Vision:
Develop Your Personal Vision Statement

Creating a vision that is a compelling picture of the future is one of the most important leadership skills. Do you have a personal vision? If you have little experience with envisioning the future, establishing your personal vision provides a pleasant opportunity to create a vision. In this exercise you will think about your personal future and ask questions similar to what you might ask if you were creating a vision statement for your department or organization. This initial exercise will give you experience in envisioning the future.

Begin by asking yourself these questions and writing down your thoughts:

- What are you passionate about?
- What do you value the most?
- What dreams do you have for your future?

Then continue by writing down your answers to these questions:

- What goals have you set for yourself in one year? two years? five years? ten years?
- What’s your top priority at this time?
- How does your dream of the future connect to the goals you’ve established?

Then write your answers to these questions:

- What’s your first step to achieve your personal vision?
- What must you invest (time, money, space)?
- Who can help you achieve your vision?
- What will you need to give up in order to achieve your vision?

Now write your vision. Keep it concise.

And, finally, record your answers to these questions:

- What excites you about your vision?
- What will you do to keep your personal vision in front of you (e.g., can you post a picture, a drawing, or a quote in a visible spot)?