

DIVERSI-TEA Lab

In the physics community there is often little or no discussion on the impact of social interactions on the success of a student's academic life or future research career. The ability to communicate ideas effectively depends not only on one's knowledge but also on how two or more people interact. Often groups of people miss out on opportunities because of failed communication arising from implicit bias or outright discrimination.

As with anything, one can excel at a task through study and practice. We propose to use the Diversi-Tea as an opportunity to be mindful, reflect and to practice positive social interaction that is inclusive and will benefit all participants.

Guidelines for Interpersonal Behaviors in Social Gatherings as Practice

1. Acknowledgement of the 'other' as human
2. Affirming the dignity of the 'other' in interpersonal interactions and discourse
3. Using self-reflection to thwart impulsive responses based on narrow-minded belief systems
4. Embracing a set of ethical codes (equity, responsibility, compassion, justice) as central to participation in the group
5. Social contract to follow a specific set of methods (scientific and democratic) for decision making. To embrace the scientific method while being mindful of social interactions

Acknowledgements

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