

Hiring for Culture Fit:

Using Organizational Culture to Select the Right Employees

Sheila L. Margolis, PhD
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July 27, 2016

What Is Core to the Culture at Amazon.com?





They Obsess Over Customers



What Is Core to the Culture at UPS?



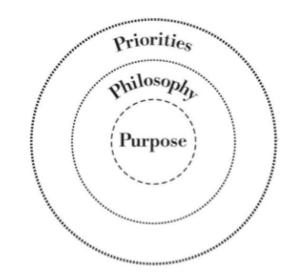


They Are Driven by an Intense Focus on Efficiency





What Is Core to the Culture of Your Organization?



Are You Hiring for Culture Fit?





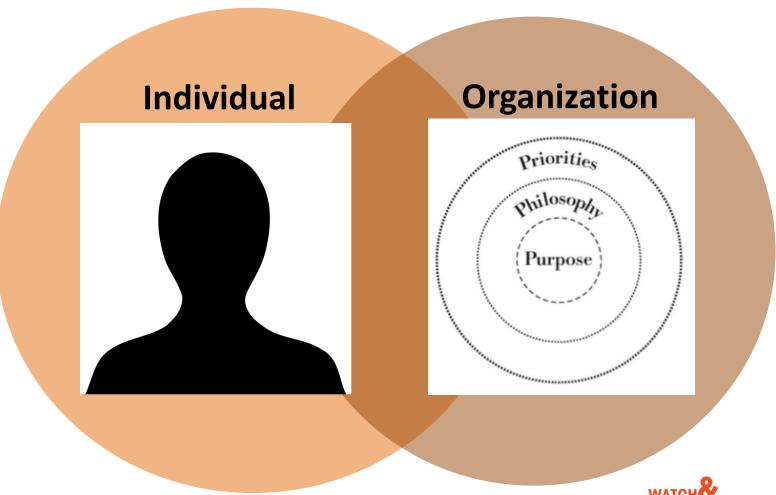
Hire for Job Fit

What I Love to Do

What I Am Good At Doing What Company Will Pay Me To Do



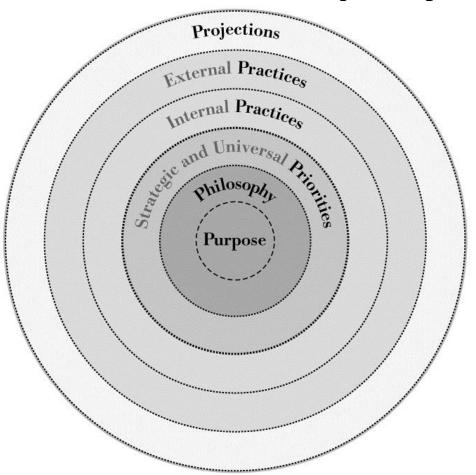
Hire for Culture Fit, Too!



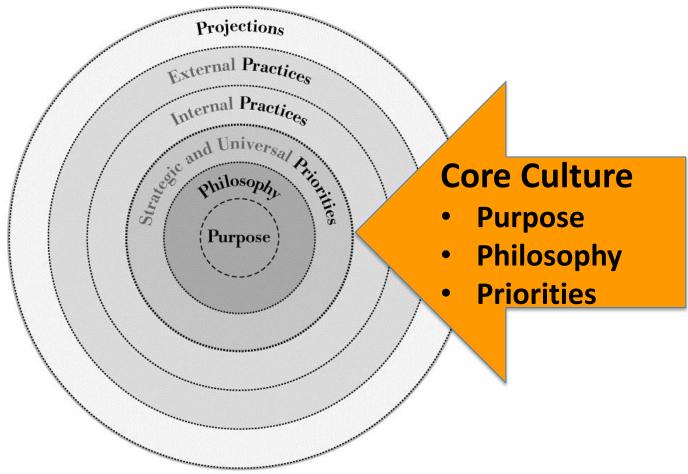
Hiring for Culture Fit Agenda

- Understand the Five Ps
- Define Your Core Culture
- Screen for Culture Fit

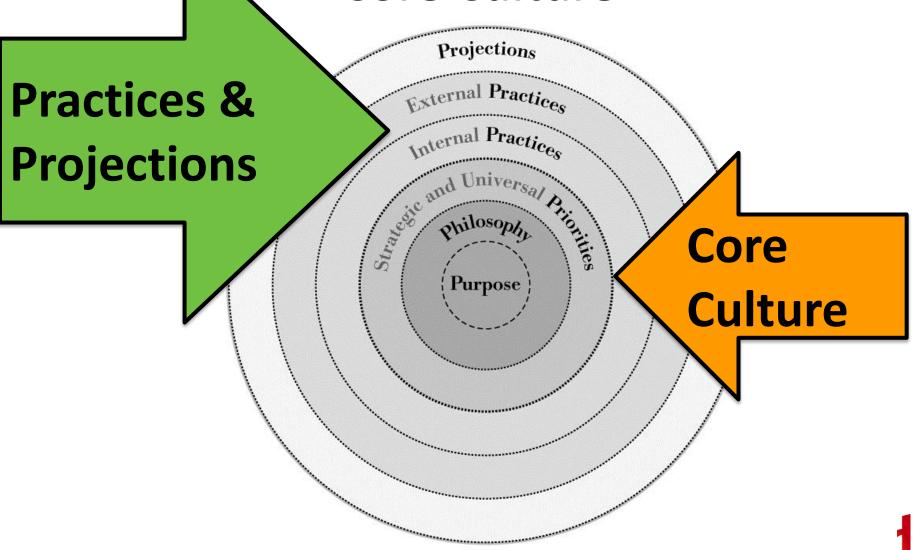
Use the Five Ps to Understand Your Company's Culture



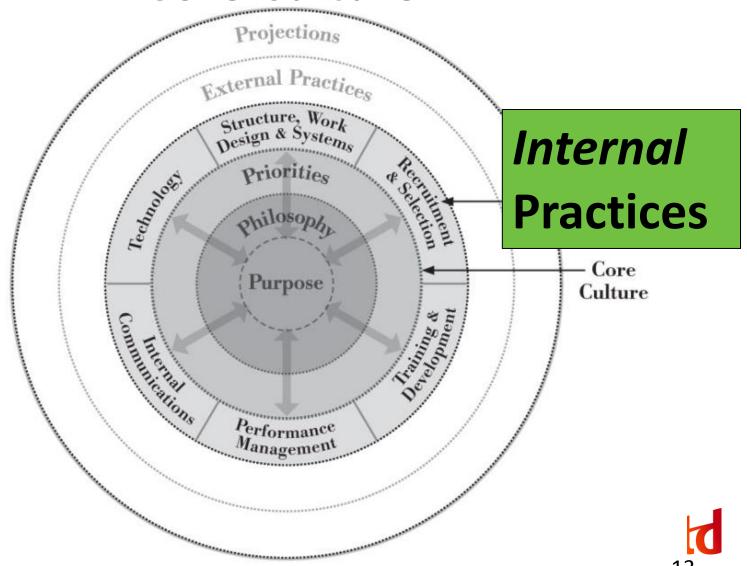
In Great Organizations, There Is a Clearly Defined Core Culture



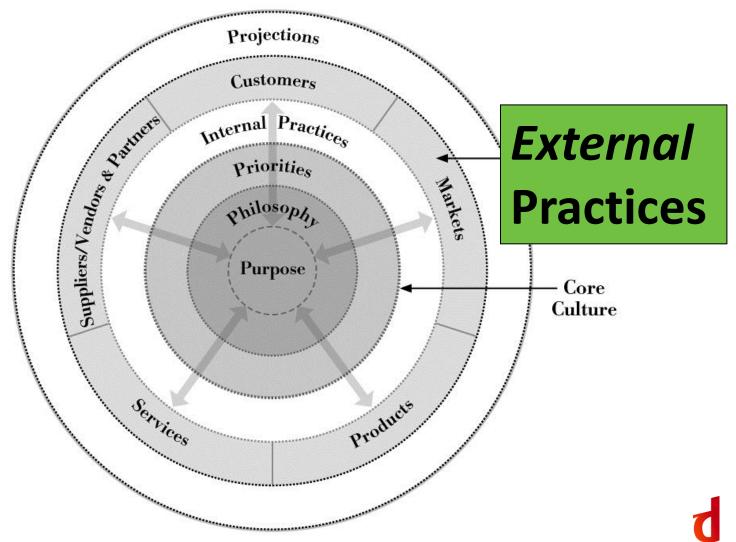
Employees Practice and Project the Core Culture



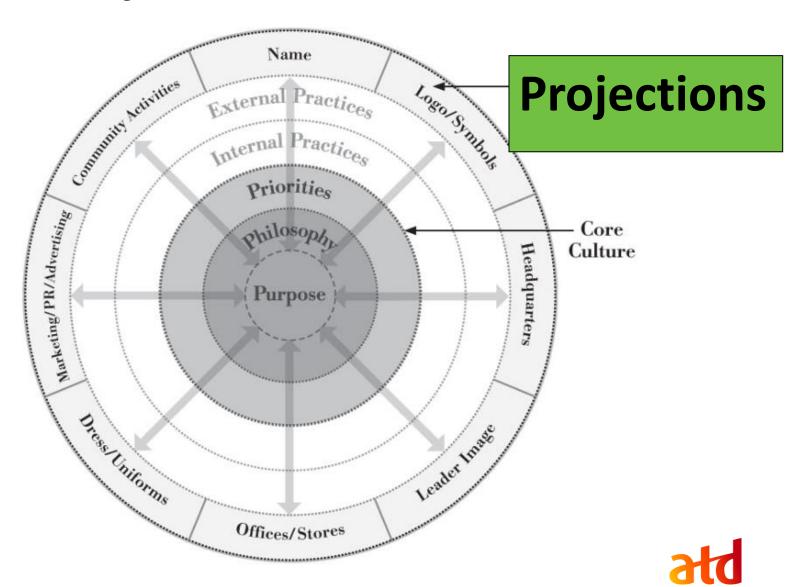
Align *Internal* Practices with Core Culture



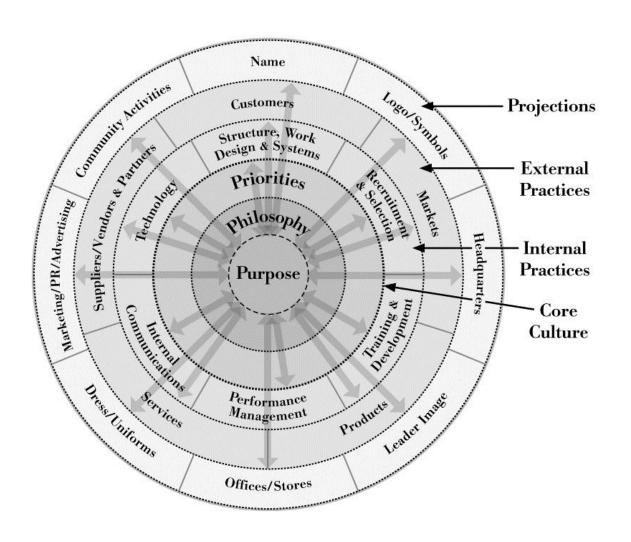
Align *External* Practices with Core Culture



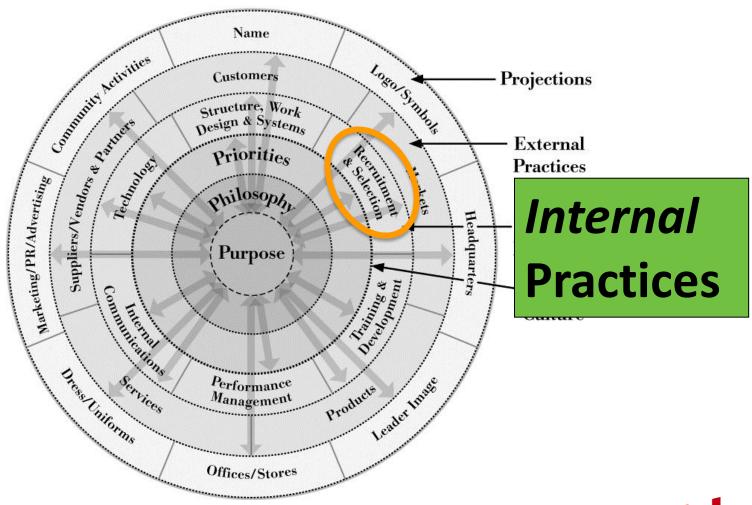
Align Projections with Core Culture



Align Practices and Projections with the Core Culture

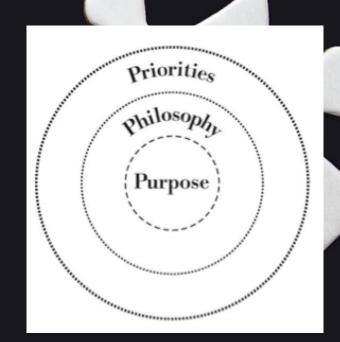


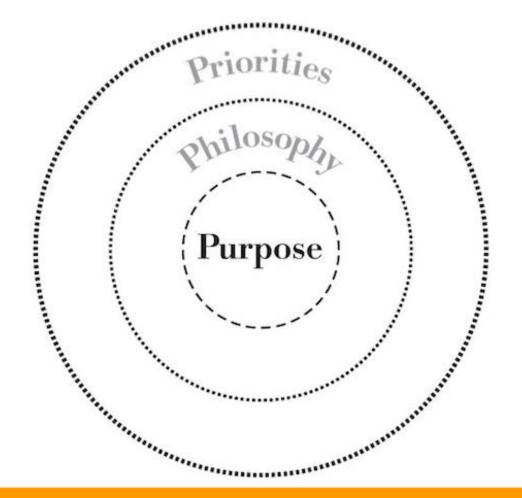
Align Recruitment & Selection with the Core Culture



Hiring for Culture Fit Agenda

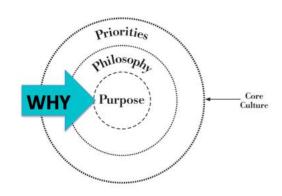
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- **Define Your Core Culture**
- Screen for Culture Fit



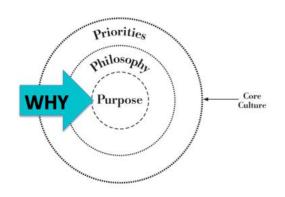


Purpose

Purpose: Why Is the Work You Do Important?



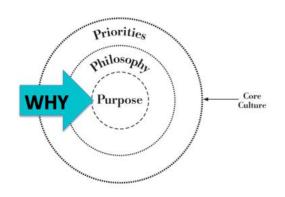
Purpose: Why Is the Work You Do Important?



Purpose is not a "What" question

We educate

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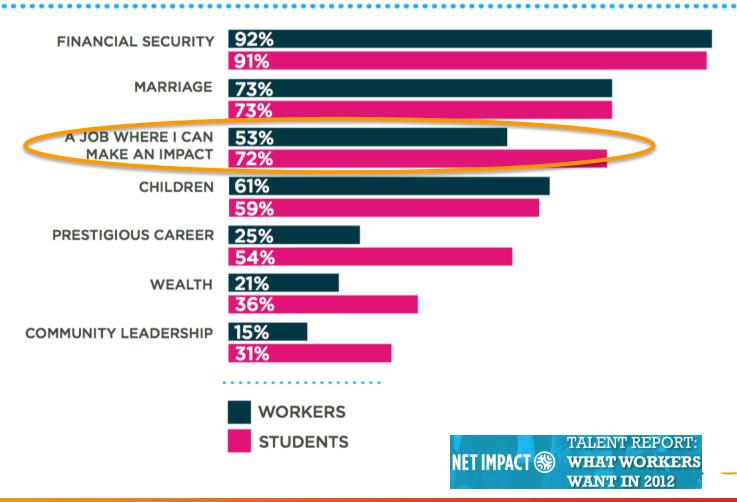
Purpose is a "Why" question

- We prepare people for life
- We empower people to make a difference in their own lives and the world



Making an Impact Matters

FIG. 1
The Following are Very Important or Essential to My Happiness

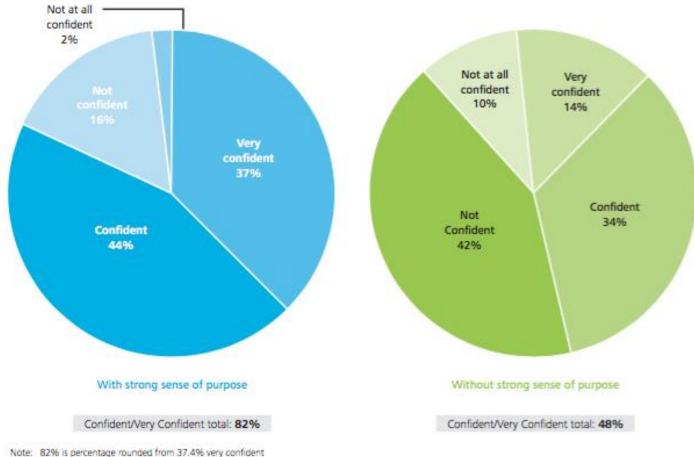


A Culture of Purpose Fosters a Thriving Business

--2014 Deloitte Core Beliefs & Culture Survey

How confident are you that your organization will grow this year?

and 44,4% confident

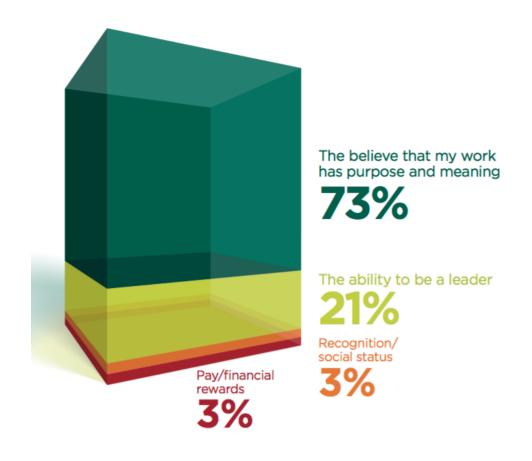


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Focus on Purpose Is Key to Productivity and Financial Success

What is your personal principal driver at work?



Examples of Purpose Statements

Purpose Statement

We make the world more open and connected.

We nourish families so they can flourish & thrive.

We improve and save lives.

We create happiness.

We protect the American people.

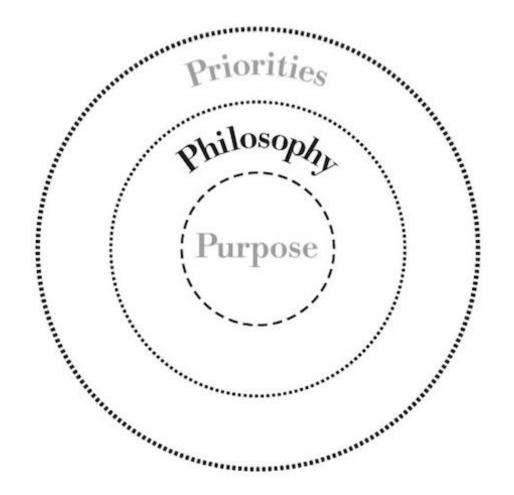
We restore hope and opportunity.



Ask Questions to Uncover the Purpose...

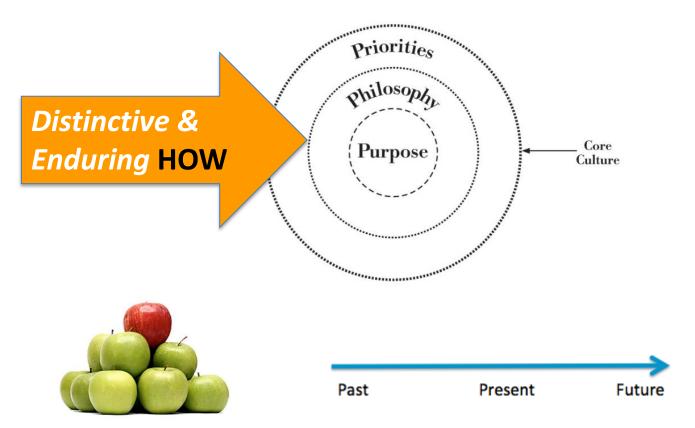
✓ What is the purpose of your organization?

✓ Why is that important?



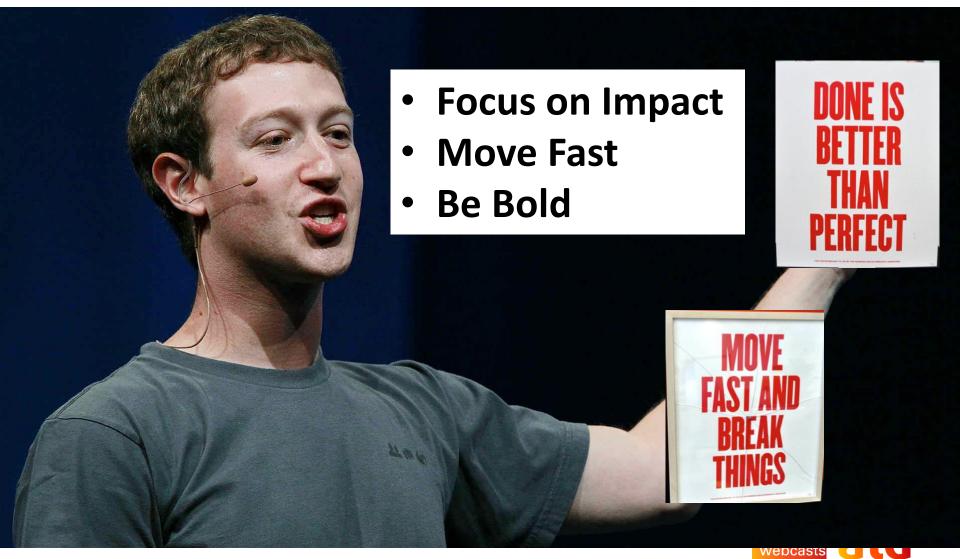
Philosophy

Philosophy: <u>How</u> Do You Distinctively Do Your Work?

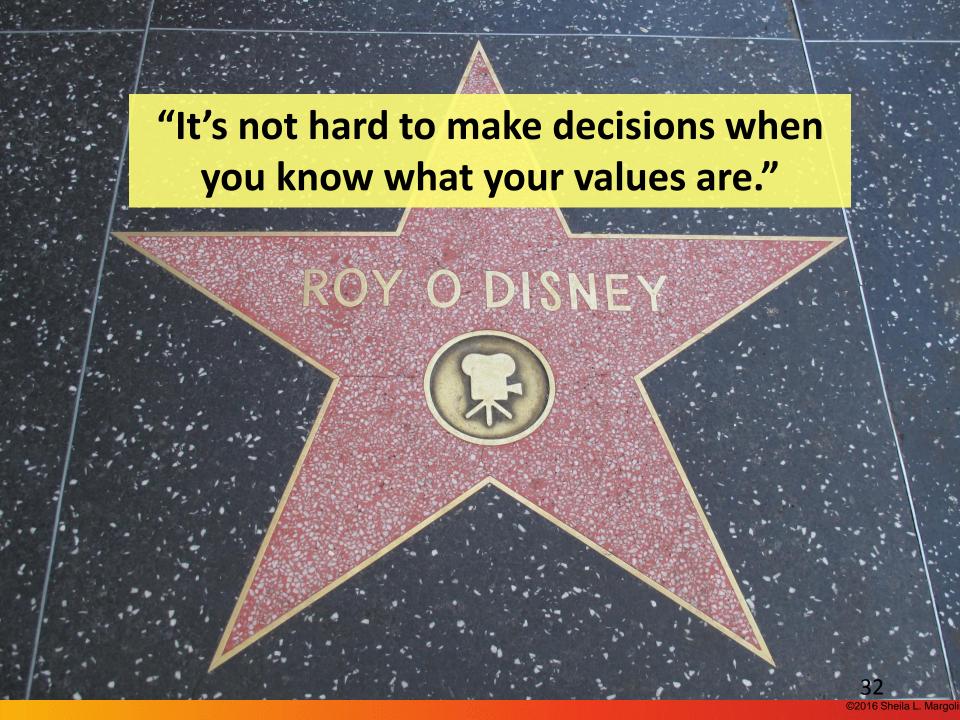




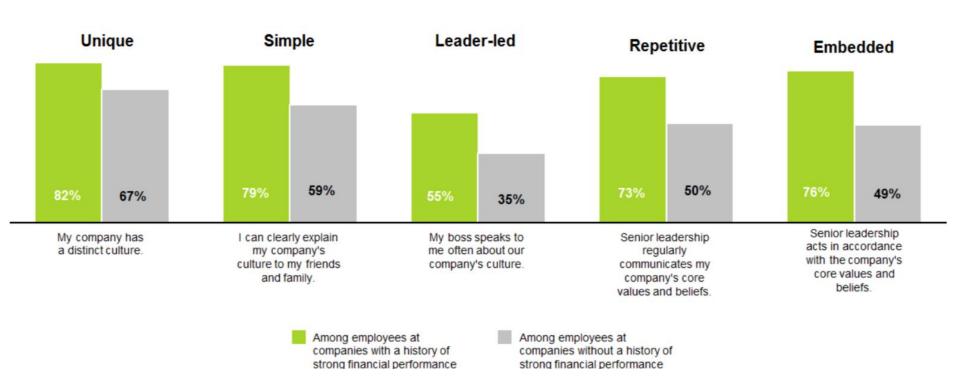
Philosophy Is Often a Reflection of the Founder



Guided by the Hacker Way Hacker Way Hacker Way Philz Coffee - Facebook Hacker Way Facebook HQ Boba Bar 💌 Bayfront Expy 31



Exceptional Companies Are Guided by Core Values



^{*}Deloitte-2012: Harris Interactive surveyed 1,005 U.S. adults (aged 18+, employed full-time in a company with 100+ employees) and 303 corporate executives on a number of questions related to culture in the workplace.



Students Would Take a Pay Cut to "Work for an Organization Whose Values Are Like My Own"

FIG. 3
All Other Things
Being Equal,
I Would Take a
15% Paycut...







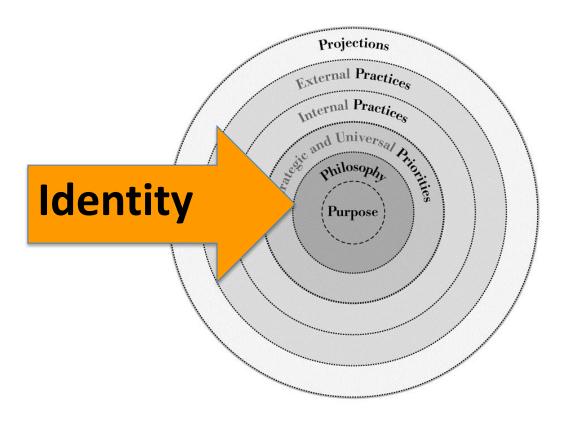
Ask Questions to Uncover the Philosophy...

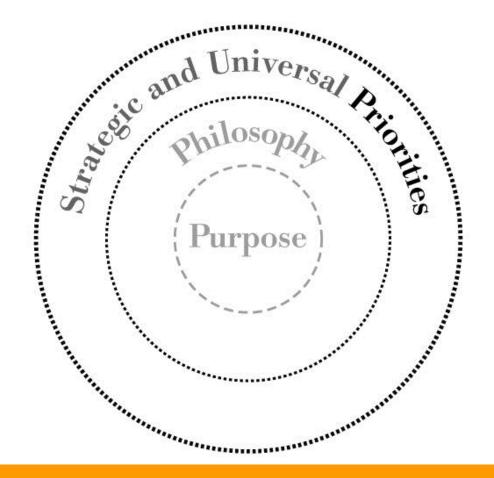
✓ What values are fundamental and distinctive to your organization since its founding?

✓ What values are central to who you are as an organization that should never change?



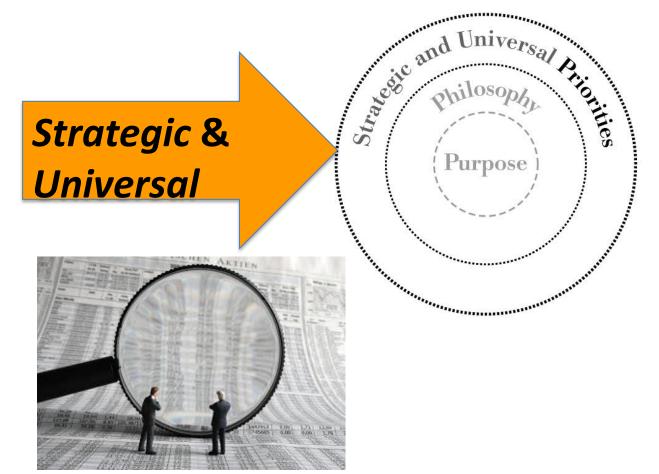
Purpose + Philosophy = Organizational Identity



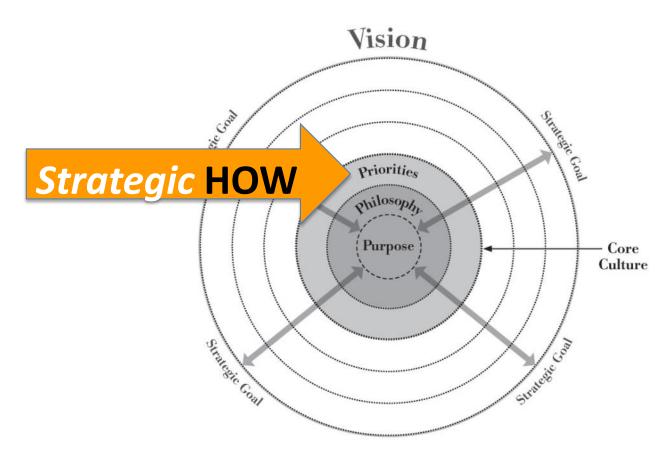


Priorities

There Are Two Types of Priorities: Strategic & Universal



Strategic Priorities: How Must You Work to Achieve Goals?



With the Goal to Reduce Costs, Many Companies Had the Strategic Priority of Cost Control



Going Digital Has Become a Strategic Priority for Many Organizations



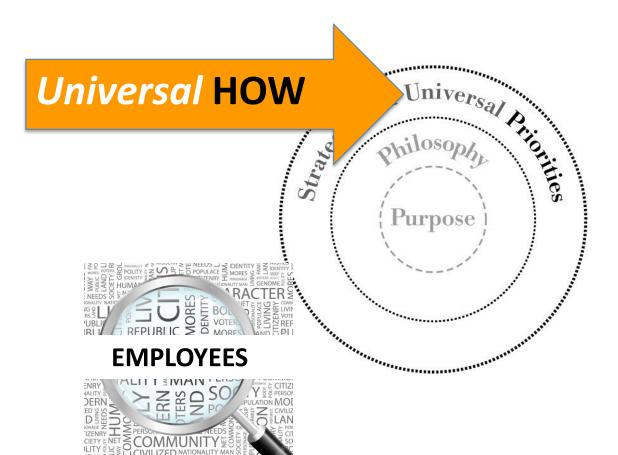
Ask Questions to Uncover the Strategic Priorities...

✓ What are the goals of your organization?

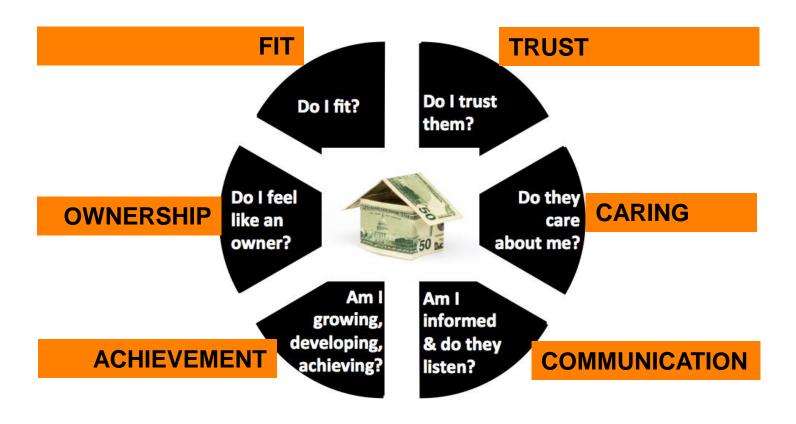
✓ What values must guide how employees work in order to achieve these goals?



Universal Priorities Drive Employee Engagement



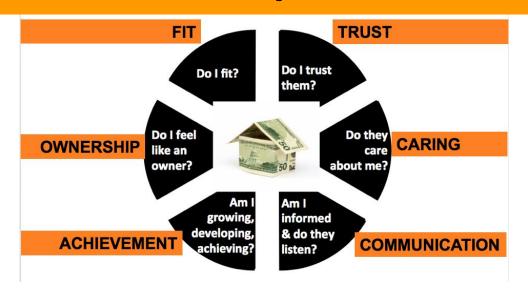
Universal Priorities Promote an Enriching and Motivating Workplace





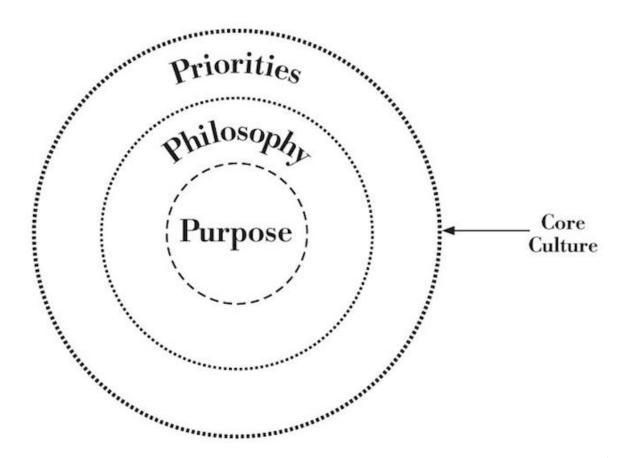
Uncover the *Universal* Priorities...

✓ What areas should we focus on and pay attention to in order to build a more humane workplace?





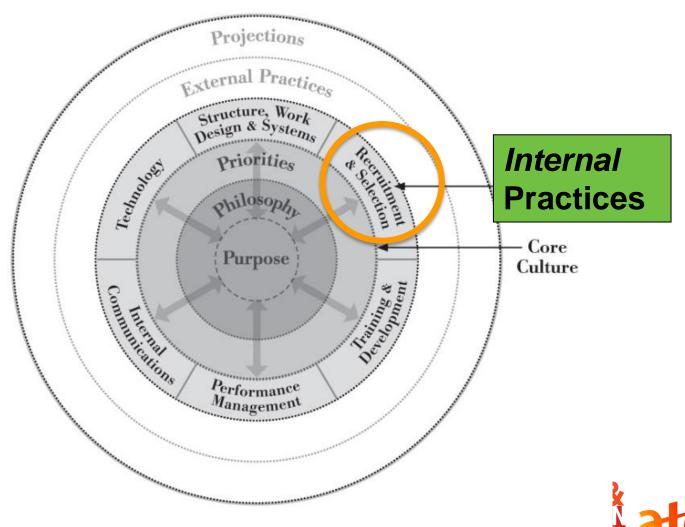
Uncover the Central Three Ps— Core Culture



Hiring for Culture Fit Agenda

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Align *Internal* Practices with Core Culture



Align Recruitment & Selection with the Core Culture

To What Degree	Degr	ee c	of Al	ignr	nent
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Do you interview for culture fit?	1 Extremely Unaligned	2	3 Webca	4	5 Extremely Aligned

Create Action Plan to Improve Alignment

Recommendations



Action	Person(s) Responsible	Completion Date

Do Recruitment Materials Reflect the Core Culture?

Get the Right People to Apply



Clearly Express Your Purpose with Job Applicants

HELLO THERE HEALTHY.

We're in the market for some fresh talent.

Healthy-minded people just like us.

Looking to make the world a healthier place.

Creating positive vibes one meal at a time.

And having a lot of fun in the process.

THIS ISN'T JUST A RESTAURANT. IT'S A WAY OF LIFE.

Let's be honest, True Food isn't a fit for everyone and that's OK. We're not here just for a paycheck. We're here because we believe in the cause. But if you know how to actually pronounce quinoa or grow your own organic gardens, you may have just found your calling.



Become a Manager

Become a Team Member

A CAREER IN FOOD THAT REALLY MATTERS Everyday at True Food is an opportunity to change someone's life. Sure, we have tasty offerings like most other restaurants. But more than just taste, our food is creating a whole new movement toward a healthier world through what we eat.

State Why Your Work is Meaningful



The people here at Apple don't just create products — they create the kind of wonder that's revolutionized entire industries. It's the diversity of those people and their ideas that inspires the innovation that runs through everything we do, from amazing technology to industry-leading environmental efforts. Join Apple, and help us leave the world better than we found it.

Where do you see yourself at Apple?



Be Clear about Your Philosophy—to Get Applicants Who Fit

Jobs at Apple

Corporate

Apple Store

Students My Profile

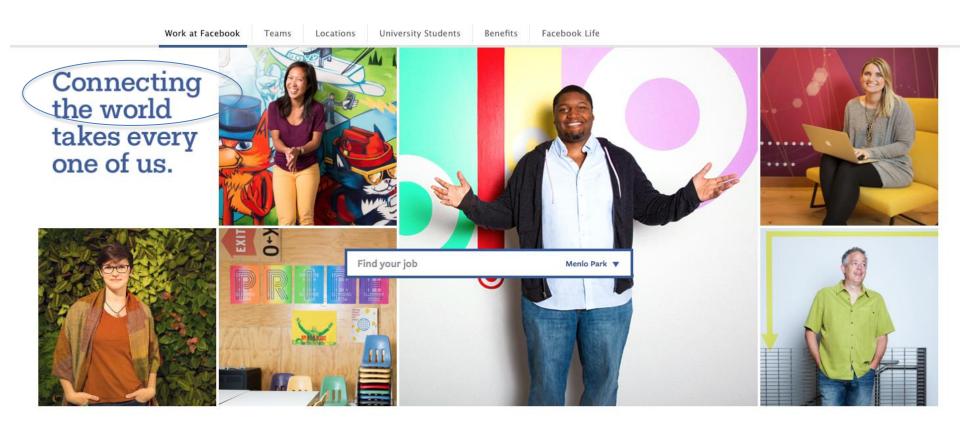
Search Jobs

It's what we do together that sets us apart.

We're perfectionists. Idealists. Inventors. Forever tinkering with products and processes, always on the lookout for better. Whether you work at one of our global offices, offsite, or even at home, a job at Apple will be demanding. But it also rewards bright, original thinking and hard work. And none of us here would have it any other way.



Share Your Purpose with Job Candidates



Do the most meaningful work of your career

People are at the heart of every connection we build We design products and deliver services that create a more human world—one connection at a time.



Share Values with Job Applicants

Move fast

Connecting the world happens in real time. Our teams are small and nimble. We work quickly and collaboratively to build smarter, more meaningful solutions on a global scale.

Be bold

We're determined to build a better, more connected world for everyone. From engineers to designers and marketers, we empower the people who work at Facebook to make an impact. When you're in charge of making a difference, there's no limit to what you can do.





Share Culture on LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram and Others









Use Photos, Videos and Descriptions to Reflect the Core Culture

01 / Delivering Happiness

At Zappos, anything worth doing is worth doing with WOW.

WOW is such a short, simple word, but it really encompasses a lot of things. To WOW, you must differentiate yourself, which means doing something a little unconventional and innovative. You must do something that's above and beyond what's expected. And whatever you do must have an emotional impact on the receiver. We are not an average company, our service is not average, and we don't want our people to be average. We expect every employee to deliver WOW.

Whether internally with co-workers or externally with our customers and partners, delivering WOW results in word of mouth. Our philosophy at Zappos is to WOW with service and experience, not with anything that relates directly to monetary compensation (for example, we don't offer blanket discounts or promotions to customers).

We seek to WOW our customers, our co-workers, our vendors, our partners, and in the long run, our investors.



Share a Message from Your Founder







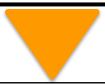


Align Recruitment & Selection with the Core Culture

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Create Action Plan to Improve Alignment

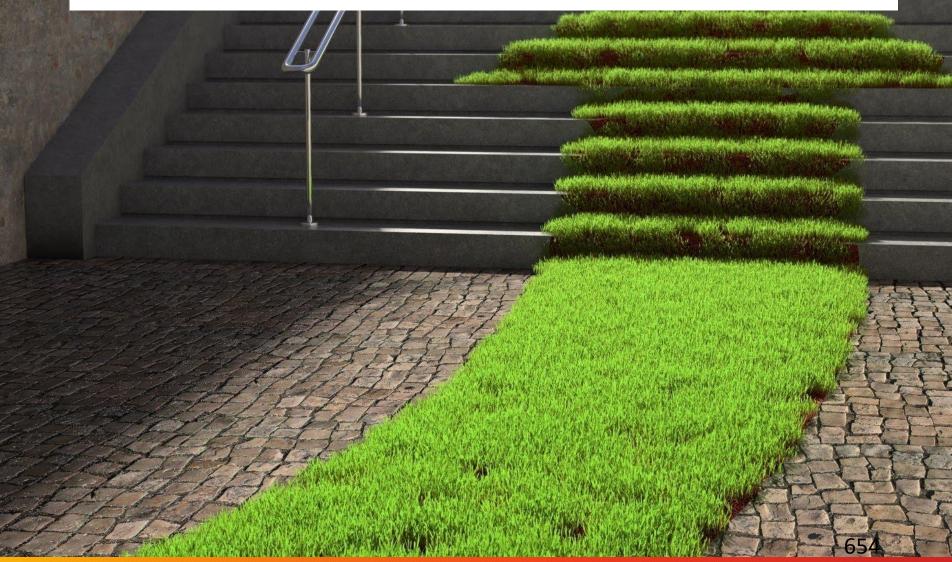
Recommendations



Action	Person(s) Responsible	Completion Date

Do Recruitment Practices Support the Core Culture?

Do You Use a Consistent Approach in Hiring?





Observe Candidate Behavior Before and After the Interview



Invite the Applicant to More than an Interview



Invite for a Meal and Give a Company Tour



Where Teamwork Is Core, the Team Decides



Align Recruitment & Selection with the Core Culture

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Recommendations



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Do You Talk about and Model the Core Culture with Applicants?

Does the Interview Setting Reflect the Culture?



Do You Talk about and Model the Principles and Values that Are Core?



Align Recruitment & Selection with the Core Culture

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Do You Interview for Culture Fit?

Ask Behavioral Interview Questions Linked to the Culture

	Sample Question				
Overall culture fit	 Tell me about a time when you worked with/for a company where you felt you were not a strong culture fit. Why was it a bad fit? Describe a work environment where you've had the most success. 				
Purpose (passion)	 Describe a day when you came home from work and thought you had the best job in the world. What are you doing when you lose track of time? 				

Ask Behavioral Interview Questions Linked to Core Principles or Values

Principle or Value	Sample Question
Customer Focus	Describe a time you had a difficult customer. How did you handle it? Describe a time you went out of your way to satisfy a customer. Tell me about a time you did not meet the expectations of a customer.
Teamwork	Tell me about a situation when you had to settle a disagreement among team members. How did you handle it?
Attention to Detail	Tell me about a time where things were overlooked by other employees. What did you do? Tell me a time when you did not correct an error at work. Why?
Creativity	Describe a time you solved a problem in a unique or unusual way.
Exceeding Expectations	Tell me about a time when you did much more than what was expected of you.

Ask Other Interview Questions Linked to the Core Culture

Principle or Value	Sample Question
Overall culture fit	What type of culture do you thrive in?
	What values are you drawn to?
	What's your ideal workplace?
	Why do you want to work here?
	How would you describe our culture? Is this something that works for you?
Company Example: The Disney Company	How would you help create magic for our customers?
Company Example: Zappos	What are some ways you would WOW our customers?

Align Recruitment & Selection with the Core Culture

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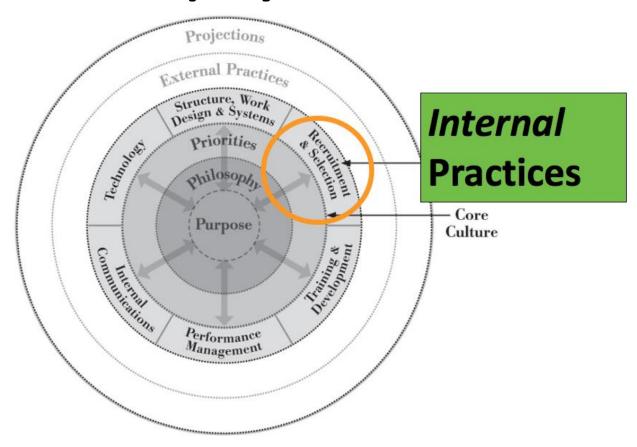
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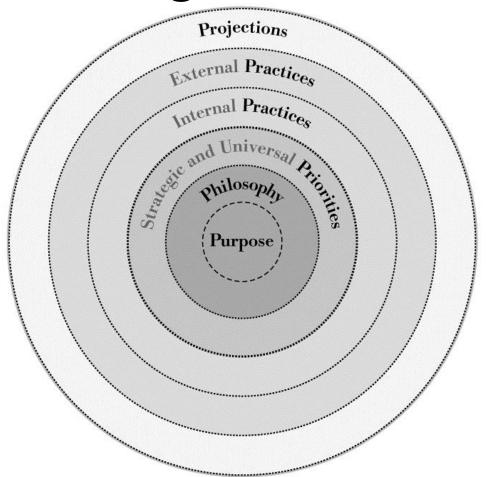
Use Culture to Select the *Right*Employees



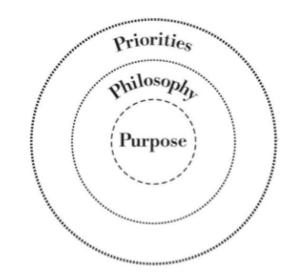
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Think About Your Company Culture Using the Five Ps



What Is Core to the Culture of Your Organization?



Are You Hiring for Culture Fit?

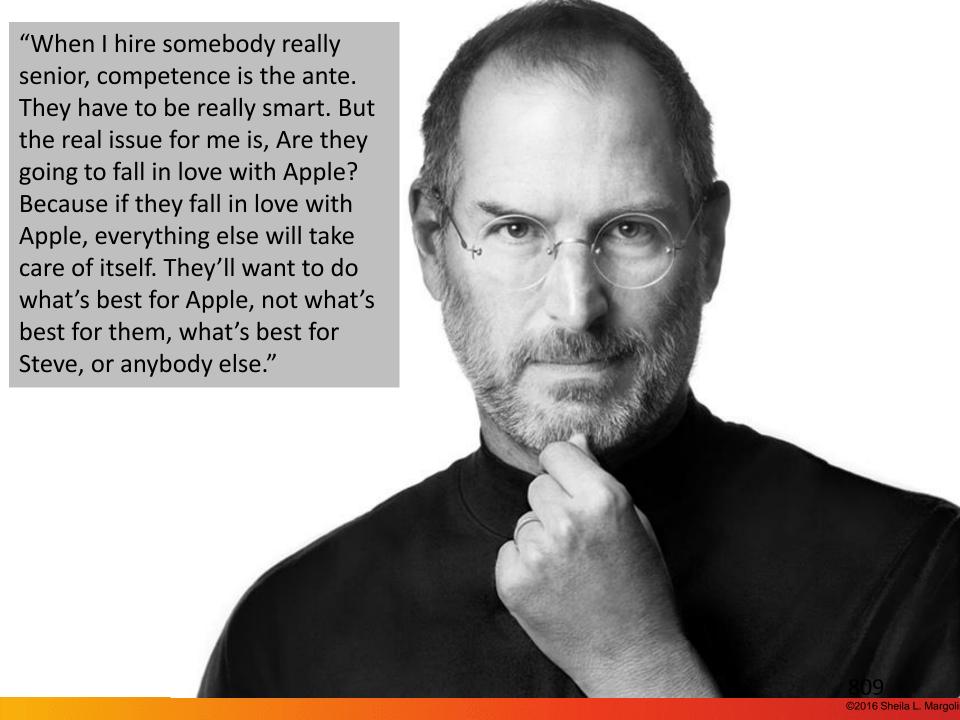




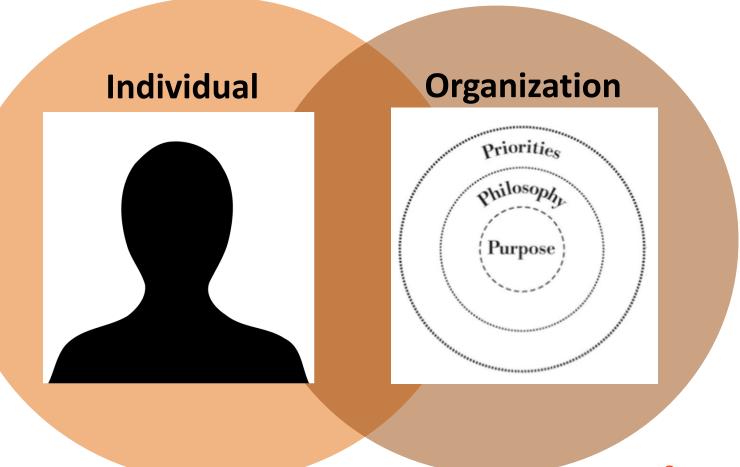
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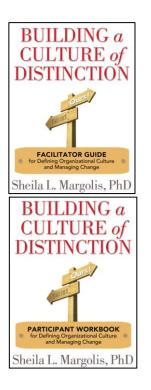


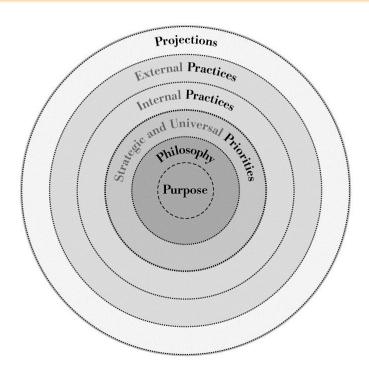
Invest Your Time in Hiring the Right People



Hire for Culture Fit:

Using Organizational Culture to Select the Right Employees





www.SheilaMargolis.com smargolis@CultureofDistinction.com

