



Mission Statement

The Rotary Leadership Institute is a grassroots, multi-district leadership development program whose mission is to strengthen Rotary clubs through quality leadership education.



No ray of sunshine is ever lost, but the green which it awakens into existence needs time to sprout, and it is not always granted for the sower to see the harvest.

—Albert Schweitzer



What are people saying about RLI courses?

- “I found the day very informative and fun.”*
- “The program was very well planned and presentations (leaders) were excellent.”*
- “A very effective seminar.”*
- “Enjoyed the focus on the chosen issues—great interaction.”*
- “I have learned quite a bit about leadership qualities and the “nuts and bolts” of Rotary.”*
- “I definitely learned a lot from today’s leadership training that will be beneficial to my club—instructors were all great.”*
- “I only wish that our district had joined RLI earlier!!”*

Contact your RLI Chair—visit the web site for a current list of divisions and chairs:
www.rotaryleadershipinstitute.org

RLI is a recommended program, but not an official program, of Rotary International.



The Rotary Leadership Institute

INTERNATIONAL RLI

Established Spring 1992

www.rotaryleadershipinstitute.org

Why we need The Rotary Leadership Institute

It is generally agreed throughout the Rotary world that the success or failure of a Rotary Club depends on the quality of club leadership. It has been said that poor club leadership is the primary cause of membership losses. Because of the annual turnover of club officers, Rotary needs a constant influx of knowledgeable Rotarians who have the leadership skills necessary to move a club forward. It is difficult to learn enough about the exciting world of Rotary with its more than 1.2 million members in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Furthermore, leadership skills in a voluntary organization are often different from business leadership skills. RLI provides an opportunity for quality Rotary education that is usually not otherwise available.

What is the philosophy of RLI?

RLI believes that having leadership skills does not alone assure good Rotary leadership. An effective Rotary leader must ALSO have Rotary knowledge, perspective about where Rotary has been, where it is now going and a vision of what Rotary can be.

What is the "recommended curriculum"?

RLI provides to its divisions a recommended curriculum annually for a basic course in three full days. The three days are called Parts I, II and III and are generally not taken consecutively in order for the participants to gain perspective through their club activities in between the Parts. RLI also recommends a program of graduate seminars for those who have completed the three basic Parts. Since the founding of RLI, the curriculum has been continually reviewed, updated and revised as the result of experience and the evaluations of the attendees.

What are the teaching methods?

The Institute believes in course sessions with as much discussion/participation as possible. Discussion breakout sessions are limited to approximately 15 persons. Lectures are strictly limited. Course methods include discussion groups, role-playing, problem solving workshops and creating projects. Everyone participates during one of the Institute's sessions. Course materials including session outlines, the daily program, faculty listings and resource materials are provided to all participants.

Who are the faculty?

Faculty members are carefully selected for their teaching abilities. Many are present and past RLI directors, district governors, presidents and those with experience in special areas. Each new faculty member must attend a full day training program and various periodic reorientation programs. The results of course evaluations help to improve the course content and instruction.

Who should attend RLI courses?

Although any Rotarian may attend RLI courses, RLI recommends that Rotary Clubs encourage Rotarians who have the potential for future club leadership, not necessarily as club presidents, to attend. The ideal candidate is early in their Rotary career, has a strong interest, and is prepared to be exposed to the larger world of Rotary outside of the club. Clubs are expected to pay the fees for their members attending the courses.

What are the costs and where are classes held?

Courses are normally held in hotels, colleges, schools, public buildings, etc. conveniently located for club members. The course fees are set by each Division Executive Committee based on site costs, meals, materials, and other necessary expenses. Within a Division the curriculum is the same at any course site so participants may take the various Parts at different sites and dates.

What is an RLI division?

For administrative purposes, RLI creates "divisions" that may consist of one or more Rotary districts, countries, zones, etc. Each division works with RLI to arrange course schedules, set policies, and handle finances. Each division pays modest dues to RLI. Divisions are formed by written agreements signed by district governors and RLI officers. RLI has divisions/districts in every Continent of the world except Antarctica.

Should our club participate?

If your club cares about its future, it will want the best leadership possible. This is an outstanding opportunity for each club to improve the Rotary knowledge of its key people, who will also be exposed to new ideas of leadership. The exchange of ideas with other experienced Rotarians alone makes the courses worthwhile.

RLI Officers



PDG Antonio Hallage
International Chair
hallage@avalon.sul.com.br



PDG Paul Muczynski
International Executive Director
pmuczynski@epix.net



The Importance of RLI in Training New Leaders

The continued rotation in leadership positions in Rotary increasingly requires Rotarians who are prepared and qualified to take on these positions, to be committed and willing to lead. Each club and district is encouraged to identify potential leaders for positions on their respective Boards and Committees. For club presidents alone, more than 350,000 new Rotary leaders are expected to be prepared over the next ten years. The preparation of these Rotarians must therefore begin as soon as possible. RLI has absorbed this responsibility since 1992. Currently, in more than 400 districts around the world, RLI helps leaders prepare to take over when appointed by their clubs.

The evolution of technologies, communities, and needs requires Rotary to adapt. We have used technologies as our ally to utilize new ways of providing services, facilitate interactions with the community we serve and with our partners, innovating the way we act. RLI is attentive to these developments and is preparing itself to offer tools to the leaders of the future. New curricula that follow the evolution of information technology, the role of leadership in Rotary, and the replication of new forms of service provision will be used. Rotary itself must undergo changes in its regionalized and decentralized form of action, consequently affecting the preparation of new leaders to work in this new environment.

A new language, appropriate to the target audience, must be used in Rotary, through the proliferating social networks:

- In publicizing what we do
- In interaction with youth
- In team training seminars
- In the training of new leaders
- In Rotary instruction

This new language, which becomes an integral part of our lives, must be explorative, and allow creative and adaptive thinking to the evolution of times.

The challenge we face is to demonstrate that we can be effective despite these changes and make the new Rotary even more relevant in the twenty-first century. Using the symptoms and trends that the numbers tell us, should serve to define new paths, for us to be even more protagonists and obtain better results.

RLI counts on every Rotarian, either who has taken our courses, or who wants to contribute with the knowledge they acquired in Rotary, to effectively prepare the new leaders who will lead Rotary into the foreseeable future.

—Antonio Hallage, *International Chair*

