



A not-for-profit organization committed to developing young adults to lead with integrity.



Cluster Facilitator Invitation Letter

I would like to invite you to consider being a part of this amazing experience by serving as a Cluster Facilitator for 2014 UTSA session of The LeaderShape® Institute being held May 11–16th at the John Newcombe Tennis Ranch in New Braunfels, TX.

To help explain the responsibilities of a Cluster Facilitator, the following information addresses the most commonly heard inquiries:

What exactly is LeaderShape®, Inc. and The LeaderShape Institute?

LeaderShape®, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization committed creating a just, caring, and thriving world where all lead with integrity and a healthy disregard for the impossible. The LeaderShape Institute is the flagship program of LeaderShape, Inc.

The LeaderShape® Institute, now in its twenty-sixth year, has made a difference in the lives of more than 50,000 young people. Each session is comprised of approximately 45–60 participants sponsored by various organizations representing diverse ethnic, religious, and cultural backgrounds. The LeaderShape Institute® challenges participants to lead with integrity while working towards a vision grounded in their deepest values. Participants explore not only what they want to do, but also who they want to be. Dynamic, challenging, and exciting, the week is intended to produce a breakthrough in the leadership capacity of participants — benefiting them individually, as well as their respective communities and the organizations they will go on to lead and serve in the future.

UTSA has been holding a campus-based session of The LeaderShape Institute since 2011. During that time, we have seen 180 students graduate from the institute and return to campus motivated and driven to make an impact and leave a legacy of leadership at UTSA.

What role will I play as a Cluster Facilitator at The LeaderShape® Institute?

As a Cluster Facilitator, you will work closely with a group of 8–12 participants during the session. This group is called your "Family Cluster" and as the name implies, this group becomes one of the primary supports for the growth and leadership development of our participants. There are 5 Cluster Facilitators and 2 Co-Lead Facilitators for each session of The LeaderShape® Institute.

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You will personally facilitate several segments of the curriculum with your Family Cluster as well as discuss many of the curriculum components that are presented to the entire assembly of participants (called "The Learning Community"). Your role is one of facilitator and coach, not "expert." The philosophy of The LeaderShape® Institute is that everyone is a teacher and everyone is a learner. One opportunity this philosophy offers is the chance for you to make genuine connections with the members of your Family Cluster.

What is the time commitment?

The LeaderShape® Institute runs for six days, with students arriving Sunday, May 11th. Faculty Training takes place on Saturday, May 10th. All faculty and students depart on Friday, May 16th after our Commencement program at noon. Know that you will be in group sessions from approximately 8:00 a.m.–11:00 p.m. daily, so keep this in mind as you consider the position. It is an intense six days of deep dialogue and interactive self-discovery, which we believe makes the commitment worth while.

Do I need an extensive background in leadership training?

You do not need to be a specialist in leadership theory or in small group facilitation to be a Cluster Facilitator. In fact, many of our facilitators are not. Rather, Cluster Facilitators possess excellent interpersonal and group process skills and a real interest in young adults. Professionally, Cluster Facilitators have come from very diverse backgrounds including student personnel administration, non-profit organizations, and private business. To account for the wide array of faculty experience, we send you an extensive training manual prior to The LeaderShape® Institute, in addition to organizing the Faculty Training session.

What will I gain from the LeaderShape® experience?

You will be simultaneously exhilarated, exhausted, challenged and moved by the energy and creativity of approximately 60 young leaders from UTSA. You will work with a team forming relationships that, in many cases, will be lifelong friendships. When you leave The LeaderShape Institute, the materials and insights gained will serve you both personally and professionally.

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Our selection process for Cluster Facilitators will begin with receiving all completed applications by March 31st. Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee and accepted facilitators will be contacted by the Student Leadership Center.

If you are interested in being considered, please visit our website at www.utsa.edu/slc and click on the LeaderShape tab. The Cluster Facilitator application link will be located on the LeaderShape information page. If you would like to further discuss the role of Cluster Facilitator or the selection process, please contact our office at leadership@utsa.edu or 210-458-7967.

Sincerely,

The UTSA Student Leadership Center

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