Husker Dialogues Conversation Guide Tip Sheet

Once you've arrived at your circle of chairs in the track area:
1. Grab packet on facilitator chair and distribute cards to each student.
2. Greet everyone and ask them to share the name they want people to use
3. Share why you chose to participate as a facilitator (why is HD important to you?)
4. Have them exchange t-shirts to get the size they want/let them know they can do additional exchanges at the end of the event. Exchange will be located in the atrium in the south entrance.
5. Reiterate the purpose: Engaging with and learning from diverse perspectives is key to academic excellence. We are here to model how to engage respectfully with others.
6. Set group guidelines (below are some examples)
7. Ask everyone to put away their phones
   • No interrupting while another is speaking
   • No side conversations while another is speaking
   • Everyone speaks once before someone speaks again
   • Listen to understand.
   • Recognize that there are multiple perspectives

Starting the Dialogue
1. Ask questions which provide an opportunity for people to share their experiences:
   • Share part of your identity that is important to you that others might not see (e.g. religion, first generation, geography, sibling order, etc.).
   • Share a food that is important to your cultural or family identity
   • Share a story that has been important to you in thinking about your identity
   • Describe what superpower you would like to have and why

2. Ask them to comment on or discuss the speakers’ stories:
   • Which of the student’s stories most connected or resonated with you? Why?
   • Which of the student’s stories most surprised or challenged you? Why?
   • What connections, if any, did you see across them?
   • Did you share any of the experiences? If so, how? If not, what did you learn?

3. Have them reflect on their hopes and concerns for engaging with diverse people and perspectives at UNL. When you think about having dialogues about diversity and inclusion on campus...
   • What excites you? Intrigues you? What scares you? Makes you fearful?
   • What challenges you? What confuses you?
• What observations have you made thus far about diversity and inclusion on our campus?

4. Use Prompts to Support and/or Reframe Dialogue
   • I hear your point about...
   • I can understand your response to....
   • Could you say more about....
   • Can you give us an example of...
   • Help us understand what you mean by....
   • wonder what reactions others are having...
   • I notice I’m feeling a little triggered and wondering if others are too...
   • I appreciate the risk you took in saying that....
   • I know this isn’t an easy topic. I appreciate you hanging in there during this discussion....
   • Let’s all pause and write down our thoughts for a few minutes before we discuss this further....

Wrapping Up Discussion (around 8:25 pm)

1. Thank everyone for engaging in Husker Dialogues. Encourage participants to attend inclusive leadership retreats (Oct. 5 and 27th) and other related events.
2. Before participants leave, ask them to complete the email survey on their phones. If they do not receive an email, they may go to the New Student Enrollment phone app that they used this summer and "Husker Dialogues" will be listed under surveys.
3. If you need to exchange your t-shirt you can do so in the south entrance on your way out.
4. Before leaving, please stack the chairs from your discussion circle on one of the pallets.