

Dear Leader,

As the director of the NEOA Arnold Mitchem Leadership Institute I'm reaching out to ask whether you or someone you know might be a candidate for our class of 2016-17 for which we're accepting applications until June 1.

In case you didn't hear this at the NEOA conference in April, the AMLI is a year-long program of active engagement in leadership training, consisting of three, 3-day retreats and a final fourth session at the next NEOA conference. Presenters are world-class professionals in areas including leadership and work styles, conflict management, presentation skills and much more. The program was mentioned no fewer than 5 times by speakers at the NEOA conference as it is one of the marks of distinction of the New England region, with a strong reputation for excellence and positive impact.

From the applicant pool, we invite 10-14 participants who represent a diverse mix of educational opportunity professionals from throughout New England. You can read more about the program and find application materials here:

http://www.neoaonline.org/a_professional_li.php

The cost of the institute for participants has been halved in recent years and is now \$500 for the year-long program. Participants or their programs cover travel and costs associated with attendance at next year's NEOA conference. The sizeable balance – for facilities, food, lodging, presenters and other programming, is covered by NEOA as an investment in our membership with the belief that participants who successfully complete the AMLI will more effectively serve their programs, their institutions, and our programs' students, AND pass along what they learn in all directions.

This is my second opportunity to serve as Director of the Institute, though I have been involved in some way for many of the sessions since its inception in 1998. I am passionate about making this a very worthwhile experience -- worthy of the investment of cherished program funds and valuable staff time. Often such offerings remain on a wish-list for program staff. It may take vision, trust, courage and creativity to put yourself or one of your staff members forward for this. Our record thus far indicates that programs have found it well worth the investment. In my humble opinion, it's a relative bargain for the depth of the experience. I hope you will consider applying or making a referral to a deserving team member.

If you have any questions, please write or call me. It would be my pleasure to speak with you about any aspect of the institute.

Cheers and thank you for your consideration.



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(Sadie and Craig, reporting for pet therapy)