# Leading Your Team to the Next Level

Presented by: College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences Aggie Ambassador Officers

#### Tuckman's Model

#### Forming

Team acquaints and establishes ground rules. Formalities are preserved and members are treated as strangers.



#### Storming

Members start to communicate their feelings but still view themselves as individuals rather than part of the team. They resist control by group leaders and show hostility.



#### Norming

People feel part of the team and realize that they can achieve work if they accept other viewpoints.



#### Performing

The team works in an open and trusting atmosphere where flexibility is the key and hierarchy is of little importance.



#### Adjourning

The team conducts an assessment of the year and implements a plan for transitioning roles and recognizing members' contributions.



#### **Bruce Tuckman**



Tuckman's Stages for Group Development (1965)

Each phase is *necessary* and *inevitable* in order for the team to grow

This model allows teams to:

Face up to challenges

Tackle problems

Find solutions

## **Stage 1: Forming**

People come together & get to know each other

Teams are formed

Teams establish ground rules and expectations

Behavior is driven by a desire to:

be accepted by others

avoid controversy/conflict

#### **Activity: Commonalities**

Partner up!

With your partner, identify 3 unique items you both have in common

**DIG DEEP** 

When you and your partner have found commonalities, raise your hands.

Find another group of 2 ready to form a group of 4

Identify 2 things you all have in common

Can't repeat what you already have!

When your group of 4 has found commonalities, join another group to

## Forming: Some things to notice

Everyone is nervous and courteous

Each person acts as an individual, rather than identifying as a team

Comments for improvement are phrased in safe "we" and "maybe" language

"I do my part. I hope you do yours."

#### **Stage 2: Storming**

Necessary to the growth of the team

Can be unpleasant and even painful to those averse to conflict and group projects

Important to have:

**Tolerance** 

Clarity of purpose

Inclusion

## **Activity: Hula Hoop**

Form a circle with your previous group of 8

Hold the hula hoop at waist level with two fingertips

The goal is simple:

Lower the hula hoop to the ground at the same time

The hula hoop must remain level!

## Storming: Some things to notice

People point out who is letting the team down
Typically not directly to that person at first
Comments become direct & disagreements grow stronger

"I'm doing my part. Why aren't you doing yours?" "I hate your differences."

## **Stage 3: Norming**

Individuals begin to work as a team

The team communicates common goal and comes up with a collaborative plan

Some may have to give up their own ideas and agree with others to make the team function

All team members take the responsibility and have the ambition to work for the success of the team's goals

## Activity: Bonk your team to the next level

With your same group of 8, form another circle with another group of 8.

There should be 2 large circles

Challenge: Achieve the fastest time

Round 1: Both groups will go at the same time

Round 2: Each group takes turns, while the other has a

#### Norming: Some things to notice

Team members request specific things of each other People cooperate and coordinate explicitly as needed Comments are about getting help to get stuff done

"We are doing the work. Thanks for the help."
"We work through our differences."

#### **Stage 4: Performing**

#### Teams function as a unit

Find ways to get the job done smoothly and effectively without negative conflicts or the need for external supervision

Positive conflict is an important part of the creative process

This is where better and innovative ideas come from

Teams are motivated, knowledgeable and ready to handle the decision-making process to accomplish goals

# **Activity: The ultimate bonk**

As a large group, discuss what are the best tactics for getting the bonks around the circle the fastest.

Try out your ideas!

Can you do it faster?

## Performing: Some things to notice

Team members know each other's weaknesses and fill in the gaps for each other without discussion

Team members hold each other accountable and willingly give account for their successes and failings

Comments are about the work and getting the job done

"We are awesome. Let's do more stuff!"
"Our differences make us stronger."

# Adjourning

All good things must come to an end

This is the final process

Reflection of projects happens here

**Evaluation** 

Looking to the future towards new projects and goals

#### **Discussion**

Using Tuckman's Model, discuss in your group of 8 how you would relate Tuckman's model successfully into your future group projects?

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