

**Collaborating with Strangers Workshop for Sex and Gender Differences in Health
April 30, 2013**

A CoLAB was conducted on Sex and Gender Differences in Health. The CoLAB included presentations on collaboration, followed by one-on-one 3-minute speed-meetings before posting ideas and thoughts. Below is the evaluation of the April 30 CoLAB.

The participants in the CoLAB included 10 faculty members, 1 post-doc, 5 graduate students, 2 undergraduate students, and 1 “other”. Of the 19 total participants, 3 were international participants.

Survey Questions (Q1-Q7)

(Question 1) Length of Collaborating with Strangers Workshop

When participants were asked to assess the length of the workshop, 78.95 percent of participants indicated that the length of the workshop was “Adequate”. 10.53 percent of participants indicated that the workshop was “Too Short”, none of the participants indicated that the workshop was “Too Long”, and 10.53 percent of participants did not respond to the question. The results are shown in Table 1.

TABLE 1

Too Long	Adequate	Too Short	No Response
0 (0.00%)	15 (78.95%)	2 (10.53%)	2 (10.53%)

(Question 2) Overall Evaluation of Workshop

When participants were asked to provide an overall evaluation of the workshop, 36.84 percent of participants gave the workshop an “Excellent” evaluation, 47.37 percent of participants gave the workshop a “Good” evaluation, and 5.26 percent of participants gave the workshop a “Fair” evaluation. No participants gave the workshop a “Poor” evaluation, and 10.53 percent of participants did not respond to the question. The results are shown in Table 2.

TABLE 2

Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	No Response
7 (36.84%)	9 (47.37%)	1 (5.26%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (10.53%)

(Question 3) Would you attend a workshop like this again?

When participants were asked whether they would attend a workshop like this again, 68.42 percent of participants said “Yes”, 5.26 percent of participants said “No”, and 26.32 percent of participants did not respond to the question. The results are shown in Table 3.

TABLE 3

Yes	No	No Response
13 (68.42%)*	1 (5.26%)	5 (26.32%)

*100 percent of undergraduate and graduate students said they would attend a workshop like this again.

(Question 4) Would you recommend this collaboration process to other students/faculty?

When participants were asked whether they would recommend the CoLAB process to other students and faculty, 78.95 percent of participants said “Yes”, none of the participants said “No”, and 21.05 percent of participants did not respond to the question. The results are shown in Table 4.

TABLE 4

Yes	No	No Response
15 (78.95%)	0 (0.00%)	4 (21.05%)

(Question 5) CoLAB Workshop Results

Questions 5.1-5.2 are 5-point Likert scale questions in which participants are asked to evaluate personal outcomes related to the workshop. Options range from “Strongly Agree” to “Strongly Disagree”. The results of these questions are described below.

(Question 5.1) I feel more confident in my ability to approach people I don’t know.

When participants were given this statement, 21.05 percent of participants marked “Strongly Agree”, 36.84 percent of participants marked “Agree”, and 26.32 percent of participants marked “Neutral”. None of the participants marked “Disagree”, 5.26 percent of participants marked “Strongly Disagree”, and 10.53 percent of participants did not respond to the question. The results are shown in Table 5.1.

TABLE 5.1

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Response
4 (21.05%)	7 (36.84%)	5 (26.32%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (5.26%)	2 (10.53%)

The average response among all participants who responded to the question was a 3.76 on the 5-point Likert scale. The average response among the three international participants was a 4.00, and the average response among all domestic participants was a 3.71. The average response among the two undergraduate students was a 5.00, the average response among all graduate students was a 3.80, and the average response among all faculty members was a 3.75. The average responses of these key demographic groups are displayed in Table 5.1(a).

TABLE 5.1(a)

<i>Demographic</i>	Overall	Undergraduate	International	Graduate	Faculty	Domestic
<i>Avg. Rating (out of 5)</i>	3.76	5.00	4.00	3.80	3.75	3.71

(Question 5.2) I am more comfortable with people in other disciplines.

When participants were given this statement, 15.79 percent of participants marked “Strongly Agree”, 47.37 percent of participants marked “Agree”, and 21.05 percent of participants marked “Neutral”. No participants marked “Disagree”, 5.26 percent of participants marked “Strongly Disagree”, and 10.53 percent of participants did not respond to the question. The results are shown in Table 5.2.

TABLE 5.2

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Response
3 (15.79%)	9 (47.37%)	4 (21.05%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (5.26%)	2 (10.53%)

The average response among all participants who responded to the question was a 3.76 on the 5-point Likert scale. The average response among the two undergraduate students was a 4.50, the average response among all graduate students was a 4.00, and the average response among all faculty members was a 3.75. The average response among the three international participants was a 3.67, and the average response among all domestic participants was a 3.79. The average responses of these key demographic groups are displayed in Table 5.2(a).

TABLE 5.2(a)

<i>Demographic</i>	Overall	Undergraduate	Graduate	Domestic	Faculty	International
<i>Avg. Rating (out of 5)</i>	3.76	4.50	4.00	3.79	3.75	3.67

(Question 6) Did the CoLAB facilitation process help you access new resources, knowledge, and/or grantseeking information? If so, describe.

This question required participants to formulate an open-ended response. The complete list of specific responses is included in the Appendix. 57.89 percent of participants gave a positive response, 15.79 percent of participants gave a mixed response, no participants gave a negative response, and 26.32 percent of participants did not answer the question. The results are shown in Table 6.

TABLE 6

Positive	Mixed	Negative	No Response
11 (57.89%)*	3 (15.79%)	0 (0.00%)	5 (26.32%)

*All undergraduate students, graduate students, and international participants who answered the question gave a positive response.

(Question 7) What was the most useful part of the workshop and why?

This question required participants to formulate an open-ended response. The complete list of specific responses is included in the Appendix. 52.63 percent of participants said that interacting with others was the most useful part of the workshop, 10.53 percent of participants offered a different response, and 36.84 percent of participants did not respond to the question. The results are shown in Table 7.

TABLE 7

Interaction	Other	No Response
10 (52.63%)	2 (10.53%)	7 (36.84%)

Appendix

(Question 6) Did the CoLAB facilitation process help you access new resources, knowledge, and/or grantseeking information? If so, describe.

Positive Responses

- Yes, met possible mentors, people who can help with resources and idea generation.
- Yes, I spoke to a grant writer, learned about internship opportunities and the health disparity minor.
- Yes, I appreciate when people ask me questions and give me advice about career paths.
- Yes! Recruitment has been difficult among the older population. I hope to contact people with leads.
- Seeing potential collaborations across very disparate fields and in unexpected places.
- Yes, I already knew about some of the programs other individuals were involved in, and this allowed me to learn more.
- Yes, learned about new volunteer opportunities/organizations that I might be interested in working with.
- At least one person who may help with Bioinformaties.
- Yes, I now know more people who share research interests with me.
- Yes, happy to hear of new breast imaging technique.
- Across new people – opportunities for giving assistance, could share knowledge.

Mixed/Negative Responses

- Yes regarding individuals I could possibly contact, but no information about grantseeking other than “open access funds”.
- Not too much, but I enjoyed meeting people from across the university.
- A little. Splits among disciplines still very evident!

(Question 7) What was the most useful part of the workshop and why?

Interaction

- The 3-minute sessions, though they were often too short!
- Speaking to the different people, I learned a whole lot of great information.
- Seeing the breadth of people with an interest in this topic. Sharing info about some of my other projects.
- 3 minute sessions. I met people with great resources.

- Meeting others – even if our work does not align, it's good to hear/see why.
- Seeing potential collaborations across very disparate fields and in unexpected places.
- Talking to strangers; it's always fun to meet new people.
- Talking to people with different backgrounds is helpful and fun.
- Meeting people at different stages of their careers interested in or researching different aspects of their topics.
- Meeting others and seeing the collaboration possibilities.

Other Responses

- Most immediate useful part: writing succinctly to get info across; Knowing what other people do/did (very interesting!).
- I liked the way it was framed in terms of networks.

(Idea Boards Question 1) What synergies or connections did you find?

- Identified a person who wants to use Open Access Fund
- Opportunity for teaching identified
- Addiction/Recovery
- Recruitment
- People working on alcohol issues and drugs
- Gender is a great connector
- Research vs. practice; Bridging patient and doctor relationship
- Internships
- Multiple people with interest in data management and analysis
- Internship prospects for undergrad/grad; People's conference; Health Street
- Meanings of reproduction; mother-fetus relationship
- Interests in education and prevention
- Found some people with same research interests
- The importance of humanities in advancing understanding about health disparities
- Met others interested in sexual health
- Met several people working in community
- Roles of health practitioners in PT education and communication
- Relationship with alcohol use with standard psych measures

- Met breast cancer survivors; scientist interested in photoacoustic tomography
- New minors
- I learned many are interested in women's health
- Talked about interest in fetal alcohol syndrome
- Found others interested in my research

(Idea Boards Question 2) What are your next steps?

- Email these wonderful people
- Contact several people about programs
- Attend next CoLAB in September
- Contact Lansa Guyer re; Intro to HD class
- Send follow up info on my projects to a couple of people
- Get Bess' PowerPoint
- Identify testimonials to CoLAB
- Distill info from this afternoon to find meaningful ways to make new relationships
- Let the faculty member I represented know about the people I talked to today working on topics of interest to her
- Email persons – Research topics, ideas
- Identify areas where CoLAB can be advertised
- Contact relevant people whose work interests intersect with my own
- I plan to follow up on different ideas presented today
- Develop plan/outline for literature review
- My project optical imaging for breast cancer is very useful if it can succeed
- Follow up with the different departments
- Going to follow up with several people about resources
- Going to write more on my work in the next week

(Idea Boards Question 3) What did you learn?

- I talked to people I wouldn't ordinarily speak with. There were people I would have been intimidated to speak with outside this setting.
- Learned of 3 NPR segments related to work
- Learned about the women's health portal

- Learned about new breast cancer imaging technology
- Marketing of CoLAB HSC needed
- Social sciences and basic scientists have mutual interests; use different vocabularies
- Confirmed that this university has vast resources and potential rewards
- Write large with sharpie; be concise
- 3 minutes are never long enough
- Funding potential (IDP); Supportive people; Advice on going to clinical practice first, then academics
- Much work on women not much work on gender (defined as socially-structured relationships based on sex)
- 3 minutes gets by so quickly when engaged in meaningful discussion
- How many undergrads are interested!
- It's fun to talk to people in different fields
- Learned about organizations within Gainesville that I would love to work with as an intern
- The center for women's studies and gender research could be a hub for intellectual/research exchange of these issues
- I still need to talk to strangers!
- Saw how separate our worlds often are – CLAS and health sciences
- Finding overlapping interests in unexpected places – humanities connections with social and health sciences
- Networking provides great opportunities