## MIDWEST EDUCATION RECAP

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[Editor's Note: This is a new section in On Course that will be published to summarize educational events offered by the MAGCS. Sorry you can't get Education Credits (ECs) for reading the article.]

## March

The March meeting was at the Midwest Golf House. Our instructor, Joseph M. DiPaola, Ph.D., Golf Marketing Manager of Syngenta Professional Products, spoke on the subject of Career Enhancement and Personal Development for Golf Course Superintendents. I have summarized the session in ten key points.

- 1. Be aware of the market conditions and trends that influence your future in golf management.
- 2. In developing your career goals, begin with a broad view of all your career options.
- 3. Consider what actions are required to arrive at your career goals. Benjamin Franklin said it best: "Luck is when opportunity meets preparation."
- 4. While shoring up your professional weaknesses and shortcomings, do not neglect to invest the appropriate time on honing your natural strengths. Your strengths may carry you the furthest towards your goals.
- 5. You should always be networking. During one of the breakout sessions, everyone in our group agreed that we would not be where we are today if not for the fortuitous meeting of key people who helped us in our careers along the way.

- 6. Work on developing the dedication and the quality of character that your career role models have exemplified. Becoming a better person will make you a more successful professional.
- 7. Your resume should be uncluttered, limited to one page, with one inch margins all around; it should connect your achievements with the needs of the employer, in concise bullet points that highlight the actual value and contribution of your career achievements.
- 8. Learn all the etiquette of applying and interviewing for a position. You never have a second chance to make a first impression.
- 9. Utilize the career counseling services and resources of the GCSAA.
- 10. Be involved with your association on the national and local level.



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