Creating a Welcoming Environment in the Classroom and Beyond

Activity Guidelines

1. Your group has an assigned scenario/topic. Printouts are on your tables.
2. Read and answer the questions amongst yourselves.
3. Together, write 2-3 ideas on the post-it on ways that Pitt Public Health can deal with your assigned topic.
4. Upon completion, place post-its on the area of the wall around the room.

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| **SCENARIO/TOPIC** | **POST-IT COLOR** |
| Outreach Projects | Grey |
| Title IX/Gender Equity | Blue |
| Seminar Discussion/Cross-age Connections | Green |
| Research Design/ Health Disparities | Yellow |

Scenario: Health Fair Outreach Project

A religious organization contacts you to design a 2-hour health fair in the community with others from Public Health. The members are active in their immediate communities, volunteer in local schools and they usually help your department with distribution of research study materials. The organization has not had a health fair in the last five years.

* Who would you enlist to help organize and participate in the event?
* What issues would you address at the fair?
* What questions would you have for the organization? Why?

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Scenario: Title IX – Gender Equity

You and a colleague had a paper accepted at a very prestigious LGBTQ conference.  As a junior faculty, this is a major accomplishment. You comment to a senior colleague as to your acceptance and that you are pleasantly surprised at being invited. The colleague’s response “You shouldn’t be surprised; you’re the eye candy.”

* What do you do?
* How can you intervene/interrupt the behavior in the moment?
* If you were in a different role, would you respond differently?
* If you can’t intervene, where can you go for assistance?

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Scenario: Seminar Discussion Design

You are designing a seminar on food security. In week 1 of the seminar, you discover that about 25% of your students are over 35 years old. Some are veterans, some are working parents, and some are displaced workers. The class age range is 22-65.

* What instructional adjustments would you make to foster relevant content and student engagement across the age spectrum?

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Scenario: Research Design

You are an European-American who have students working on a research grant that focuses on African-American community members between the ages of 60-80. You and your team notice that participants frequently bring members of their immediate families with them to the various appointments involved in the research study. You have decided to meet with the students to consider why this is happening and how/whether to respond to it.

* What are some of your top considerations and why?
* How would you approach considering multiple identities and needs?