

February 2024

Letter from the Executive Director

At the Research Institute, January always serves as great energizer for the year ahead.

I'd like to thank Research Fellow Priyanka Joshi for her work and contributions since joining us in July 2022. We're grateful for her membership in our research community.

In the past few days, not only did Priyanka present her research to our board and growing research community, but we also launched the 2024-25 Future Leaders Academy with a truly inspiring third generation (cohort) of Future Leaders from throughout the Twin Cities and St. Cloud.

Meanwhile, our second generation of 2023-24 Future Leaders and Mentors continue their work toward their mentorship goals while also reflecting on important skills for living and leading with emotional intelligence. As a mentor this time myself, I'm humbled by the Future Leaders' commitment to family and growth and change as part of a very local but also global community.

Our Research Fellowships are intended to further research related to our leadership mission, which includes supporting emerging and established scholars in their careers as teachers, researchers, and practitioners.

Similarly, our Future Leaders Academy serves our Future Leaders, as well as our Mentors, as they navigate new opportunities, pathways, and challenges that may require balancing personal values and commitments, and sometimes making hard decisions as emerging leaders in our community.

In the months ahead, we look forward to sharing more about our programs and the

people who inspire us to continue our work.

And, if you celebrate, have a wonderful New Year of the Dragon starting February 10th! 恭喜发财! Chúc mừng năm mới !

- Brian Hammer, PhD
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- [Future Leaders Academy](#) for youth

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