Early career members and graduate students should have sufficient training to improve needed personal skills to fulfill their careers. In this article, we would like to introduce some findings and information about leadership, communication, and science to our early career colleagues. We would also like to emphasize the importance of many other professional development programs available during the ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting.

Communication and Leadership

The scientific world is a system that tries to get the most benefit from previous work to produce the best information possible. This system functions by properly understanding research conducted before you, combining prior findings from others with your own findings, and displaying these new findings in a manner in which following researchers can understand. If involves perception (understanding the work of others to get the most benefit from it), management (organizing and managing ideas and observations), and presentation (presenting your findings to others). In this system, effective communication is key. The importance of communication in the scientific world is consequently an indisputable factor.

An integrated research team has a greater probability to produce and communicate quality research work than any single scientist can by themselves. In this light, the importance and benefit of team work, combined with good communication skills, highlights a potential win–win scenario. Thus, what method should be followed to provide good communication in a team? The most important factors that typically emerge are management and organization. A team can only generate its best productivity and results when managed and organized properly and effectively. This point stresses the need for an effective leader.

The factors mentioned above may not completely indicate how to become a good leader of a team. It may be impossible to list these factors in their entirety. In a balanced way. Teams benefit from strong leadership and good training for a leadership role.

When it comes to leadership, the first question that comes to mind is “What are the features that make a leader?” While there are countless theories known is the “Great Human Theory,” which possesses traits can make a person a leader? When we look at all the theories of leadership, three important points are not personal interactions, influence, and goals.

Leadership takes place among people, requires reciprocity and is not a single phenomenon (Career Guide, 2007). When looking at the common characteristics of leaders, the following items are noteworthy:

- The leader should have a vision, show innovation, fast, and efficient but with an eye on long-term goals.
- The leader should be able to make decisions that are innovative, fast, and efficient but with an eye on long-term goals.
- The leader should be sensitive to people and situations.
- The leader should have a vision, should use this vision, guide, 2007). When looking at the common characteristics of leaders, the following items are noteworthy:

  - The leader should be harmonious, self-sacrificing, and at the same time, faithful, determined, and consistent.
  - The leader should be development oriented but modest.
  - The leader should be trustworthy and know how to trust his followers.
  - The leader should be passionate, exemplary, and motivated.
  - The leader should integrate anticipations with the vision and communicate this vision clearly to move the team forward and improve outcomes.
  - The leader should be a good listener.