



**Þjónandi forysta, menntun, sköpun og samfélag.
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Ágrip erinda aðalfyrirlesarara

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Leadership in Turbulent Times: From Hero to Host

How do leaders deal with the new reality of constant challenges and frequent crises while not losing direction, focus or enthusiasm? How do they lead in a way that inspires people to contribute, to act responsively and intelligently, to maintain motivation and good relationships? How do they persevere?

Dr. Wheatley has been working for several years with leaders dealing with disruptions and crises on several continents. From those experiences, she notes that leaders only create more problems when they act as heroes, when they hold power close and fail to engage others in decision-making and planning. In fact, their attempts to deal with chaos through command and control approaches only create more chaos.

To create personal and organizational responsiveness, to solve complex problems quickly and to create resiliency requires *leaders to assume a new role, that of host, not hero*. A leader-as-host establishes the conditions for staff to think well together, to resolve complex problems, to learn from experience and thus develop the capacity to respond intelligently and effectively in an environment of continuous change and frequent crises.

Key topics:

- 1. The powerful dynamics of this time that influence leadership*
- 2. In times of difficulty and stress, what leadership brings out the best in people?*
- 3. What do we believe about people? Are we inherently selfish or altruistic, greedy or generous, dull or creative?*
- 4. What's happening to our relationships as we deal with exhaustion, distraction and anxiety?*
- 5. If we continue with our current behaviors, will we be able to persevere over the long-term?*

Process:

The session will be a combination of lecture and small group conversations where participants will explore their own leadership experiences and come to their own conclusions.