



Activity: Structuring Discussion

This activity will promote learning about each other and develop curiosity about different points of view. Sharing is a powerful way to create space for engagement and rapport. Listening to learn from one another, asking questions, being curious and being present will have long-term impact on the quality of your mentoring relationship.

Purpose: Through conversation and listening, the mentoring pair will learn more about their partner and their profession through semi-structured discussions around professional topics.

Time: Shorter (10-15 minute) and longer (30-40 minute) discussions can happen throughout the course of the mentoring relationship.

Materials: Collaborative word processor to brainstorm and keep track of discussion topics

Who: Mentor & Mentee

What:

1. Create a shared document of topics that the mentoring pair wants to learn more about.
2. Schedule a time for discussion. These discussions could be structured in a variety of ways. For example, the mentoring pair could:
 - Read an article together.
 - Engage in discussions about knowledge gaps.
 - Attend a lecture together with discussion afterwards.
 - Engage with campus initiative.
 - Share work challenges that keep you up at night.
 - Explore work culture.
 - Discussing national trends.

Tips:

- Avoid gossip, rather focus on ideas, possibilities and learning.



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