

Birthday Jams

What's your birth date?

Add 14 years.

What is your birthday jam song?

What do you think?

**Supposedly, the song
that was number 1
on the charts on
your 14th birthday
defines your life.**

We'll start at 10:05!

<http://bit.ly/UFscsu2021part2>



Using Technology to Strengthen Connection Across the University

University Forum Spring 2021
Libby, Lauren, & Bo

Goals

- Identify opportunities to reduce digital divide & barriers
- Describe at least one strategy or tool to strengthen personal connections
- Explain ways we can use technology to nurture relationships across campus

Our Perspectives

Libby

Counseling & School
Psychology

Lauren

Special Education

Bo

Academic Affairs

Sharing our opportunities from crisis



In our virtual world, how have
your campus connections been
impacted by technology?

Our Challenges

Bandwidth

Video & audio streaming
challenges



Multi-use spaces

Lack of “quiet space”

Multiple Responsibilities

Family care, travel

Technology Access

Level of technology
available

Allowances for ourselves & others



**Celebrate positive
moments**

Reflecting on Positive Moments

- Technology affords us to do what we need to do
- Reduced barriers to attend campus events
- More opportunities for collaboration
- Small Wins



Reframing moments

- Opportunities in learning
- Providing flexibility
 - Integrating student choice where possible
- Framing mistakes to grow
- “Business as usual”



How have you reframed during the pandemic? Could there be carry over beyond the pandemic?





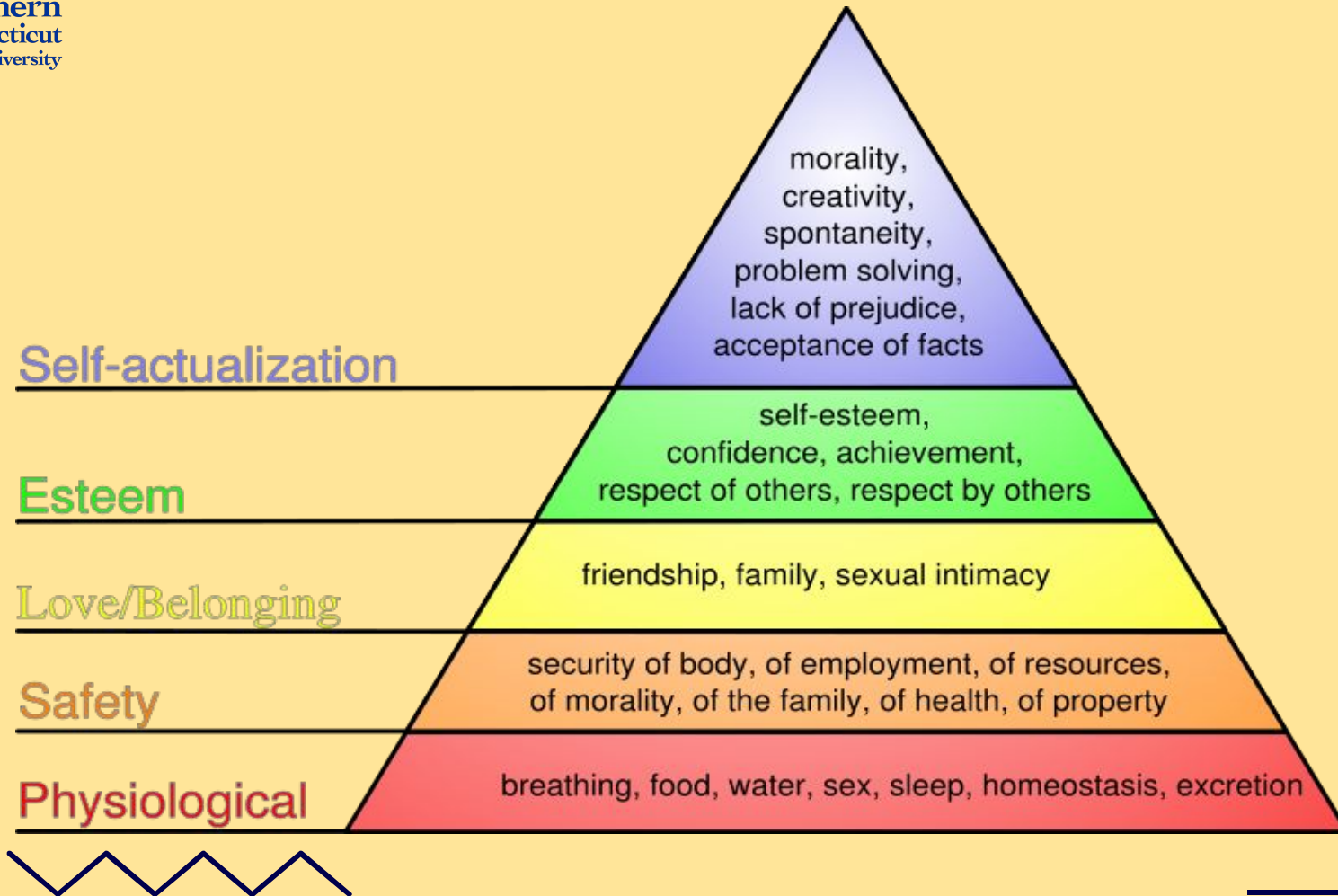
Individual Connections

Ways to Use Technology to Increase Connection...

What I've learned...

- Begin every interaction with a check-in on how folks are doing
- Use Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs as framework - basic needs matter!!
- Group emails - Keeping everyone in the loop; Summaries of meetings or learning; Sharing difficulties and challenges and asking for ideas; Looking for consensus
- Individual emails - Gratitude, support, feedback & needs
-





Technology: FlipGrid

- Video based discussion board
- Doesn't require additional software/technology
- Can add emojis, screen share, or present
- Embed in Blackboard or Teams
 - Ex. Advice for future students
 - Brainstorming ideas





Facilitating Communication

We've Learned...

- Preferred method of communication with colleagues & community
 - TEAMS chat, email, phone, text
- Digital divide challenges
 - Bandwidth challenges
 - Platform knowledge
 - Time



What have you learned about facilitating communication during the pandemic?



Using Technology to Facilitate Communication

Keeping interactions accessible and removing barriers to the digital divide

- Captions and notes during meetings: Shared Documents in OneDrive
- Microsoft Teams offers live captioning/chat
- Otter for meeting transcriptions

Transparency with technology needs

- Test taking software
- Tools beyond SCSU



Examples

1. **Course Technology Tools** - This online course will require the use of a variety of technology tools. You will be technologically pushed. If you are having difficulty with a program website, video, etc. I encourage you to look at the help videos, Google it, ask a peer, and troubleshoot. This will demonstrate your technological grit. The following tools will be utilize

- **Blackboard:** You must have a SCSU email account and access to Blackboard to participate in this course. All of your course content will be delivered through Blackboard. It is recommended that you consistently access your Blackboard. If you have any questions, please access the “Blackboard Tutorials” embedded on the left toolbar of our course.
- **Teams:** We will be using TEAMS for chat communication and virtual class meetings. You can chat with me, the whole class, or another student. I have the app on my phone so I will receive a notification. It will be the easiest and quickest way to ask a question. It is similar to AOL Instant Messenger (I know I’m dating myself, if you don’t know, Google it). You can download the app for your phone and computer or use it through the web. [Here is a link to the TEAMS tutorials.](#)
- **Teams:** We will also be using Teams for our live classes. You will have a SED 593 Team where all of our class recordings will be stored. [Here is a link to more Teams information.](#)



Scheduling Options

- Scheduling
 - Tech: FindTime
 - Works directly with Outlook (But be sure to check if others use this calendar! It's a great service to others if you make use of this system!)
 - What I like... Schedules the top result automatically #win



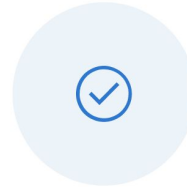
Find the best times

FindTime shows what days and times work the best for you and the attendees when available using free/busy data



All attendees vote

Propose your selected times to all attendees and allow everyone to vote and quickly come to a consensus



...and you're done!

FindTime sends out the meeting invite on your behalf



Office Hours/Advising Appointments

Navigate

- Campaigns - have students schedule advising meetings
- Schedule Office Hours: [Instructions here!](#)
- <https://inside.southernct.edu/navigate/support>



Office Hours

Calendly

- Allows you to establish your office hours and students can sign up for a meeting
- Ex. <https://calendly.com/tuckerl7/officehours>
- For free: one “event”



Meeting Practices

- Agendas
 - Personal check ins? What do we need?
- Setting Expectations
- Next Steps & Actions
- Working Meetings

Is a meeting even necessary? Make use of polls, TEAMS chats, wikis, or other asynchronous tools when possible!

Shared meeting notes & action items

- “To Do” in Teams



Feedback Practices

Campus Community

- Text/email based communication

Classroom

- Increased grading & Feedback

Banks of FAQ/Responses

- Compile frequently used phrases & note frequency to guide reinforcement



Break Out Discussion

Based on the first session and the tools/strategies reviewed today... Discuss what action steps you can take to increase connections across campus this semester.

- Considering the needs of all campus community members and our own... how can we effectively communicate, reframe positive moments, and create individual connections?
- What tools are you using or what are you interested in trying to accomplish this?

Slides & Instructions here: <http://bit.ly/UFscsu2021>



What did you
share in break
out group?

What do you
need?