

Table-Top Questions

Please discuss with both Master's and doctoral students in mind, per your institutions

1. Making the Case for Career Diversity:

- Have you found resistance to career diversity initiatives on your campus?
- What are the key objections from faculty to career diversity programs?
- Why are students reluctant to participate?
- What are effective strategies in making the case for career diversity initiatives?

2. Humanities Scholarship, Doctoral Training and Career Diversity:

- How do trends in humanities scholarship and training (e.g., in digital humanities or public humanities) align with career diversity?
- Do all PhD students need career diversity training—even if they're headed for tenure track positions?
- What career tracks best suit humanities PhDs? Can you provide examples of unusual but excellent fits of students to non-academic careers?
- What are the key skills that Humanities students need to survive outside the professoriate?
- What kind of career opportunities outside the professoriate will the universities of the future offer for humanities PhDs?

3. Structuring Career Diversity Programming:

- What successful models do you know of that promote career awareness and/or skills development for humanities students?
- What are the key skills that programs should focus on?
- Should programs be concentrated and intense in terms of time? Or spread across semesters?
- Should programs be integrated with existing professional development programs? What technical or other training opportunities might be available on campus that could be leveraged for career diversity training?

4. Career Diversity and Academic Curricula:

- What might be effective strategies for embedding career diversity objectives in existing program curricula? What skills are already being taught that can be transferred outside of academe?
- What types of "add on" certificate programs, minors, emphases, or other programming have been effective at promoting career diversity?
- Is there a role for internships in humanities curricula and, if so, how would they work?
- How are workshops, conferences, seminars, etc. most effective at helping students realize their diverse career goals?

5. Career Options and Diversity Missions

- Is there a danger that career diversity programs will track minority students away from academe?
- How can social justice initiatives and career diversity programs be integrated?
- Could these programs represent strategies to recruit minority students into PhD programs? Is this an inappropriate linkage?
- How do we ensure that career diversity programs engage with a diverse group of non-academic professionals?

6. Engaging Off-Campus Partners

- Can you identify a set of external partners and how would you build on those connections?
- How do you build lasting relationships with those partners – how to make it an authentic partnership and two-way street so that both institutions can benefit?
- How can we develop internship opportunities for Humanities PhD students?
- How can you motivate your career center to be a partner and ally in this work?