

Key Take-aways – Session 4 – Connect

Gabrielle Dolan

1. Keep evolving your leadership - Whatever got you here will not get you there.
2. Always invest in your own professional development. Don't just wait or expect your employer to do that. Your employer owns your job, YOU own your career.
3. Nurture your network. Make sure it is diverse and evolving so it is helping you achieve your current career goals.
4. Know what your next 1 or 2 jobs are and don't be afraid to share your ambitions/plans with people, especially key people in your network that will support you.
5. I know I am a bit bias but get better at communication in a way that is authentic. Learn how to share stories better and learn how to presenter more effectively. Every time you speak in public you are audition for leadership whether you know it or not ...or like it or not.
6. Take control of your brand. Know what you want to be known for.
7. When faced with a big challenge just ask yourself, what is the worst that can happen and know it will be alright in the end. If it is not, its not the end.
8. Finally, in the words of Oscar Wile - Be yourself, everyone else is taken.

Mary Harney

1. Don't underestimate where the connectivity opportunities come from – they may even be adversarial.
2. On one hand its easy - its human to connect to share experience, to share humour, to share stories but hard professionally and you really, really have to work at it. |
Networking in particular can be hard.
3. Be interested ! Be interesting ! Curious !
Need to be always 'on', and consistently open to it. Continue to grow, as won't necessarily know when a given activity or interaction results in connectivity. But it won't happen if you're not interested in the other person (you may have nothing in common, doesn't matter) and you have to be interesting – so don't stop working on yourself.
4. It's a superpower!