# Advanced Diploma in Leadership and Management

Lesson 2 Practical Scandals and leadership

# Where our are principled leaders?



**Scandals** 



The leaders



**Corporate Governance** 



What do you take on board?





# Scandals lacking leadership

#### **Enron**

The fall of a Wall Street darling. Toxic culture

#### BP

Taking a day off to go sailing in the Solent as oil gushed into the Gulf of Mexico certainly didn't help either.

#### **Lehman Brothers**

Risks posed by rising home delinquencies were well contained

#### **United Airlines**

The boss not knowing all the facts

## **Enron**

Kenneth Lay (Chairman) of Enron told investors to keep buying more stock and assured them they were going in the right direction.



- False accounting
- It admits it had been inflating its income by \$586 million since 1997-2001
- Arthur Andersen legal counsel tells auditors to destroy Enron files
- As one of the five largest accounting firms in the United States at the time, it had a reputation for high standards and quality risk management.
- Arthur Andersen offered its stamp of approval,
- Many analysts started to question the transparency of Enron's earnings. The game was up

#### Scandals and leadership

## Lehman brothers

## The miscalculation

- Lehmans valued at \$60 Billion
- On March 14, 2007, a day after the stock had its biggest one-day drop in five years, the firm reported record revenues and profit for its fiscal first quarter.
- did not foresee problems in the subprime market spreading to the rest of the housing market or hurting the U.S. economy.

## Acquired five mortgage lenders

Alt-A loans: loans without full documentation

## The end

• On Monday September 15, Lehman declared bankruptcy, resulting in the stock plunging 93% from its previous close on September 12.



Leadership lessons from Lehman Brothers ex-ceo. On the last day of May 2009, ex-Lehman CEO Richard Fuld told an audience of investors and news media that he was not to blame for the 158-year old investment bank going bankrupt and for playing a role in the financial crisis.

# **BP Cover Up**



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But BP had a problem: It had lied about how safe
Corexit is, and proof of its dishonesty would
eventually fall into the hands of the Government
Accountability Project, the premiere
whistleblower-protection group in the U.S. The
proof? A technical manual BP had received from
NALCO, the firm that supplied the Corexit that BP
used in the gulf.

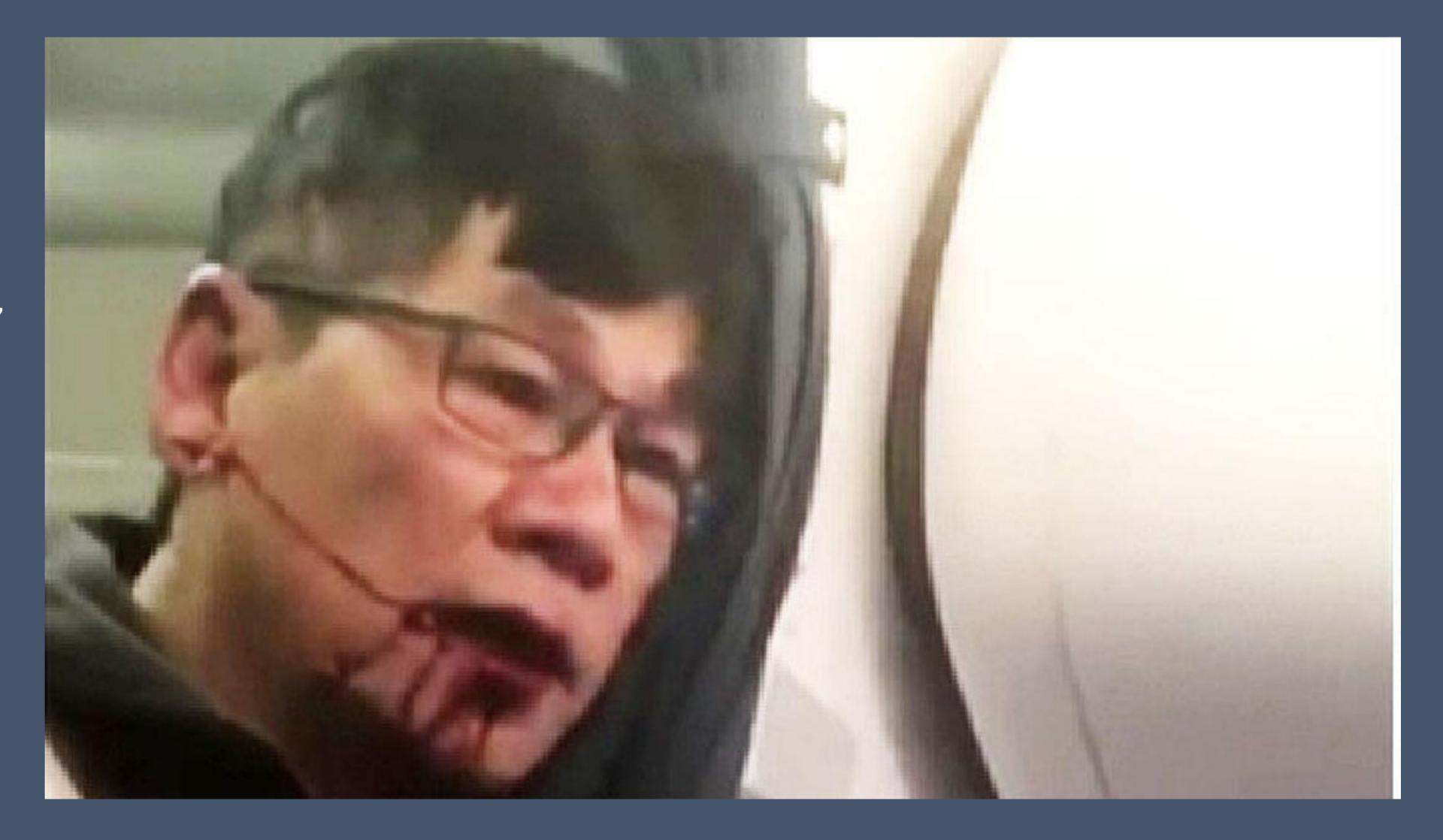
BP would be fined \$4,300 per barrel, almost four times as much, for a total of \$17.5 billion. That large a fine, combined with an additional \$34 billion that the states of Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida are seeking, could have a powerful effect on BP's economic health.

"It's as safe as Dawn dishwashing liquid."

What were the Directors doing?

# **United Airlines**

Dao was dragged, bloodied and screaming, off an aircraft after he refused to give up his seat for commuting crew members.

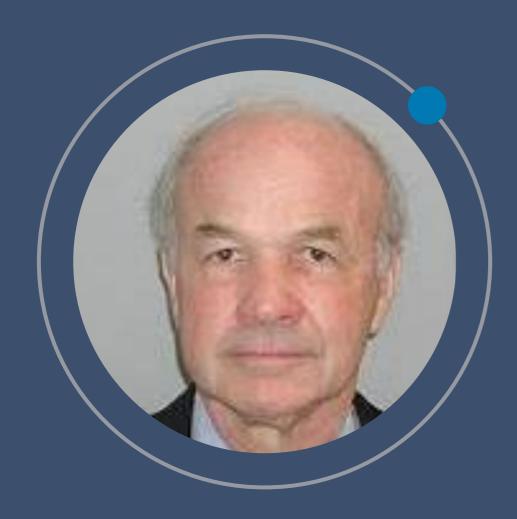


#### **CEO Munoz States**

- 1. "Followed established procedures"
- 2. Dao was "disruptive and belligerent".

Dao's lawyers have said he plans to file a lawsuit.

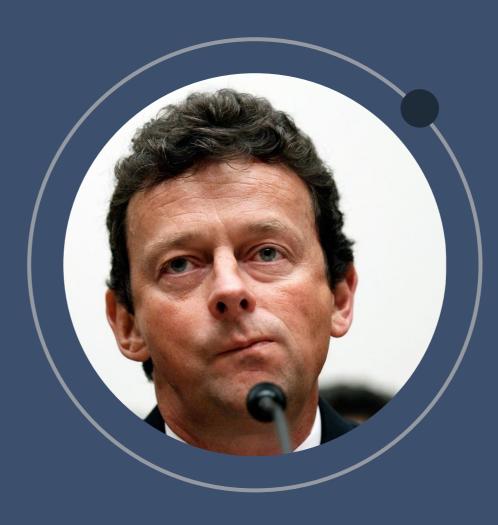
# The Leaders



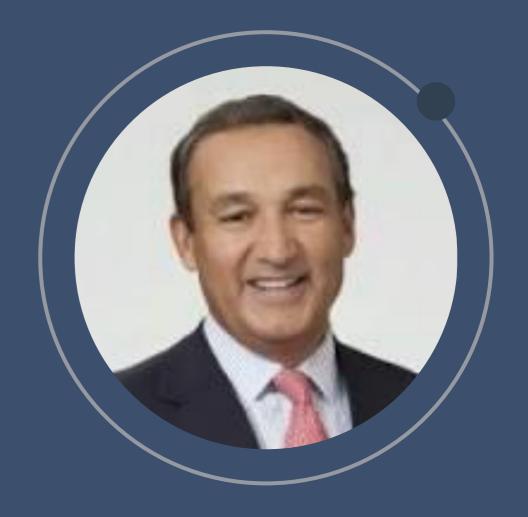
Ken Lay Enron



Richard Fudd UK Prime Minister



Tony Hayward BP



Oscar Munoz
United Airlines



Sarbanes Oxley

# Does governance work?

What, exactly, did SOX accomplish other than imposing huge costs and giving us a false sense of security for six years?

#### **Sarbanes Oxley**

Sarbanes-Oxley passed 99-0 in the U.S. Senate and 423-3 in the U.S. House

#### **Impact**

Keeping managers focused on trivial mechanics and investors focused on the bogus management assessments of risk.

#### Provides a clear corporate governance

- Independence of the Board of Directors;
- Equity and transparency of pay; checks, balances and democracy of corporate control;
- Conservativeness of accounting.

# Recap: Dimensions of transformational leadership

### Role models

- Have charisma
- Willingness to take risks and follow a core set of values, convictions and ethical principles

## Inspire

- Monitor the work of their team
- Watch for deviations
- Take corrective action

## Empowers creativity and autonomy

- Support the team/followers
- Involves them in decision making
- Challenges assumptions and solicits ideas

### Focus is not the follower

- Focus is on specific needs and desires
- The leader tries to determine what motivates each individual.
- Coaches and mentors them.

# Determining your own ethical standards



- Be fair and just
- Respect others
- Honesty
- Team building and collaboration
- Value-driven decision making.
- Lead by example
- No tolerance for ethical violations
- Value Awareness

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Q & A