



The FoCuSeD™ Facilitator Academy – Gary Rush's premier 5-day highly interactive class for training Facilitators. The most complete and comprehensive class available – it helps build your skills and confidence.

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Attend the IAF North America Conference in Atlanta and check out our booth, April 10 – 12, 2008.

Fill out our raffle and win a seat at one of our FoCuSeD™ Facilitator Academies.

Join our Group Facilitation Forum.

This interactive Forum enables members to post ideas, questions, and comments.

(Professional Misfits – www.professionalmisfits.com - set up our Forum and Website.)

MGR Consulting Advanced Class

May 20 – 21, 2008
November 4 – 5, 2008

Spend 2 days with Gary to broaden your facilitation skills and knowledge. (See website for class abstract and agenda.)

"Thanks a lot for the wonderful days full of enjoyment and challenge." – Åge, Senior Project Manager & Facilitator (Advanced Class alumni)

Politics ...

I know, business and politics don't mix, but, for the first time in my experience as a voting adult, I'm truly excited about an election. I wanted to share my thoughts.

A Different Election

It's been years since I remember the general population voting and pushing "for" a candidate. In years past, I listened to people speak about voting for the lesser of two evils. People were voting against someone rather than voting for someone. This election, the supporters of each candidate are for their candidate – passionately and more people are participating in the primary process than in the past. This is not an accident. The reason for the increased participation is because of inspiration – people feel inspired to make a change.

Also, in the past, most campaigns focused on negativity. Today, little of that has occurred. In fact, in every instance that it did, it was either denounced, someone got fired, or resigned. The insistence on a positive campaign shows a great deal of respect for the populace. This makes it easier to select a candidate based on his or her ability – rather than his or her social identity. After all, we are a melting pot of many great social identities and it should never be an issue.

Collaboration

I'm seeing more evidence of the candidates moving towards collaboration than in the past. There is discussion of meeting leaders of other countries – notably the leaders of countries, such as Cuba, North Korea, and Iran. Some require that those leaders meet certain conditions, however, at least all are thinking about it. (Sun Tzu, in The Art of War, stated, "Know thy self. Know thy enemy." J. Wallace Day paraphrased this as, "Keep your friends close, but keep your enemies closer.") Our President must be collaborative – not acquiescent, but collaborative. Instead of insisting on conditions before meeting, we need to engage in dialog –

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JAD? FAST? It's time to get FoCuSeD™!

In 1978, JAD was created. In 1985, Gary created FAST. Until now, facilitation techniques have been either about structure or group dynamics. In 2007, Gary created FoCuSeD™ – a revolution in structured facilitation – a revolution from FAST. With FoCuSeD™, you get JAD, FAST, and more, bringing a holistic approach to structured facilitation – the 1st Holistic Facilitation Technique.

The FoCuSeD™ Facilitator Academy

Our next available public class:

April 14 – 18

2008 Public Class Dates*

January	14 – 18
February	11 – 15
March	10 – 14
April	14 – 18
May	05 – 09
June	09 – 13
July	14 – 18
August	11 – 15
September	08 – 12
October	13 – 17
November	17 – 21
December	08 – 12

*All public classes are held in Chicago.

Politics and Facilitative Leadership, Continued

diplomacy over conflict. The more we engage in dialog, the better we understand those with whom we are dealing.

Leaders are Collaborative

Our President, must be capable of collaborating with the Congress and the Senate to accomplish worthwhile legislation. Being collaborative is a critical quality of any world leader. Any leader who is strictly party-line in thinking and in working legislation will have a great deal of difficulty in accomplishing change.

Inspiration

Another important characteristic of our President is the ability to inspire. To be effective, all good Presidents surround themselves with advisers, the cabinet, and supporters, but the great Presidents were successful because they inspired action, participation, and involvement of the people. This is a nation "*of the people, by the people, and for the people*". If the people don't get inspired to be involved, we cannot create the future that we want; we cannot

take control of our destiny; and we lose the spirit of collaboration by leaving it up to the few. Without inspiration, we will lose the amazing greatness that was begun by our founders when they created the greatest Constitution ever written – "*by the people*."

Summary

For the first time in many years people are feeling empowered; they are participating; and they are collaborating. This election has had its ups and downs, but some candidates have demonstrated that collaboration – facilitative leadership – is going to be the model of the future. Let's follow and do our part – get involved. We can no longer look at our government and complain that *they* are not doing a good job or that *they* are ruining our country because of their own agenda and political power – it is our responsibility to make the change. When we take part, our leaders listen – after all, we are the ones who support them and vote them in. It's becoming evident that the "politicos" are finally realizing this. Now that we have their attention, let's continue through our participation. 🙌

The FoCuSeD™ Facilitator Academy

Class Description

This premier 5-day highly interactive class is the most complete and comprehensive facilitation class available for training **Facilitators** – it helps build your skills and confidence. **FoCuSeD™** delivers Collaborative Leaders. It guides you enabling you to plan the emotional process along with the process to develop the product. Gary believes that theory is needed and teaches it to provide a background. He teaches specific "how to" providing detailed facilitator and process tools and as a CPF Assessor, he covers the *IAF Facilitator Competencies* and what students need to do to achieve them. To be an effective Facilitator you learn by doing. In his class, students practice 40% of the class time and receive comprehensive assessments along with recorded sessions (*See our website for Class Abstract, Class Agenda, and 2008 dates*). Attending **The FoCuSeD™ Facilitator Academy** confers 40 PDU's for Project Management Professionals. 🙌

"Best session I've had in 30+ years of classes!"

Michael, Project Manager & Facilitator (**FoCuSeD™** Facilitator Academy alumni)

The FoCuSeD™ Facilitator Guide

A radical departure from previous work. It consists of 5 books containing 24 chapters. You can get **The FoCuSeD™ Facilitator Guide** by:

- Attending our 5-day "**The FoCuSeD™ Facilitator Academy**."
- Attending the *MGR Consulting "FoCuSeD™ Advanced Class"*.

Our Courses



MGR Consulting is a PMI Global Registered Education Provider (R.E.P.). Our core classes confer Professional Development Units (PDU's) to attendees who are certified Project Management Professionals (PMPs).

Core classes are:

- *The FoCuSeD™ Facilitator Academy*
- The MGR Consulting *FoCuSeD™* Advanced Class
- Business Presentation Skills
- Collaborative Leadership
- Data Modeling Made Easy
- Diversity – How Business Succeeds
- Productive Meetings
- Strategic Planning & Organizational Design

Other classes are:

- Team Building Seminar
- Collaborative Leadership for Young Leaders

(Gary Rush teaches all of our classes. We can bring our classes on-site anywhere in the world for organizations or companies.)

See our web site –
www.mgrconsulting.com

For additional Information on:

- "It's Time to Get *FoCuSeD™*"
- Products and Services
- Course Descriptions
- Keynote Presentations
- Facilitation and Strategic Planning
- eNewsletters and Articles written by Gary Rush
- Books and Additional Resources
- Becoming an *IAF Certified™ Professional Facilitator (CPF)*

Contact Gary at
(773) 330-2064 or
grush@mgrconsulting.com to:

- Kick off your event.
- Register for Public classes.
- Get Pricing Information.
- Schedule an On-Site class.
- Discuss our products and services or answer any questions you have.

Group Facilitation Forum

- http://www.mgrconsulting.com/forums/index_vba.php

Gary Rush, IAF Certified™ Professional Facilitator (CPF) and CPF Assessor, has been training Facilitators since 1985 and he continues to be the leading edge in the Facilitation Industry. Gary has trained over 3500 Facilitators worldwide making his facilitation technique the most widely used and his alumni are amongst the most successful and influential leaders.