

FSHN Graduate Students Learning in Community: Best practices for professional communication

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Learning outcomes

- Reflect on mindset and how your mindset informs your approach to professional development.
- Develop and plan to implement actions that advance our FSHN graduate learning community as a model for excellence in professional communication.
- Practice interpersonal communication within a team.

FSHN Grad Learning Community

- 2013
 - Honesty and accuracy
 - Graduate learning outcomes
 - Habits of community
 - Prof. communication and sci. problem solving
- 2014
 - Research ethics
 - Scientific thinking habits
- 2015
 - Teamwork and scientific thinking
 - Teamwork and creative problem solving
 - Professional communication
 - Data management

Mindset about intelligence

- In teams of 4, appoint a convener, recorder, team process monitor and spokesperson,
- Review the Mindset chart and summarize one key take-home message from it that is:
- most crucial for your professional practice
 - Be prepared to share
- most important for development of your ability to communicate well as a professional
 - Be prepared to share

Team communication

- In teams of 4, appoint a convener, recorder, team process monitor, and spokesperson
- What are the crucial aspects to remember in practicing excellent interpersonal communication?
- Discuss and list up to 4 key aspects of interpersonal communication
- For one key aspect, what does it look like or sound like to do this well
- Be prepared to share

Practice examples

- As you work on the following cases, record specific examples of interpersonal communication within your team, using the worksheet provided.

Practice example #1

- What initial response would be appropriate?
- “I have repeated this experiment 3 times and each time the results were basically the same; they show that our antimicrobial solution was not effective against *Salmonella enteriditis*. I followed the SOP prepared by our previous post-doc, and examined his data, which had shown that the same solution WAS effective. But my results don’t support that.”

Practice example #2

- How might you respect diversity in responding to this comment?
- “Everyone knows that obesity is caused by a combination of genes, gluttony and laziness. But overeating is by far the main issue in the US.”

Action planning

- In your team, prepare responses to these questions; continue to monitor your interpersonal communication:
- How might you use a framework for interpersonal communication to help you and others develop such abilities?
- What is one thing that you will do to continue working on interpersonal communication?

Monitoring

- Share examples of how your team practiced an aspect of interpersonal communication
- The framework we used will be available on the FSHN Grad Ed website