Script for MESA Diversity Theater

August 12, 2010

Characters: **Crystal** (played by Vikki):  *Junior, very popular,* Newly Elected President of SSE (Student Society of Engineers)

**Sheena** (played by Tamara): *Senior, Deans list Engineering Student*, *African American,* Treasurer of SSE

**George** (played by Glenn): *Sophomore*, new Member of SSE

**Mike** (played by Brett): *Senior, Athlete,* Member of SSE

**Nicole** (played by Tiffany): *Junior,* *easy to get along with, single mom,* Member of SSE

**Advisor** (played by Phong)

**The following skits take place at a local university**

**Skit 1 – Ethics**

**Characters:** Sheena (Treasurer)

George (Member)

Mike (Member)

**Situation:** George, in a pinch, is convinced by Sheena that its “ok” to “borrow” organization funds

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*Sheena and George walking in the room*

SHEENA: …Yes, it was a great meeting….we are in really good shape and I think we’ll be able to help out so much with community projects this year

GEORGE: I am really impressed with the group and really glad that I joined. I think I might even consider taking a leadership position possibly next year.

*Mike walks in*

MIKE:Hey you, two!! How is it going? Sorry I missed the meeting…..had a class I had to get to. ….BUT..…*(to George)* Good news for you!! *(Proudly says☺…)* It just so happens that I found a copy of that book you needed for that Materials Engineering class you are taking…last one and I found it cheap.

GEORGE: Great! That would be awesome…Can I… *(Mike cuts him off)*

MIKE: Jane wants it to, but you get first dibs since we’re buds. But I need $20.00 ASAP…Gotta go…..give me a call as soon as you’re done so I can get the money. I know you need it for your team project tomorrow. See ya!

GEORGE/SHEENA: Ok see you later!!

GEORGE: *(looking troubled)* Oh, Brother…I don’t have the cash with me and my bank account is nil right now. I wonder if he can wait until Friday when my funds get deposited. I neeeeeeeeed that book for tomorrow’s class or I am up the creek!

SHEENA: Didn’t sound like he could wait, though. I’m sorry! Hey! I have an idea – let me take it out of the petty cash account here….you can give it back to me on Friday. That way everyone one wins, you get your book that you need, he gets his money and you get the money back to me on Friday. Piece of cake!

GEORGE: …Hmmm can you do that? I mean it’s petty cash for the association. Won’t you get in trouble?

SHEENA:No…not at all. No one will even know because it will be put back in a couple of days! I am the keeper of the keys, after all! Piece of cake! It is done all the time!

GEORGE: ….Are you sure? It seems a little*………….(gets cut off by Sheena)*

SHEENA: *Shaking her head*

Look. I have been the Treasurer for two years now and I have had to do it every now and again… no one knows, we balance every single time! I am sure all the groups do it to help their members. Please let me do this for you as a friend.

GEORGE:Well….., okay if you think so. It would be a big, big help.

SHEENA*:* Just leave it to me! And *(winking)* next year, when YOU are Treasurer, you can return the favor! Just between us! *(Chuckles)*

***Freeze!***

*What were the issues? “Borrowing” funds from the association, dragging another member into the web of deceit, allowing oneself to be brought into the web, not standing up for what instinctively Student believed was probably not right, believing the story, suggesting that I scratch your back and you can scratch mine sometime*

*How could this have been handled differently? Student could have pushed back and said she’d find another way to resolve. Borrow a book, call a classmate. Negotiate with the BookSeller on payment. Student could have planned more effectively to meet school demands and needs and not been in this situation to begin with.*

*What happened in the end? One Scenario – Student did pay on Friday and Treasurer put back into petty cash, but another member witnessed the discussion and confronted them. Treasurer was fired from position. Another scenario – someone overheard the conversation and blew them in to the association’s President. Treasurer was fired from position.*

**Skit 2 – Jealousy**

**Characters:** Crystal (President)

Nicole (Member)

Sheena (Treasurer)

Mike (Member)

**Situation:** Crystal and Nicole are running for presidency. Nicole is a bad sport about it and tries to convince Sheena to see things her way.

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*Mike is standing at the front of the room all others are sitting*

MIKE: Your new president is Crystal

*Crystal walks up and shakes Mikes hand*

NICOLE: (*forces smile and turns to Sheena*)…What! How could she have won, she hasn’t even been to a single conference. I’ve been to three and I helped plan the last one.

CRYSTAL: Thanks everyone! I won’t let you guys down. Hey Nicole I hope you’ll be able to help us out when it comes to conference planning.

(*Nicole* *fake smiles*)

SHEENA: Well at least she’s trying to include you still, she asked you to help out with the conference!

NICOLE: Whatever, it was all just a popularity contest anyways. She’s so fake, good luck dealing with that next year. You won’t be seeing me around SSE anymore.

***Freeze!***

*What were the issues? Nicole was Jealous that she did not get the presidency. As a result she had developed a bad attitude and is spreading it to others as well. She has jumped to conclusions and as a result is hurting both herself and the organization*

*How could this have been handled differently? Athough it is fair to be disappointed Nicole should support her new president.*

*What happened in the end? Nicole quite SSE. Crystal went on to be a great president and the organization had one of its best years under her leadership*

**Skit 3 – Diversity / Inclusion**

**Characters:** Sheena (Treasurer)

Advisor

Mike (Member)

Nicole (Member)

**Situation:** The class has been divided into groups for a class project. Mike is having trouble accepting the fact that he has been placed in a group with “those people” and a single mom

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*Advisor is standing at the front of the room all others are sitting*

ADVISOR: Ok class you are now in your groups. I expect your projects to be completed by next week.

*Sheena, talking to her group members Nicole and Mike*

SHEENA: Alright this should be a really easy project. Before we get started on brainstorming I am going to grab some water. Anyone else want some?

MIKE: I will take one.

*Sheena walks off and the other two members begin to chat.*

MIKE: Can you believe we have her on our project? I do not want to be on a project with her. I heard that she was stealing money from our clubs petty cash. How are we expected to work with someone that is not even honest? You know how people like that are?

NICOLE: How what people are?

MIKE: How “they” are bad with money.

NICOLE: They? Are you saying what I think you are saying…That is just…

*Sheena returns with water and hands to Mike*

SHEENA: That is just what? What did I miss?

NICOLE: Nothing… I need to go to the bathroom…*(Gives Mike a look)*

SHEENA: Okay. So what did you guys come up with?

MIKE: Nothing really. You know I have been thinking… Nicole has a kid and sometimes it makes it hard for someone in that position to make commitments. I mean she will probably have child care issues so we cannot set any firm due dates. I think that between the two of us we can get the project done.

SHEENA: How do you know? We have not even started the project?

MIKE: Trust me….

***Freeze!***

*What were the issues? Mike is possibly stereotyping the Sheena because she is African American. He is also jumping to conclusions that because Nicole is a single mom she will not live up to his commitments*

*How could this have been handled differently? The group members should be open and honest to each other and not talk behind others back. If they could not resolve the issue themselves they could meet with the advisor.*

*What happened in the end? In the end Sheena was not comfortable with the comments that were made and confronted Mike. Nicole arrives back at the table and is told about the comments that were made about him. Nicole lets Sheena know about comments that were made previously. Sheena asks for a meeting with the advisor. The advisor splits up team members into new groups. Mike is reprimanded for disparaging remarks from the Dean.*

**Skit 4 – Authority**

**Characters:** Crystal (President)

Sheena (Treasurer)

Advisor

Mike and George (Members)

**Situation:** Crystal is having authority issues with her members, in particular, Sheena

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*Crystal and Advisor are standing talking*

CRYSTAL: I just can’t get Sheena to pay attention during our board meetings. I think it’s because she’s being influenced by Nicole.

ADVISOR: Well, let’s not jump to conclusions, let me observe your meeting today and see what’s going on.

CRYSTAL: Ok

*President begins meeting…all members and Advisor sitting around a table*

CRYSTAL: Hi everyone! Today we’re going to assign chairs for who’s going to be in charge of what for the conference.

*Sheena is distracting everyone else and talking to them about random things*

CRYSTAL: Here’s the list of committees that we need chairpersons for….Fundraising, Social, Alumni Relationships….any volunteers?

*Sheena still distracting others*

CRYSTAL: Sheena, did you want to sign up for a chair?

SHEENA: No, I’m good.

CRYSTAL: How about a committee member at least?

SHEENA: I said I’m good.

***Freeze!***

*What were the issues? Sheena is setting a bad example during meetings. She is distracting others and is also not pulling her weight. Crystal is having a hard time getting support from Sheena and others since she has no real authority over her*

*How could this have been handled differently? Crystal may need to get the organization together and discuss this issue. The success of the organization is dependent on all of its members not just the president.*

*What happened in the end? Crystal got frustrated with the members and ended up stepping down from presidency, organization fell apart due to lack of a president and committed members*