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AUTHENTIC LEADERSHIP!

In 1963, Gordon Moore, cofounder of Intel came up with the Law of Computing Capability. It predicted the number of transistors per square inch in integrated circuits would double every year or so. Believe it or not, this law is still applicable today. The race for improved technology is moving forward at a rapid rate and is causing us to react in uncomfortable ways. Birthing the immense capabilities of the cloud, 3D printing, AI, robotics and nanotech capabilities all contributing to shaping the future into something we never dreamed of. Initially, we could adapt and use conventional problem solving strategies in our practices, businesses, associations or corporations, to respond to this rapidly changing landscape. But no more! A number of factors are causing this seismic shift that we, not only as an association are facing and adapting to but in our own practices, as clinicians. Smartphone, social media, and using WiFi platforms are connecting billions people worldwide leading to a “collective human superintelligence,” and influencing cultural norms. This is having a profound impact on age old institutions and its members. Many of these changes are being shaped and forced by twenty to thirty year olds, “Multipotentialites”. This term describes a new generation of tech savvy thinkers awaiting innovating leadership and creating new parameters that are multidimensional for the “I generation.” This group of individuals take this explosion of technology as their norm and use these tools as everyday equipment making changes and advancements that their elder peers admire and envy. However, this phenomenon is forever evolving the rules of the game in business, politics, and interpersonal relations, thus forcing many to jump on that wave in order to thrive.

Coupled with the above changes, entities or associations are dealing with “crisis management,” of a significant degree. An often used acronym, VUCA is used to describe this with Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity and Ambiguity as its core tenets. Loosely defined it means: “It’s unpredictable out there!” Critical thinking in dealing with these changes and what was once a hallmark of business environment can now be confusing. Many find comfort in stable situations but there needs to be comfort in discomfort. Developing a more vertical way of thinking, not horizontal results in more innovation and creativity. We need to outrun, outsmart our previous notions adapting to a culture that DEMANDS CHANGE.

The Great Lakes Association of Orthodontists is aware of this growing need and doing our best to adapt, forecast and provide relevancy for the future. Humanity is using technology to affect cultural changes. We know things will continue to change and speed up, for better or worse. There needs to be more targeted focus on one thing at a time yet while remaining FLEXIBLE.

Noted motivational speaker, Simon Sinek stated, “Leaders never start with WHAT needs to be done...leaders need to start with the WHY we need to do this.” Leaders inspire action.

To help develop and prepare emerging leaders, GLAO in conjunction with the AAO has the Leadership Development Conference held yearly for constituent and component president-elects, or other officers

invited to attend. The opportunity to network and interact with colleges is invaluable and provides a lasting bond. Also, there exists the online Leadership Network which a tremendous repository of material for elected leaders or volunteers.

Your association is focusing on these changes and is committed to establishing reference points as our guide. We are trying to eliminate our distractions which can alter, negate and sway our direction. We are leading from the front and pushing from the rear. While we cannot be all things to all people, we are poised to partner with our members to aid them in continuing to improve, enhance their practices.

Jimmy Dean once said, "I can't change the direction of the wind but I can adjust my sails to reach my destination." While we cannot know what gale forces are in store for each and every member, we possess an abundance of resources to ready to assist and tailor to your needs. Whether self improvement, staff development, CE's, etc. utilizing the vast amount information at the AAO and GLAO level, is accessible to all. The members of the board understand these challenges that are faced on a daily basis and encourage communication with any of us to provide assistance in matters of concern.

Our GLAO Annual Session, **"ROCK YOUR SMILE,"** on September 25-26, 2020 at the Hilton Cleveland Downtown will address a variety of educational and professional topics and is sure to be of value to both doctor and staff. In addition, our reception will be held at the iconic Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, truly a unique and wonderful venue. The late Steve Jobs (Apple) is quoted as saying, "It takes a lot of hard work to make something simple, to truly understand the underlying challenges and come up with eloquent solutions." Our planning committee has been hard at work to provide you the best value possible. Come join us.

Change is exciting! Change creates opportunities and enables us to shift our perspectives for better outcomes. I encourage everyone to: Challenge your Thoughts & Challenge your Vision.

Finally, Grandmaster Nakamura stated, "When you bring your full attention to each moment, a day is a complete lifetime of living and learning." Mark you moment for September 25th & 26th, 2020.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve as your President and look forward to seeing you at our annual session in vibrant Cleveland.