Dear Colleagues,

This month’s Engagement @ Harvard newsletter focuses on building collective engagement through connection, broadening your network, engaging others in conversation, and associating ideas in innovative ways. Here you will find resources related to these areas, including blog posts and videos from experts on engagement along with invitations to courses and events that provide opportunities for further reflection, connection, and direction.

Broaden your network

Two recent HBR Blog posts help us to understand why connectedness is so important to engagement. In Susan Fowler’s post, “What Maslow’s Hierarchy Won’t Tell You About Motivation”, she discusses the importance of “relatedness” in engagement at work. In Ryan Fuller’s post, “A Primer on Measuring Employee Engagement”, he further suggests that the number of network connections one has seems to increase one’s engagement at work.

To increase your connections and expand your network, I invite you to the upcoming Career Connections across Harvard event taking place on June 11th from noon to 2 p.m. in the Piper Auditorium at the Harvard Graduate School of Design.

Engage colleagues in conversations

Any engaging conversation could be a learning conversation, a conversation in which you would like to discover more about the other person. Dan Shapiro, Associate Professor of Psychology at Harvard Medical School and Associate Director of the Harvard Negotiation Project at Harvard Law School, explains how understanding emotion can make you a better communicator in this video. Register for CWD’s Engaging Conversations course to learn how to make your conversations more productive.

Embrace innovation

Connecting individuals and ideas is crucial to embracing change and innovation, and many people in the workplace are engaged by the prospect of innovation. Steven Johnson, author of “Where Good Ideas Come From” highlights the importance of making connections with others as a source of innovation at work. Register for CWD’s Embracing Change and Innovation course to learn how to actively identify opportunities for change, as well as maintain effectiveness when experiencing change in your work tasks or work environment.

Please also join the conversation on Twitter and LinkedIn and enroll in any of our Engagement @ Harvard programs.

Sincerely,

Marilyn