Planning Your Interdisciplinary Meeting

1. Before the First Meeting

Leaders play critical roles in ensuring their team works well together and the research outcomes meet participants’ expectations. The first and most important role is work done well in advance.

• Lay the foundation.

• Develop a goals-based agenda.

2. Identifying priorities, expertise, and desired outcomes

The first team goal is to learn to be creative together. Learning to do so requires trust and openness among the team, which comes once they understand and value what each member brings to the project; their differences in epistemologies, language, and beliefs; and the range of perspectives on priorities and desired outcomes.

• Launch the meeting and desired outcomes.

• Allow participants to define themselves and reveal their expertise.

• Open the problem up for refinement and iteration.