



VIH GLOBAL LEADERSHIP VIRTUAL CONFERENCE GUIDELINES FOR RESPECTFUL ENGAGEMENT

Creating a Learning Community

VIH believes that we can learn the most when we create a learning community in which all participants feel they are welcome and that their thoughts and perspectives are valued. We protect this community when we:

- Welcome multiple viewpoints
- Speak from our own experience by using “I” statements
- Avoid stereotypes
- Work to recognize our own privileges
- Share speaking time and try to speak after others who have not spoken
- Actively listen
- Avoid echo-chambers
- Challenge with care and respect
- Respect and maintain confidentiality
- Ask for clarification when needed
- Be aware of sensitive topics like memories and values
- Use a person’s preferred names and pronouns

Brave Space

We are striving to create a Brave Space in which we:

- Own our intentions and impact and acknowledge when dialogue affects the emotional well-being of a colleague / classmate
- Operate with respect of one another’s personhood
- Agree to not intentionally inflict harm on others
- Take responsibility for engaging or disengaging with challenging conversations.
- Strive to create an environment where varying opinions are possible

Taken from NASPA Policy and Practices (2017)