



Fall 2013 CUP ELP Kicks-Off with Content-Rich Workshops and Candid Conversations

On November 14, the Fall 2013 CUP Executive Leadership Program (ELP) kicked-off with an intensive skills-based retreat at the Wyndham Hamilton Park Hotel & Conference Center in Florham Park, NJ. CUP ELP is CUP's signature initiative aimed at developing the pipeline of senior professionals of color and women.

The CUP ELP curriculum is comprised of a structured series of workshops, coaching sessions, and conversations with senior business leaders designed to equip participants with the skills needed to "play the game" effectively and advance to the next level in their organizations. Participants came away from the retreat with greater self-awareness and actionable plans to implement their newly acquired skills and strategies to position themselves for opportunities.

Twenty-four high-performing professionals from eighteen firms across the financial services, legal, professional services, and media & entertainment sectors participated in the November kick-off retreat and are currently going through their one year program experience. Participating firms include: Aetna, AIG, BET Networks, BlackRock, blinkx, Cleary Gottlieb, Disney, EY, Fox Entertainment, Fried Frank, Frost Brown Todd, Gryphon Scientific, Nielsen, Sidley Austin, Time Warner, Wachtell Lipton, Wells Fargo and WilmerHale.

CUP is proud to report that the feedback from the retreat has been terrific. One participant noted, "I was really impressed by the program as a whole. I'm looking forward to networking with the group and the other attendees going forward, and hopefully I'll use what I learned to advance my career in the years ahead." Another shared, "It was incredible that such a jam-packed three days was still able to end on such a strong note...the energy of the retreat hadn't waned at all. If anything, it allowed for increased intimacy/honesty during our discussions."

The 2.5 day kick-off retreat addressed a number of key leadership skills, such as executive presence, negotiation and influence, power dynamics, client relationships, personal branding, strategic networking, and managing a global business. Participants also completed an individual assessment to identify and explore their leadership styles.

The one year leadership development experience will continue with a series of skills-based workshops and conversations with influential business leaders from across industries. As new CUP Executive level members, the participants are also invited to take advantage of CUP's "A Seat at the Table" board matching initiative and are encouraged to continue to build their network and skill set by attending a number of CUP events throughout the year, including CUP's Distinguished Leadership Series.

The Summer 2014 CUP ELP kick-off retreat will take place in June 2014 and CUP is currently accepting nominations. For more information, please contact Avital Tamir Temchin at atamir@nycup.org.

