

Beomjin Han

Prof. Scott Gordon

CSC 194

Seminar #6 – Titles Don't make Leaders – Chad Crowe – April 17, 2020

Chad Crowe is Chief Information Officer of California Department of Human Resources. He is also a graduate of Sac State with a B.S. in Computer Science. He has been in many leadership positions in the IT field, starting from developing IT systems. He is very renowned for his performance as CIO and is rated very high in his field. Chad gave us a presentation on defining leadership. A leader is not a position, a personal attribute, a title, or management. He showed us that "leadership is a process of social influence, which maximizes the efforts of others, towards the achievement of a goal." It's a collection of soft skills. Leadership means that you are accountable for the results. You need to lead by example and develop relationships with people. To become a leader, one must get into the industry, get a mentor, network with other people, sell yourself, and get comfortable being in uncomfortable situations.

One thing I learned about being a leader was that it's not always extroverted people that are chosen to be leaders, and sometimes you have to work toward the soft skills that is required to lead a team. Networking, team building exercises, and other things that introverted people hate is important in your role as a leader. A leader is expected to make mistakes, and it's important to communicate and be honest, and learn from the mistake to never do it again.