



Power Hour Conversations

Train-the-trainer pilot

Need a low-cost, low-tech, and adaptable training solution for supervisors and managers on your campus? If so, you'll want to harness the power of informal learning and participate in a "Power Hour Conversations" train-the-trainer pilot effort next year.

What is it?

Power Hour Conversations are one-hour, facilitator-led discussions on relevant topics for supervisors and managers. Each topic is focused and includes pre-printed one-page handouts, along with a facilitator agenda which can be adapted to your needs. Preparation is minimal and there are no licensing fees for the materials. [See the back page for full topic descriptions and dates.](#)

Power Hour Conversations are perfect for supplementing the training you are already doing on your campus or for integrating into regular supervisor and manager meetings that you host. The training materials have been developed to help you inspire lively and productive dialogues that build stronger relationships with supervisors and managers and help them build skills fast.

How will the pilot effort work?

Participants in the train-the-trainer pilot will attend a one-hour power hour conversation each month (from October 2009 to May 2010) facilitated by Todd Thorsgaard, Director of Supervisory Training. In addition, they will receive tips on facilitating power hour conversations. Then within the next month, participants will facilitate the same power hour conversation topic on their campus for a group of supervisors and/or managers.

Who can volunteer for this train-the-trainer pilot?

Any human resources professional or manager who plans to regularly convene a group of supervisors on their campus(es).

Do I need special training skills to participate?

No. If you can facilitate a meeting, you can lead a power hour conversation effectively.

How do I sign up?

Register on STARS for Power Hour Conversations at <https://secure.mnsu.edu/mnscupd/>.

What if I have more questions?

Contact Todd Thorsgaard at todd.thorsgaard@so.mnscu.edu or 651-632-5019.

Power Hour Conversation Monthly Topics

Note: All classes meet from 1:00–3:00, see STARS for details on locations

Management Today: Are you facing multiple tasks, new projects, large goals, and increasing demands? Does everything get sent your way? This conversation will help you get the junk out of the way, set priorities and clarify the demands you face every day.

October 21, 2009

Management—What is Expected of You: Do you know what your manager really wants you to do? Is your idea of your success the same as your manager's definition of your success? You will learn how to identify what is really important to your manager which also leads to your overall success!

November 18, 2009

Your Management A-B Boxes: Does what worked yesterday, with yesterday's employees, work today? How about tomorrow? Are the goals of your school changing, your department, your people? Are you keeping up? We will talk about a powerful way to align how you lead with ever changing goals and priorities.

December 16, 2009

Your Management Filter: Do you ever feel like you are spinning your wheels? Are you sure that each and every decision or action you take moves you forward? Are you missing opportunities that could help you out? You will learn how to turn your expectations into concrete actions that support your key priorities and goals.

January 27, 2010

Grand Slam Home Runs: Don't get stuck in a slump! This month's topic helps managers and leaders focus on the vital great things that make a big difference. Lead your team to produce outstanding results that get noticed and create energy. Instill a sense of pride and a feeling of success in your work and in your team!

February 17, 2010

Defining Excellence: Excellence doesn't just happen-you need to define it and you need to bring it to life for your employees. How?? We will talk about ways to have powerful conversations that create excellence. We will talk about ways to have powerful conversations that create excellence and help you motivate your staff to perform at the top of their game.

March 24, 2010

Communicating Expectations: Go beyond the usual expectations and learn how to ensure that each person on your team understands how to best contribute to the success of your campus or department. Clearly communicating expectations accomplishes more than any other performance management activity leaders can do! We will discuss the crucial elements to include when setting high impact expectations.

April 21, 2010

The Art of Employee One-on-Ones: This is more than just a required meeting or a review of a to-do list. Learn how to plan, prepare and conduct regular discussions with your staff about the work they do. This will encourage open dialogue and improve execution and follow through.

May 19, 2010