



Communities of Practice-Leader's Toolkit

Communities of Practice, also known as CoPs focus on sharing best practices and creating new knowledge to collectively advance professional practice.

Ideas for Types of Communication with Your CoP:

1. Introductions
2. Send articles, book info and/or conference info related to your CoP
3. Send links to websites and/or organizations related to your CoP
4. Share best practices related to your CoP
5. Utilize catalyst questions to start conversations
6. Group sharing of highlights and lowlights of a particular month
7. Relevant data sharing
8. Job opportunities sharing
9. Solicit suggestions for common challenges within your topical area
10. Survey/poll group for topics
11. Survey/poll group for virtual or in person meeting suggestions
12. Ask group members to share successes within a particular time frame
13. Pair entry level staff with experienced staff for an informal mentorship
14. Add resources to your CoP's web page within the NERCOMP website

Ideas for Virtual Meetings:

1. Informal networking conversations
2. Choose a topic and discuss
3. Show demos, videos or short movies
4. Invite an outside person to discuss a relevant topic
5. Discuss an article to read prior to the meeting
6. Create digital stories in advance and discuss (about particular topics)

Ideas for In-person Meetings:

1. Consider recruiting members of your CoP to be part of a panel discussion on a particular topic
2. Informal networking
3. Make a video about your CoP for possible inclusion on the NERCOMP website
4. Solicit members for topical areas to discuss
5. Visit another campus/tour and learn about their progress, services, challenges and successes
6. Get together and create a slideshow/Powerpoint about what your CoP has been doing or on a particular topic of interest within your CoP

7. Have a crafty workshop (sharing areas of expertise)-may be related to your CoP/Technology or a hobby. Have several people present and discuss. Examples include: website design, makers, pottery or scrapbooking
8. Work/life balance or de-stress workshops
9. Experiment with or introduce to new technologies
10. Share best practices day or half day
11. Invite members to your campus and have a NERCOMP webinar viewing get together

Outcomes of CoPs:

1. Networking and new relationships among individual NERCOMP members with similar interests or job responsibilities
2. Sharing or acquiring information, and collaborating around those interests or job responsibilities
3. Developing new programming for NERCOMP members, including:
 - a. CoP meetings (in person or virtual, including possibly at the NERCOMP Annual Conference),
 - b. Professional Development full-day workshops,
 - c. Professional Development virtual webinars, or
 - c. Program sessions at the Annual Conference in Providence, RI (late March)

Still Have Questions? Ideas? Suggestions?

Feel free to reach out to the NERCOMP staff at nercomp@nercomp.org

You may visit our Communities of Practice webpage at:

<https://nercomp.org/events/communities-of-practice/>