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Leadership in a Troubled Economy

GPSEG reveals the top three leadership skills every business should know

PHILADELPHIA—The Greater Philadelphia Senior Executive Group (GPSEG) kicked off its Leadership Advancement Forum series last night at the Union League of Philadelphia. There were over 70 GPSEG members in attendance.

Mark S. Schweiker, President and CEO of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce (GPCC), was the keynote speaker. Schweiker recounted his experience as Governor during the Quecreek mine rescue in July 2002, where all nine miners were rescued. Speaking to GPSEG members about the role of leadership in business, Schweiker emphasized that a leader must “exhort others to continue on, even when circumstances are against you.”

“We are proud to have Mark Schweiker as the keynote speaker at the kick-off of our Leadership Advancement Forum. Mark embodies the true spirit of leadership in the Philadelphia business community,” remarked Chris Pavlides, Founder and Chairman of GPSEG.

Longtime GPSEG member, Anne Robson said, “As the leader of the Philadelphia business community, it's reassuring to be reminded that Mark Schweiker recognizes first-hand the importance of leadership, prudent risk taking and the need to continue to make hard choices in an exceedingly difficult business environment.”

GPSEG members discussed their roles as executives, and the important leadership skills they have obtained and perfected throughout their careers.

“The message relayed in Mark's speech really hit home for me. As a small business person I agree that I must focus on every issue and be committed to get the job done, no matter what the situation,” explained Chuck Polin, Chair of GPSEG's Leadership Advancement Forum Committee.

The top three leadership skills and advice that GPSEG believes every business should keep in mind:

- Executive presence is essential; be there continually
- Ask the tough questions and communicate constantly
- Preparation; know your resources and understand the big picture and the minute details

About GPSEG

GPSEG is a non-profit professional association of senior-level executives committed to the exchange of business contacts and ideas in a spirit of generous giving, and to the fostering of career fulfillment, business development, and professional and personal growth. Its purpose is to provide meaningful senior-level networking contacts to its members; support its members who are in career transition; share knowledge, best practices, and resources; educate members on topics of interest to their professional and career development; and develop cooperative programs with other professional organizations in the region.