

Q & A

CLA's New Partnership with the University of Georgia Fanning Institute

1. How does this partnership affect me as a member?

Only in good ways! CLA will continue to provide the same services to our members. Furthermore, you will see positive affects in the future because CLA will now have more resources, and we will collaborate with the Fanning Institute to provide more trainings and curriculum/materials.

2. How does this partnership benefit CLA?

This agreement will offer CLA more economical operating services including rent, office supplies, etc. The Fanning Institute's Executive Team will offer guidance to CLA, but CLA will continue to have staff devoted to the growth and development of CLA, and it will also continue to be a stand-alone non-profit organization that maintains its own board of directors.

The CLA Board feels that this agreement with the Fanning Institute is a good business decision, which will ease some of the financial strain that CLA has been experiencing. This decision makes it possible for CLA to continue and expand programs and services to members. It enhances the capacity of both organizations and showcases an excellent leadership model.

3. How does this partnership benefit the Fanning Institute?

According to Dr. David Mills, former Director of the University of Georgia's Fanning Institute, there were four reasons that this partnership looked like it would be a successful relationship. CLA and Fanning 1) hold a common mission; 2) share a common set of experiences and knowledge; 3) share a common belief in the benefits of leadership development; and 4) share a common belief in "volunteer-led" associations.

Both CLA and the Fanning focus on community leadership development, and Fanning often called on members of CLA for new ideas as they developed their programs. The faculty of Fanning attend many of the same professional development meetings as CLA's members. Fanning believes, like CLA, that community leadership programs can bridge differences in race, gender, age, socio-economic class and community vision. They believe that there can be no such thing as "too much leadership development."

Dr. Mills also says that the commitment and vision of CLA's board and the history of volunteer leadership of CLA was inspiring to the Fanning Institute. Therefore, this partnership not only enhances the Fanning Institute, it allows the Fanning Institute the chance to better serve community leadership programs throughout the country and the world.

4. How long is this agreement for?

This agreement was signed on December 5, 2003. It may be renewed on an annual basis by a letter of renewal stipulating any amendments to this agreement. For more details, see the Agreement.

5. Where is the Fanning Institute?

The Fanning Institute is located on the campus of the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia. Athens is about 60 miles east of Atlanta. The University, chartered in 1785, is the state's "flag ship" university. It is ranked as one of the top twenty research universities in the country with a student enrollment over 32,000 and over 9,000 faculty and staff. Please learn more about the Fanning Institute by visiting the Fanning Institute's web site at www.fanning.uga.edu. The University of Georgia's main web site is located at www.uga.edu.

6. What is the contact information and with whom should we be in contact with?

CLA's new address is:

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