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THE LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE

THE MOST TRUSTED SOURCE FOR BECOMING A BETTER LEADER

MARCH 2009 NEWSLETTER

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“To act with integrity, you must first know who you are...what you stand for, what you believe in, and what you care most about.”

—From The Leadership Challenge, 4th Edition, by Jim Kouzes and Barry Posner

Welcome to The Leadership Challenge Newsletter!

This monthly publication shares stories, examples, and information about the impact of The Leadership Challenge in all kinds of organizations. As always, please let us know how we are doing: leadershipchallenge@wiley.com; we may even contact you about featuring your ideas and stories in future editions of this newsletter.

Join the conversation on our new Leadership Challenge blog *LeaderTalk*
www.leadershipchallenge.com/go/blog

Early Bird Registration is open for [The Leadership Challenge Forum 2009](#).
[Conference program now available!](#)

Mark your calendars for a Jim Kouzes webinar—April 22nd on [HR.com](#)

Thoughts on the Model

Put on your white coat and head into the laboratory. Michael Neiss offers an interesting lens through which to view Challenge the Process in these uncertain times. † [More](#)

Tips and Techniques

Help aspiring leaders make relevant and personal the values that will drive their daily actions and define the guiding principles that will build the capacity of the leadership team. † [More](#)

Ask an Expert

The Leadership Challenge® Workshop Master Facilitator Valarie Willis sheds light on the power of influential leadership—vs. authoritative leadership—to build a positive workplace environment and inspire others to work from a place of commitment. † [More](#)

Rants and Raves

The Leadership Challenge website now features 18 recently added abstracts of academic research projects that provide even more real-life examples of this powerful model and the LPI assessment tools in action. † [More](#)

What We're Reading

Part II of III

In the February issue of The Leadership Challenge newsletter, contributor Dan Schwab considered the implications of our universal push for progress with an in-depth look at the latest work by Thomas Friedman, [Hot, Flat and Crowded](#). This month, he continues his reading list commentary.

In [Falling Off the Edge](#), Time magazine's former Africa bureau chief Alex Perry has assembled a sobering portrait of globalization's dark side, reminding us of the reality of millions of people who are losing under this new paradigm. Indigenous people, slum dwellers, impoverished farmers, and factory workers worldwide are often pushed aside by this rush to development, thrust into a new economic reality for which they are not prepared.

Perry provides a serious and thoughtful counterpoint to Thomas Friedman's optimism in *Hot, Flat, and Crowded*. Here, Perry graphically portrays parts of the world where population outstrips resources and the concentration of wealth in the hands of the few is dooming millions to poverty, even while giving the illusion of progress. It is convenient to ignore what he is reporting, but we do so at our peril. In a flat world, there is no longer anywhere to hide. And in any truly sustainable vision of the future, these often-overlooked realities must be accounted for. Again, similar to the arguments presented by Thomas Friedman, [The Green Collar Economy](#) urges us to reinvest in American entrepreneurialism through the development of a green economy—one built primarily on investment in low-tech energy technology. The key insight author Van Jones offers is that the dark side of the current international economic system is apparent not just in the third world, but here in our cities as well. A proponent of creating jobs from the bottom up, Jones asks us to combine innovation, environmental stewardship, and social justice into a new movement that lives his motto of "jobs not jails."

Dan Schwab is Director of Training and Organizational Development for the Trust for Public Land, one of America's most effective environmental charities. Dan's association with the Leadership Challenge began as a ropes course instructor with Jim Kouzes and Barry Posner in the 1980s. A certified TLCW facilitator, Dan delivers workshops to clients in the non profit, governmental and corporate sectors and can be reached at dan.schwab@tpl.org.

Look for the last installment of this three-part series of **What We Are Reading** in next month's issue of The Leadership Challenge Newsletter.

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989 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94103
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