

Everyday Leadership for Women Upcoming Evening Course at SMC

By **Andrea A. Firth**

Maura Wolf describes the potential candidate for her upcoming women's leadership course at Saint Mary's College in Moraga as, "any woman who seeks to have a greater influence in her life—whether it be in her immediate circle of family or in the broader circle of her work domain, faith-based institution, or school system." On three consecutive Wednesday evenings in April, Wolf and co-facilitator Tammy Cabading will help women to explore the dynamics of having a sustained impact on the things that matter most to them.

Wolf, an independent consultant with 20 years experience in coaching and leadership development, is a graduate of the MA in Leadership Program at Saint Mary's. Cabading, who currently works as the Admissions Counselor for the Leadership Program at SMC, is also a Leadership graduate. Together the course leaders will help the attendees to identify their personal leadership goals such as starting a new business, affecting school policy, playing a larger role in a community of faith-based group, or achieving a better balance between work and home life.

"Individually and as a group

we will help people to identify leadership goals that are based on their values," explains Wolf. "Then we will work on supporting each other to take action on those goals while reflecting and discussing the related [leadership] theory."

The course will emphasize a relational leadership model according to Wolf in lieu of the traditional hierarchal, single-leader model that is crashing and burning in many institutions today. "We'll discuss how you get things done through influencing people with whom you have relationships," notes Wolf. "And we'll cover how to build the relationships that you need to be able to have the influence to get what you want done."

So why is this course designed just for women? "There are some common experiences that women bring to this sort of course," states Wolf. Although she is careful to acknowledge that one leadership style can not be generalized to all women or all men, she goes on, "Many of the things that we will cover in this course are intuitively and easily understood by most women, so we can move through the material somewhat rapidly. Most women understand the power of working through a relationship versus one person work-



Maura Wolf Photo provided

ing independently in a non-relational way."

And according to Wolf, the take away message from the 3-week course is, "Go for it. The world needs you and what you have to offer. Here's a little extra affirmation, a little extra theory, and a little extra practical experience to give you the confidence to move forward on the things that you think are important."

Everyday Leadership for Women is part of the ongoing learning opportunities that are being offered through the new Leadership Center at Saint Mary's College. This course will be held on April 16th, 23rd, and 30th from 7pm to 9pm. For registration and information contact Grete Stenersen at (925) 631-4162 or gsteners@stmarys-ca.edu.