

## Shared Leadership Is a Holistic Perspective

By Vay Hoang

In my daily life, I notice that within different spaces I'm in, there is a different method of leadership being used. In classes, the majority of my classes were taught with a western leadership model. In student organizations that I've been involved with, it's been mainly shared leadership. In hanging out with friends, it's more on consensus.

As I grow everyday, I feel my consciousness is growing as well. I'm continuing the process of being coming more aware of different leaderships used for different situations as well as different methods of learning/teaching. Within this awareness, I am constantly trying to understand which models work best for what situation and which methods I learn from best. What I've learned so far is that I enjoy hands on activities much more than lecture style teaching. Interaction and utilizing each other as resources is much more helpful than simply referring the one single person (usually a teacher). With this knowledge, I start to understand myself better along with my strengths and weaknesses.

Shared leadership is a holistic perspective that utilizes a person's experiences, strengths along with their weaknesses and tries to develop everyone. In using this model in student organizations I've been involved, in, I've developed a great deal. This model is also what immigrant workers use in their organizing. I feel seeing this model in action by immigrant workers can be very empowering. I see immigrant workers coming from more backgrounds and with that, a more diverse set of experiences. Experiencing this teach me

a lot in how shared leadership model can be used in different situations along with increase my knowledge about the immigrant workers community.

In our group project, I feel that there is still something lacking. Maybe it's that we haven't met enough or that when we do meet, it's for short period of time. Or maybe it's because we're not fully comfortable with each other yet. Or maybe it's personal ownership of the project. Whatever the issue might be, I feel that we need to have solid and productive meetings, both in the larger group and in our individual committees. In addition, having a good amount of time for the group to meet, we can be more productive and learn more about each other's leadership and organizing style. But due to our limited meeting time, I feel ability to use the shared leadership model has been limited. To address this issue and increase the possibility to meet, I'm going encourage our group to utilize the online meeting planner that Tommy suggested earlier. Hopefully that will give us a better idea of people's schedule and so we can plan meetings that more folks can meet.

In my efforts to be mindful of the skills of my peers in addition to the skills they are trying to develop, I recently compiled that information in addition to tasks and deadlines and sent it through e-mail to everyone in the committee. As far as trying to encourage folks to develop their skills, I will keep in mind each person's developing skill and when given the opportunity, encourage them to step up.