Best Practices in Change Leadership Checklist

The leader must lead the change: the leader must adopt new behaviors to inspire behaviorable change in followers
☐ Preach the need (drive) for change
☐ Create a vision clear enough to direct the change effort
☐ Identify and understand the needs and motivations of key stakeholders: create a guiding coalition
☐ Identify decision-makers: empower them to be responsible and accountable
☐ Identify those who need to be consulted with and informed: engage them at the appropriate moment
☐ Make time to develop a communication plan early on: utilize electronic, written, face-to-face, group, one-on-one communications, etc.
☐ Maintain continuous and targeted communications tailored in depth and breadth to different stakeholders
☐ Translate the vision into SMART (Specific, Measurable, Accountable, Reasonable, Time-bound) goals
☐ Empower others so they feel they have the freedom to act on the vision and goals
☐ Develop objectives with concrete deliverables
☐ Visibly tackle obstacles to change (ineffective leadership, poorly allocated resources, "sacred cow" policies and practices), encourage risk-taking and new ideas
☐ Track progress, plan for, recognize and reward short-term wins and visible performance improvements
☐ Embed changes into the university: leverage improvements, apply learnings to more processes and projects, deepen employee skills
☐ Institutionalize new approaches: communicate connections between new behaviors and successes, ensure leadership succession, set up systems to capture and share knowledge