

The 2011 POST Instructor Symposium
welcomes you to:

Making a Connection: Networking That Counts

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Resources for More Connection Activities

- www.Bowperson.com (dozens of free downloadable articles and book excerpts)
- *Training from the BACK of the Room* (2009) Sharon Bowman
- *The Ten-Minute Trainer* (2005) Sharon Bowman
- *Preventing Death by Lecture* (2001) Sharon Bowman

2 Activities that Make a Connection

Activity Title: Take-a-Stand

Source: *The Ten-Minute Trainer* by Sharon Bowman

Duration: 5 - 15 minutes (depending upon size of the group)

Instructions: The trainer explains that one side of the training room represents the “resident experts,” those participants who have more than five years experience on the job. The other side of the room represents the “experts-in-training,” those participants who have less than five years on the job. The trainer tells participants to move to the side of the room that represents them. Once the whole class has split into two standing groups, the trainer directs them to form smaller standing groups of 3-5 people. On the resident experts side, the smaller groups discuss their “gems” – words of wisdom or advice they wish they had been given when they first started their jobs. On the experts-in-training side, the smaller groups discuss their “burning questions” – what they would like to ask the experienced participants about the work that they do. After a few minutes of small group discussions, the trainer directs everyone to form new standing groups of 3-5, with a mixture of resident experts and experts-in-training in each new group. They share their gems and burning questions in the mixed groups, with the more experienced participants answering the questions asked by the less experienced. The activity ends with thanks and applause or high-fives.



For complete instructions and activity variations, log onto www.Bowperson.com

Activity Title: Postcard Partners

Source: *The Ten-Minute Trainer* by Sharon Bowman

Duration: 5 - 15 minutes (depending upon size of the group)

Instructions: The trainer passes out a mix of colored index cards so that each participant at each table group has one of four different colors. The trainer tells participants to take a pen and their index card, then stand and find two or three other people who have the same card color but who are not sitting at their table. Once the class forms standing groups by card color, the trainer posts four questions on a slide or chart, one question for each card color. The questions are topic-related and are meant to generate short discussions about the topic. Each card group discusses the question pertaining to its card color. Participants write on their cards a summary of their standing group discussions. After a few minutes, the trainer tells the standing groups to thank their “postcard partners” and return to their table groups where they will report their discussion questions and written summaries.

For complete instructions and activity variations, log onto www.Bowperson.com

