The Dilemma of Presidential Leadership

Robert Birnbaum

Peter D. Eckel, University of Pennsylvania

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Abstract
Every decade, about five thousand persons serve as college or university presidents. Over a term of office averaging less than seven years, the president is expected to serve simultaneously as the chief administrator of a large and complex bureaucracy, as the convening colleague of a professional community, as a symbolic elder in a campus culture of shared values and symbols, and (in some institutions) as a public official accountable to a public board and responsive to the demands of other governmental agencies. Balancing the conflicting expectations of these roles has always been difficult; changing demographic trends, fiscal constraints, the complexity and diversity of tasks, university dynamics, and unrealistic public expectations make it virtually impossible for most presidents to provide the leadership that is expected.

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Birnbaum, R. & Eckel, P.D. (2005). The Dilemma of Presidential Leadership. In Altbach, P.G., Berdahl, R.O., & Gumport, P.J. (Eds.), American Higher Education in the Twenty-First Century, 2nd edition, 340-365. Johns Hopkins University Press. This paper is posted at ScholarlyCommons. https://repository.upenn.edu/gse_pubs/454 For more information, please contact repository@pobox.upenn.edu. The Dilemma of Presidential Leadership. Abstract. Presidential activities are to a great extent contingent on the char-acteristics of their institutions, the inexorable ebb and flow of the academic calendar, the emerging exigencies of the environment, and their own personal interests. All presidential campaign strategies involve risk. Certain times, however, make some strategies riskier than others. For while it has long been understood that campaigns are about dividing an electorate in such a way as to construct a majority for one candidate, in periods when the electorate is already nearly equally split between the two parties, forging a majority coalition is a grueling task because both sides tend to fight harder and play dirtier.1 In these moments, making the wrong strategic decision seems easier than making the right one. Equally taxing, times exist when, as historian Presidential Leadership Dilemma, The: Between the Constitution and a Political Party. Julia R. Azari, Lara M. Brown, Zim G. Nwokora. 2013. Book. Published by: State University of New York Press. View. View Citation. contents. summary. Examines how the president balances the competing demands of leading his political party and leading the nation. Table of Contents.
To assess the virtues of strong presidential leadership in the regulatory process, we need to have a richer sense of the dimensions of presidential leadership in regulatory decisionmaking. The set of proposals put forward by the National Performance Review (NPR), a task force established by the Clinton administration last year, provides a useful focal point for the examination of this issue. In that connection, we would do well to understand the difficulties and dilemmas endemic to Congress and bureaucracy, the political institutions that are, along with the presidency, most critical to the success or failure of federal regulatory policy.

8. The Nine Dilemmas Leaders Face. Presented by: Adeline P. dela Cruz

For MBA 512: Dynamics of Change and Corporate Leadership. July 16, 2011. Opportunity to define the dilemmas of leadership presented itself when Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC) decided to build an Edenic leadership center for its managers and employees. When Al Flood, the CEO of the bank okayed the plans, he did what any good banker would: He told Michele Darling, head of human resources, and Hubert Saint-Onge, who was to run the center, to make sure that this asset performed.