WHAT HAPPENS IF I COLLABORATE?

Christine Bruce and Susan Gasson, Queensland University of Technology, 2017
WHAT IS COLLABORATION?

"Working with"
Peers
Colleagues
Students
Mentors
Industry partners
within and across disciplines

What do you mean by collaboration?

Who are you currently collaborating with?..your examples of collaboration?

Who are your potential collaborators? What could you do with these people?
WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I COLLABORATE?

- Becoming part of a research community
- Creating and leading research communities

What outcomes are you seeking from collaboration? What are your research goals?

What are others doing right now that interests you? What do you need to do to join in? What help might you need?

What are you doing right now? Who could you include in that? What help do you need?
Which of the above do you need to do?  
What might the barriers be?

**WHAT MIGHT IT TAKE TO ENTER NETWORKS?**

**ADDRESSING CHALLENGES OF**

- Low confidence
- Uncertainty
- Perceptions of lack of experience

**• RECOGNISE** the NETWORK
**• GIVE YOURSELF PERMISSION TO ENTER THE NETWORK**
**• DO WHAT IT TAKES TO ACCESS THE NETWORK**

- Trust and respect yourself – you deserve it!

**STRATEGY: MAKING THE PUSH TO ENTER**

**ADDRESSING CHALLENGES OF**

- Self-confidence
- Self-confidence
- Self-confidence

- Communicate
- Share your work
- Ask for advice
- Invite collaboration
- Accept invitations (check comfort zone)
- Aim high – top journals etc…
- Capitalise on social media

What step could you take this week?
Research Collaboration Framework
Bruce and Gasson, 2017

(COLLABORATION IS BELIEVED TO ESCALATE PERFORMANCE OUTPUT)

Why is research collaboration important?

to you?
to your research team?
to the university?

What does ‘collaborating/ mean in the research context?

To you?
To others?
Which fields of collaboration are you playing in? Which would you want to enter? What fruits of collaboration are you seeking?
What actions can you take to enter the different fields?

Collaborative Action

- **Research Networking (Individual/s)**
  - Recognise the potential to collaborate with others
  - Own the process of engaging with others in the spirit of collaboration
  - Access potential collaborators

- **Informal Research Community (Group/s)**
  - Engaging together around a shared object or problem (publication, problem, grant, resource)
  - Participate by contributing ideas, skills, knowledge, findings and resources
  - Team build by helping to organise, lead, manage, facilitate working together

- **Building Sanctioned Communities (Organisation/s)**
  - Formally sanction research activities (e.g., funded grants, scholarships, named research centers or institutes)
  - Agree on resource allocation
  - Document outcomes (e.g., authorship; IP assignment; supervisory arrangements)

Deep Roots of Collaboration

- Trust and Respect (Of self as researcher)
- Trust and Respect (within research community)
- Trust and Respect (beyond the research community)
NOTES ON TRUST AND RESPECT


2. “Mutual respect was based on professional knowledge and cultural awareness, which were two fundamental elements that originally enabled collaboration.” p237 and
“We propose that scholarly exchanges, when they are approached from a shared stance of genuine scholarly commitment and democratic relations, have the potential to establish a pattern of mutually beneficial, sustainable international collaborations. To sustain over time, the participants need to hold shared values, to understand and respect each other’s personal–social identity, and to act equitably.” p239

3. “... we argue that there may be other forces at work in cross-cultural work relationships, such as friendship, mutual support and trust, which may be decisive factors for how research collaborations may be conducted in less hierarchical ways.” p18. And “Like-mindedness, common thinking and trust are very important for collaborative research. P 22. Lund, F., Kusakabe, K., Panda, S. & Wang, Y. (2016). Building knowledge across transnational boundaries: Collaboration and friendship in research. Emotion, Space and Society, Vol 20, August 2016, Pages 18-24. Accessed from http://ac.els-cdn.com/S1755458616300688/1-s2.0-S1755458616300688-main.pdf?_tid=2e6257c8-50c5-11e7-9cdd-00000aab0f27&acdnat=1497419527_f4103db3dba1d3f318205998b1bb0cb2 on 14 June 2017.
Lovely paper highlighting the journey of four friends and research collaborators noting trust and respect but not noting it as a root.
