie dormant. Philosophy has always been an interest of mine, and thus I feel that conforming to a given set of beliefs without questioning them concedes a portion of our capabilities as thinkers. We must endlessly pursue knowledge of self, science, and spirit so that conversations develop into ideas, and ideas breed positive actions that impact society for generations to come.

### **Vision**

“Achieve personal satisfaction by making an impact on the world around me, through positive thinking, respect and responsible actions.”

### **Strategy**

Since my vision is fairly vague from an immediate perspective, it is necessary to develop short-term strategies that embody this lifelong statement. Thus, the strategy presented here looks at this vision as it relates to the next 5 years of my life- the beginning of my professional career in a new city and around new people.

*1. Become a certified LEED Accredited Professional by the end of my first year in the industry.*

This first step correlates to all three values- it embodies respect for the environment, responsibility as a project manager, and expanded knowledge on green building and sustainability. Global carbon emissions can be significantly reduced through the application of LEED construction and building operation practices, and construction managers are perfect vectors for communicating this potential to the

industry. Value Engineering is a critical element of program management, where LEED analyses have proven to be beneficial for all those involved in a project, whether it is the builders, owners, or end-users of the facility. It is critical that, over the next decade, every construction project implements some form of green or sustainable design so that people realize the urgency of our current environmental threat.

*2. Purchase a low-emissions hybrid vehicle when economically attainable.*

This goal relates to accountability and respect for the environment. Currently I drive a 1995 Ford Explorer, which is obviously not the most efficient automobile on the road today. By investing in a hybrid vehicle (Honda Accord Hybrid?), I will be a model citizen to others on environmental responsibility and prove that I strive to practice what I preach. Respect for the environment is something that will be actively monitored on a personal basis over the next five years of my life, and this purchase would be a big step in the right direction. In the meantime, while living in Washington, D.C. I will strive to use public means of transportation whenever possible.

*3. Reduce my dependence of material goods.*

It is going to be nice to have money for once after college, but rather than spending it on unnecessary or convenience items, I will examine exactly what makes me happy and what can be eliminated. This step again encompasses all three of my core values, most notably on pursuit of knowledge. Self-awareness entails insight into exactly what makes me who I am as an individual. I am confident that this personal assessment will result in a healthier lifestyle as well as a more respectful approach to the environment. For starters, I will reduce how much junk food I eat in favor of a diet consisting of fresh meats, fruits, and vegetables. Further, I will not buy new material goods until I've gotten everything I can out of what I already own.

## **Conclusion**

The values, vision statement and strategic plan presented in this analysis accurately portray who I am as an individual: I am a reliable and respectful person who continually questions the way things are. These values combine to make me a dynamic leader that

will always be up to the task, thinking ahead and planning a course of action that respects the people and places around me. While my strategy for the next five years may not seem significant, it is just the beginning of a lifelong pursuit in knowledge of the world.