



10 LESSONS LEARNED FROM WINNING AWARDS

Last month we announced that Dr. Deirdre Pickerell, Life Strategies' Vice President, was named as the 2014 recipient of the Stu Conger Award for Leadership in Career Counselling and Career Development. She will receive this award at the CANNEXUS conference at the end of this month.

This award is presented to individuals who demonstrate a combination of vision, dedication, commitment, ability to mobilize others, and willingness to work hard. Of particular note is that Deirdre's nomination package included supporting letters from four previous Stu Conger award winners highlighting her exemplary leadership within the career development sector over the years. [Click here](#) to read more.

Sadly, Stu Conger passed away shortly after the award nomination was made public but was able to reach out to Deirdre prior to passing. Read more about Stu Conger's work on Page 2 of this Newsletter.

In celebration of Deirdre's award and Stu Conger, below are some lessons learned from winning awards we'd like to share.

- 1. Humility.** There is no experience more humbling than the acute awareness that many very deserving people – perhaps your colleagues and personal friends – weren't the award recipients. This may puzzle you (and others) for the rest of your life. Accept that not everyone will agree with the decision – acknowledge their perspectives and learn from them. Either win them over, work with them graciously despite differences, or let them go.
- 2. People are watching.** Some awards or nominations are totally unexpected. Influential decision-makers may be observing (and interpreting/judging) your actions from afar.
- 3. Do the best you can . . . always.** Related to Lesson 2, a consistent pattern of excellence and a commitment to continuous improvement both count!
- 4. Stay visible.** Also related to Lesson 2. Although you may consistently do amazing work, award committees or nominators may be unaware of it. Presentations, publications, and professional service contribute to others knowing about your work.
- 5. Be true to your vision.** Know your professional purpose and relentlessly pursue it. This is a lifelong mission – make the world a better place.
- 6. Be generous.** Freely share your talents, gifts, and connections through modelling, mentorship, and money.
- 7. Set aspirational goals . . . not for personal gain but to grow your profession.** Award-winning leaders may be given opportunities to influence.
- 8. Be patient.** Awards typically reflect a history of achievement. Hard work or significant professional accomplishments may not be acknowledged "in the moment."
- 9. Be appreciative.** Count your blessings. Many, many people contribute to your success. Acknowledge that – and them – every chance you get.
- 10. Inspire others.** Your award may open doors; use your position of privilege with grace and dignity, to advocate for significant change.

Upcoming COURSES

Make sure you read our [course catalogue](#); it's recently updated and full of important information for students on program changes.

Starting soon . . .

- **Career Coaching Skills - Jan 15**
- **Helping Skills to Facilitate Career Development - Jan 29**
- **Job Developer Roadshow (Nanaimo) Jan 30**
- **Ethics for Career Practitioners - Feb 12**
- **CPE 510: Fundamentals of Psychometric Assessments - Feb 19**
- **Group Facilitation Strategies for Career Practitioners - Feb 26**

[Click here](#) for our full Winter/Spring 2014 course schedule.

Keep in mind that we can arrange special sections of any course for intact groups; we also facilitate workshops on a wide variety of topics. [Contact us](#) to learn more.

Student of the MONTH

As a Certified Career Development Practitioner (CCDP), Shannon Baikie is a trusted career development and human resources professional with a passion for people, business, and community. Committed to lifelong learning, Shannon is currently completing her MA in Community Development from UVic and recently completed the online Personality Dimensions (PD) course with Life Strategies.

According to Shannon "[PD] is an excellent tool to assist employers to better understand their employees and how best to communicate and develop HR strategies for an effective workplace. Further, I have taken a number of online Moodle courses and have to say what a great job Life Strategies does in their delivery. The course was well set-up, easy to follow and was definitely one of the best in terms of instructor and participant engagement which is often hard to accomplish in an online environment."

DID YOU KNOW?



Roberta Neault & Deirdre Pickerell Will Be At CANNEXUS; Will You?

There's still time to register for the CANNEXUS conference running January 20-22. [Click here](#) to read more and to register.

Blended Case Manager Training Now Available.

Similar to our Job Developer Roadshow training, we are seeking to put together a mixed-mode Case Manager training session. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Early Bird Registration Deadline for APCDA 2014 Conference Fast Approaching.

This year, the Asia Pacific Career Development Association conference will be in Honolulu, Hawaii. Running from May 19 - 21, this is your chance to hear from keynote Dr. Krumboltz and connect with delegates from around the Pacific Rim including Roberta Neault, from the Life Strategies' team, who serves as the APCDA treasurer. Early bird registration available until January 3. [Click here](#) to learn more and to register.

IN MEMORIAM

Stu Conger was a leading force in the Canadian career development sector founding the National Consultation on Career Development in 1975 and the Canadian Career Development Foundation in 1980. He had long been an advocate for the advancement of the career development sector, as attested to by the Stu Conger Award for Leadership in Career Counselling and Career Development and the Gold Medal / Diamond Pin for Leadership in Career Development. Even with his failing health, he reached out to Deirdre Pickerell with a touching letter of congratulations for her award.



Although the news of Stu Conger's passing was sad, we know that his legacy will live on. [Click here](#) to read the full obituary. Contributions to the Stu Conger Memorial Fund c/o the Canadian Career Development Foundation can be made [online](#).

CONGRATULATIONS

Yaser Bakkar completed the **Career Management Professional Program**, GCDF-CA specialization

7 students completed their **Case Manager** certificates:

- Ashlene Ranahan
- Heather MacIsaac
- Fernando Micu
- Patricia Mendonca
- Lisa Jewell
- Mike Francis
- John Daigle

9 students completed their **Personality Dimensions** certificates:

- Alicia Garlock
- Barb Kruger
- Jackie Masich
- May Chow
- Nicole Allen
- Rhiannon Smith
- Russell Case
- Samantha Tsui
- Shannon Baikie



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